

This Grace Bible Churches

discipline

Exclusive Office and Order of Succession

Conforming revision | October 17, 2026 | Prepared for authorized adoption

One Order

The Praeceptorium, The Order, and The Circle of the Elders are three names for the same internal teaching and oversight body within This Grace Bible Churches (TGBC).

Exclusive lifetime office

The office and titles of Praeceptorius / Founding Bishop belong exclusively to Wesley Scott Ray for his natural life. Wesley Scott Ray cannot be removed, dismissed, deposed, replaced, suspended from this exclusive office, or voted out of this office by the Praeceptorium, The Order, The Circle of the Elders, any assembly, committee, panel, member, or other person or body within TGBC.

No transfer or indirect removal

This office is personal and nontransferable. It cannot be assigned, inherited, passed on, duplicated, or conferred upon another man. No amendment, resolution, disciplinary decision, credential action, membership action, vote, or administrative measure may directly or indirectly remove Wesley Scott Ray from this exclusive office or transfer it to another man. No co-Praeceptorius or co-Founding Bishop may be created.

Death and historical recognition

Upon Wesley Scott Ray's death, the exclusive office ceases as an active office. It does not become a vacant office to be filled. His historical recognition as the sole Praeceptorius / Founding Bishop remains permanently.

Selection from among the Circle

Upon his death, the remaining admitted members of the Praeceptorium / The Order / The Circle of the Elders shall choose one qualified man from among themselves to serve as Overseeing Bishop of the Circle. The man chosen shall be skilled in the word of God, well taught by the word, faithful to sound doctrine, and able to teach others, holding firmly to the King James Bible rightly divided and TGBC's Pauline Dispensational Doctrine. His qualifications shall be examined under 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 KJB.

Successor responsibility and limits

The Overseeing Bishop of the Circle is the successor in responsibility for oversight after the Praeceptorius's death. He shall preserve the doctrine, teaching, records, and order of TGBC. He does not inherit, receive, or continue the exclusive office or titles of Praeceptorius / Founding Bishop. Temporary or acting service during incapacity does not create permanent succession or transfer that office.

Recorded procedure and an empty Circle

Selection requires at least 14 days' notice, a meeting with quorum, and approval by at least two-thirds of all eligible voting Circle members, rounded up. Record qualification, current Circle admission, the decision, written acceptance, and the effective date. If no admitted member remains, first reconstitute the Circle under the applicable post-death procedure; only the restored Circle may then choose one of its admitted members. Custodians, relatives, deacons, and outside advisers gain no automatic seat or successor right.

Scripture, accountability, and scope

The King James Bible remains the final written ecclesiastical authority. Scriptural counsel, examination of conduct, independent financial review, and lawful protective measures do not confer authority to remove Wesley Scott Ray from or transfer his exclusive lifetime office. This provision does not create personal ownership of TGBC property or change applicable civil obligations.

Application to this instrument

These express provisions apply throughout this revised instrument and its included instruments, schedules, forms, credentials, and registers. They replace contrary wording only on the exclusive lifetime office, removal or transfer of that office, successor title, and successor eligibility and selection. Other provisions retain their stated scope. Preparation and publication do not certify execution or formal adoption.

THIS GRACE BIBLE CHURCHES Identity and House to House Assembly

Statement dated October 11, 2026

Our identity

This Grace Bible Churches, the Circle of the Elders (the Order, the Praeceptorium), and Church in Thy House are not a denomination, are not part of a denomination, are not a religion, and are not part of Christianity. They are not Jewish and are not Catholic. They are not corruptors of the Word of God.

Our assembly and practice

We are not part of the "corporate" American Christian Church setup. We have no religious buildings, statues, baptistries, altars, or pastors, and none of the trappings of the religion known as Christianity.

Saved believers gathering house to house

This Grace Bible Churches consists of true saved believers who rightly divide the word of truth and meet house to house. Church in Thy House is the mode by which This Grace Bible Churches gathers together. The Gospel of Christ that saves today is found in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 KJB. Our standard for rightly dividing the word of truth is 2 Timothy 2:15 KJB.

King James Bible only

We use only King James Bibles: the 1769 edition of the 1611, Pure Cambridge Text. The King James Bible is our final written authority. We do not change, supposedly correct, or corrupt the Word of God.

The Order and the Bishop title

The Circle of the Elders, the Order, and the Praeceptorium name the same internal teaching and oversight body within This Grace Bible Churches. Praeceptorius is the Bishop title within that body. Bishop Wesley Ray is the original and sole Praeceptorius; admission to the Circle does not confer that title. Within This Grace Bible Churches, Bishop Wesley Ray is known as the Founding Bishop.

Document terminology

This statement supplies the identity, assembly practice, Bible standard, and title definitions for the accompanying documents. In earlier text, a collective reference to "Praeceptorius" means the Praeceptorium; a personal reference to Bishop Wesley Ray as Praeceptorius retains its personal meaning. These definitions do not create an additional ordained office or confer the founder's exclusive title upon another person. Governing amendments remain subject to the adoption procedures of each instrument.

08 Code of Doctrine Conduct and Ecclesiastical Discipline

Edition 2026 10 03 R2 | Operative only upon authorized adoption

Purpose and standards

This Code protects sound doctrine, persons, ministry, and records, and provides fair correction and restoration. It is not a means of retaliation, coercion, financial advantage, suppressing sincere questions, or declaring salvation lost through an administrative decision. The KJB and adopted foundational doctrine supply the ecclesiastical standard.

Leaders and workers shall act honestly, faithfully, without partiality, with proper boundaries and stewardship. No office permits threats, exploitation, violence, sexual misconduct, fraud, theft, falsified records, or misuse of confidential information. Ordinary disagreement, correctable mistakes, and personality differences are not automatically disqualifying misconduct.

Grounds and receipt of concerns

Substantial doctrinal departure, another saving message, serious misconduct, financial misuse, abuse of authority, false credentials, significant safety breaches, or persistent destructive conduct after correction may warrant review. Receive a description of the actual issue, persons involved, dates, witnesses, and available evidence. Anonymous information may supply a lead, particularly for safety, but seek reliable corroboration before an adverse final ecclesiastical finding.

Apply 1 Timothy 5:19-21 KJB carefully to accusations against elders. Its evidentiary instruction must not be used to prevent a person from reporting suspected abuse to civil authorities, receiving a