



# **Christ For The Nations**

n e t w o r k

## **Ministry/Church Affiliation Handbook**

REVISED JUNE 2024

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **What is the difference between Ministry/Church Affiliation versus Partnership?**

Both of these opportunities allow ministries and churches to link arms with the CFN Network.

Ministries/churches affiliating with the CFN Network can choose whether they would like to pursue their own 501(c)(3) status or get drafted under the umbrella of the CFN Network group exemption. **This benefit does not apply to partnership.** Partner ministries that wish to take advantage of this tax shield need to submit the affiliation application.

Partnership provides additional benefits such as:

- Free access to job board
- Free credentialing for up to 5 leaders
- Discount to conferences
- 30% discount online tuition at CFNI
- 15% discount on campus tuition (domestics only, one discount per partnership)
- 10% discount on campus tuition (internationals only)

### **How do I apply for my ministry/church?**

You can apply for your ministry/church affiliation through [THIS LINK](#).

Please see procedural information below for details on the steps needed to apply.

### **What is the cost to apply?**

The application cost for first-time affiliation is **\$360.00** (\$100 application fee + \$260 annual affiliation).

### **What is the cost to renew?**

The annual renewal cost for the affiliation is **\$260.00**.

### **How often do I renew?**

CFN Network Ministry/Church Affiliation requires an annual affiliation renewal every June that can be completed through our [online form](#) located on our [website](#), or you may request a mail-in form.

You may also see the procedural information below for more details on how to renew.

### **Can you help me set up my non-profit?**

Yes, this service is provided at an additional cost. Upon completion of setting up the non-profit, it is expected that the applicant chooses to affiliate with the CFN Network. Please contact us at [admin@cfnnetwork.org](mailto:admin@cfnnetwork.org) for details.

## **What do I receive when I become affiliated with the CFN Network?**

As evidence of your new-standing affiliation with the CFN Network, you will receive a Certificate of Affiliation confirming your membership under the Network.

## **WHO WE ARE**

The CFN Network is the official credentialing arm for Christ For The Nations.

We exist as a networking body to connect churches, ministries, and individuals globally.

Our scope of care provides mentoring, pastoral care, mutual accountability, ministry resources, and fellowship for our credential holders, partnering churches, and ministries.

Our mission as the CFN Network is to be a fellowship of people who have purposed themselves to be faithful in stimulating one another to glorify God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ and to obey Christ's mandate to preach the Gospel and to make disciples of all nations.

To this end we are committed to serving and equipping our members in carrying out their respective missions. To ordain qualified ministers of the Gospel and license qualified local church elders and leaders in the body of Christ. To be a network for local churches and fivefold ministers and ministries who decide to affiliate with CFN Network.

## **WHAT WE BELIEVE**

### **Statement of Faith**

CFN Network holds to the Statement of Faith provided and adhered to by Christ For The Nations while recognizing the diversity of beliefs among Spirit-filled Christians of scriptural integrity. Therefore, we open the arms of this Fellowship to include and embrace all who hold to the foundational truths of the Christian faith.

- 1. The One True God:** There is one living and true God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19).
- 2. The Scriptures Inspired:** The Bible is the only infallible, inspired, authoritative, written Word of God (2 Tim. 3:16).
- 3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ:** We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, in His personal future return to this Earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years (John 1:1).
- 4. Original Sin and the Fall of Man:** We believe that man, created in the image of God, by voluntary disobedience fell into the depths of sin and iniquity, therefore passing on sin's nature and consequences to all mankind, with their accompanying loss of intended meaning and purpose (Gen. 1:27; Rom. 5:12).

- 5. The Salvation of Man:** The only hope of redemption and salvation from the power of sin is to willingly choose repentance and faith in the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that it is possible for a believer to lose his or her salvation by willfully turning away from the provisions of salvation which Christ has made. Salvation is a free gift from God and is available to any and all who call upon the Name of the Lord (Acts 4:12; Rom. 5:8,13, 15; 10:9, 13; Jas. 1:21; Eph. 2:8; Heb. 3:12, 6:4-6, 12:15; Matt. 13:22; 2 Tim. 4:10; 1 Tim. 1:19).
- 6. The Church and its Mission:** We believe in the Great Commission to go into all the world to make disciples (Matt. 28:19).
- 7. The Ordinances of the Church:**
- a. Baptism in water in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. All who repent of their sins and believe in Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptized. This is a declaration to the world that they identify with Christ in His death and have been raised with Him in newness of life (Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47, 48; Rom. 6:4).
  - b. The Lord's Supper consisting of the elements—bread and the fruit of the vine—is the symbol expressing our sharing the Divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Pet. 1:4), a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Cor. 11:26), and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Cor. 11:26), and is enjoined on all believers until He comes!
- 8. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit:** The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit with evidence by speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives utterance (Acts 2:4). With the baptism in the Holy Spirit comes power for life and service in the ministry of the Body of Christ. We believe in corporate prayer with the believer's prayer language (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 8; 2:11; 10:46; 1 Cor. 12:131).
- 9. Divine Healing:** Divine healing was provided for all in the Old Testament (Ex. 15:22-26; Ps. 103:13; Isa. 53:4, 5) and in the New Testament it is an integral part of the Gospel (Matt. 8:16,17; Acts 5:16; Jas. 5:14-16).
- 10. The Final Judgment:** We believe that all shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ: the redeemed to be delivered unto everlasting life, and the unrepentant unto everlasting punishment (Rev. 20:11, 12; 2 Cor. 5:10).

## **Statement of Position of Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality**

The CFN Network fully embrace the teachings of the traditional biblical view with regard to the goodness of our sexuality, the importance of chastity and the place of heterosexual marriage as God's intended context for complete sexual expression to occur (Gen. 2:21-24).

CFN Network believes that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen. 1:26, 27). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We also believe that the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between one man and one woman, who are married to each other (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one man and one woman.

Therefore, any form of sexual immorality, including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual behavior, bestiality, incest, and use of printed, videoed, or virtual pornography is sinful (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9, 10).

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of CFN Network, and to provide a biblical role model to the members of CFN Network and the community, it is imperative that all members of CFN Network, those employed by CFN Network in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement and Position on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:14-16; 1 Thess. 5:22).

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Rom. 10:9, 10; 1 Cor. 6:9-11).

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mk.12:28-31; Lk. 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of CFN Network.

A change in marital status by means of divorce by an active credentialed member does not constitute an automatic cancellation of credentials. However, it is required to inform our offices if there has been a change in marital status.

## **MINISTRY/CHURCH AFFILIATION GOVERNING GUIDELINES**

### **I. Ministries/Churches desiring affiliation with the Fellowship should:**

1. Be in agreement with the vision and values of Christ For The Nations.
2. Be in agreement with the Christ For The Nations Statement of Faith.
3. Agree to build relationships with other ministers in the Fellowship.
4. Agree to actively participate in building the Kingdom of God through this body to the best of their ability.

### **II. Ministry/Church Affiliation Requirements**

The Senior Minister of the ministry/church desiring affiliation must carry or obtain CFNN credentials.

1. Each ministry/church will be an autonomous body and, therefore, must have its own charter/bylaws. If the ministry/church is just beginning, CFN Network can assist in establishing its charter/bylaws.
2. Each ministry/church has the option of obtaining its own 501(c)(3).
3. Each ministry/church must agree to certain standards in order to come under the 501(c)(3) Group Exemption of the CFN Network.
4. Each ministry/church will be required to apply for affiliation and then be interviewed.

5. A proper system of financial recording must be functional in the ministry, reflecting financial integrity. The affiliated ministry/church must submit a copy of its financial report at a minimum once a year, and within 60 days after the end of the financial year.
6. Once a year the affiliated ministry/church will submit a report describing the ministry activities through the past year.
7. Each ministry/church should be committed to relationship, responsibility, and accountability to the Network and its apostolic team.
8. Maintain membership by submitting annual renewal fee (\$260).

### **III. Fellowship with Christ For The Nations Network**

- Recognized ministerial staff of affiliated ministries/churches are eligible to apply for and receive credentials from Christ for the Nations through the CFN Network for up to 5 leaders.
- If an individual member of an affiliated church congregation desires to obtain credentials through Christ For The Nations, they must submit an application to the CFN Network. The application must be complete and accompanied by a written referral from the pastor of the affiliated church.
- The application will be thoroughly reviewed by members of the CFN Network Spiritual Leadership.

### **IV. Benefits**

- Increased credibility through identification with a world-wide organization that emphasizes integrity and responsible Christian conduct.
- The ministry/church has the opportunity to come under CFN Network's 501(c)(3) Group Exemption status for tax exemption (case-by-case basis).
- Ministries/churches will be able to receive guidance from the CFN Network Spiritual Leadership and Executive Board.
- Churches will have the opportunity to partner with CFN missions' projects.

### **V. Fellowship Accountability**

- We, as a fellowship, have the authority to remove a church from membership/affiliation if it is noncompliant with our vision, values, and statement of faith or charter.
- The CFN Fellowship of Ministers and Churches offers accountability to autonomous bodies.

ATTENTION: Please be aware that affiliation with Christ For The Nations Network **DOES NOT** entitle your ministry/church to include the wording "Christ For The Nations" in its name. You may, however, indicate that your ministry/church is affiliated with CFN Network.

## **MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES**

### **Mission Statement**

Christ For The Nations is an international, interdenominational organization that exists to train and equip men and women with the Word of God, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and with a lifestyle of worship, to reach the nations with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We seek to expand the Kingdom of God

worldwide by providing resources for the completion of church buildings, caring for orphans, supporting the nation of Israel, humanitarian relief efforts, establishing and strengthening international Bible schools, and the distribution of Christian literature.

## **Vision Statement**

The vision of Christ for the Nations is to fulfill the Great Commission by:

- Training and equipping men and women in the Word of God to be effective leaders who, with godly character and in the power of the Holy Spirit, will transform nations for the glory of God.
- Conducting annual short-term international missions' outreaches.
- Investing in the next generation by training and equipping Holy Spirit empowered children & ministers.
- Producing an annual worship recording.
- Conducting an annual evangelism youth outreach program through Youth For The Nations.
- Hosting annual conferences for women, worship, and the CFN Network for the growth and nurturing of the body of Christ.
- Providing resources through our Native Church Program to assist indigenous pastors and church leaders in completing their church buildings.
- Providing resources for the care of orphans.
- Supporting Israel and the furtherance of the Gospel among the people of that nation.
- Establishing and strengthening international Bible schools through the CFN Association of Bible Schools.
- Providing resources through the Literature Program for the distribution of Christian literature throughout the nations.
- Providing resources for the furtherance of missionary endeavors worldwide.
- Reconnecting the earth's history with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ through affirming the biblical view of Creation.

## **Core Values**

These core values serve as our guiding principles and foundational commitments:

- Exalting the Person and work of Jesus Christ.
- Upholding the Word of God as our standard for life and ministry.
- Training and ministering in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Teaching and encouraging apostolic ministry worldwide.
- Commitment to passionate worship.
- Commitment to prayer and spiritual warfare.
- Providing an atmosphere for the development of increased faith.
- Fostering a lifestyle of giving.
- Commitment to evangelism and world missions.
- Commitment to strengthening the local church by encouraging graduates to return to and actively serve their home church.
- Affirming the biblical view of Creation.
- Fostering biblical character, integrity, and faithfulness.
- Emphasizing a life of holiness and sanctification.

- Commitment to the priority of family relationships.
- Upholding the sanctity of life and valuing each child as a gift from God.
- Compassionate outreach to the needy.
- Supporting the nation of Israel as a vital part of God's eternal plan.
- Releasing women as equal partners in ministry.
- Interdenominational in fellowship.
- International in outreach.

## **PROCEDURAL INFORMATION**

An application for a **new affiliation with CFN Network** is divided into 4 steps:

### **1. Submission**

You will begin by submitting our online application for Ministry/Church Membership using [THIS LINK](#). You will need to provide a recommendation from a ministry leader (*minimum of 5 years senior church leadership experience such as senior pastor, executive pastor, director, full-time pastor, etc.*). At the end of the application, you will also make your payment.

### **2. Recommendation**

Upon completion of your form, we will send the recommendation form to the contact of the recommender you provided in your application. Once we receive that recommendation, we will be able to contact you to confirm the completion of your application to schedule your interview.

### **3. Interview**

Your interview will be hosted by either our director or one of our Spiritual Leaders. The purpose of this interview is to get to know you and your ministry/church better while reviewing the information you shared in your application. This interview will be held online.

### **4. Approval**

Post-interview, you will be notified whether you have been approved for membership to the Network. If approved, we will confirm your new membership status in a follow up email, and mail you your Certificate of Affiliation to the address of your ministry/church that was included in your application.

An application for an **affiliation renewal with CFN Network** is divided into 2 steps:

### **1. Submission**

You must submit your affiliation renewal form through either [THIS LINK](#), or you can request a mail-in form. Please be prepared to provide accurate and updated information in your renewal form submission. Ministry/Church information needed will look like updates and/or changes (if applicable) on:

- Board of Directors/Board meetings held/Minutes on file for meetings
- Constitution/By-laws
- Ministry Activities (i.e., "year in review")
- Latest 990 tax filing
- Financial Report

At the end of the renewal form, you will also submit your payment to finalize your renewal.

### **2. Confirmation**

Once you have submitted your annual affiliation renewal form, our office will produce a letter confirming your annual renewal and the maintenance of your affiliation status for the prospective



year. The letter will be mailed to the address you provided in your renewal form. Please provide an accurate address so your letter reaches you.

## **SETTING UP YOUR NON-PROFIT**

*Has the Lord placed a burden in your heart to impact others?*

*Has He given you vision for a particular cause?*

*Not sure how to get going?*

We would love to help you build a structure for this assignment of multiplication. An important tool is creating a **Tax-Exempt Non-Profit**, which can extend your impact. It is a vehicle for raising finances and building a team.

In addition, affiliation status with the CFN Network will give credibility to your ministry by being connected with a much larger and reputable ministry that has been in existence for over 70 years.

### **What is a non-profit?**

A nonprofit organization, also known as a nonbusiness entity or nonprofit institution, and often referred to simply as a nonprofit, is a legal entity organized and operated for a collective, public, or social benefit, as opposed to an entity that operates as a business aiming to generate a profit for its owners.

### **What is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization?**

501(c)(3) is the primary nonprofit status through which donations made to the organization are tax-deductible. 501(c)(3) status is regulated and administered by the US Department of Treasury through the Internal Revenue Service.

### **What is the difference between a non-profit and a tax exempt 501(c)(3)?**

Many people mistakenly believe that all nonprofits automatically have 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, however:

- Non-profit status refers to state-law corporate status.
- Tax-exempt status refers to state and federal tax exemption under tax regulations.

### **What are the advantages of establishing a tax-exempt organization?**

- Tax deductibility of donations to the organization; you can give tax-deductible receipts for all cash and non-cash donations.
- Limited liability for directors and officers for operations of the organization.
- Perpetual existence. The corporation continues on after the departure of the founder(s).
- Lower non-profit postage rates for mailings (bulk rates).
- Government and private grants may be available for tax-exempt organizations.
- The tax-exempt status is permanent, unless rules and guidelines for tax-exemption are not adhered to.

- Often exempt from paying state and local sales tax, property tax and taxes on other assets (varies as states have different rules).

### **What is affiliation with the CFN Network?**

When you have decided to start up a non-profit ministry, it is important for your ministry to belong to something “greater than yourself.”

The CFN Network has a special recognition called a “group exemption” from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

This group exemption allows the Network to bring established non-profit organizations under its umbrella for the purpose of becoming recognized as a

501(c)(3) tax exempt non-profit organization.

### **Can you help me set up my non-profit?**

The CFN Network works closely with a trusted ministry partner that will assist you in your non-profit set-up.

*The following services are included:*

- Introduction of the necessary steps and coaching throughout the process
- Completion of intake form (obtaining necessary information to start the process)
- Filing Name Reservation (if needed)
- Preparing and filing non-profit application
- Obtaining Employer Identification Number (EIN)
- Preparation of documents for organizational meeting.
- Preparation of banking resolution.
- Preparation of Bylaws.
- Policy documents.
- Filing application of sales tax and franchise tax exemption.
- On going phone calls or Zoom calls to answer questions for 9 months.

Please contact our office at [admin@cfnnetwork.org](mailto:admin@cfnnetwork.org) if you would like us to connect you to our ministry partner.

## **OFFICE CONTACT**

Our office is located at 350 W. Kiest Blvd. Dallas, TX 75224.

Should you like to visit us, we strongly encourage that you set up an appointment so that we may be prepared to serve you to the best of our capacity.

You may reach us by phone at **214-302-6456**.

You may reach us by email at [admin@cfnnetwork.org](mailto:admin@cfnnetwork.org).

Office hours are Monday – Friday from 9am – 5pm.

Hours subject to change at the discretion of the office.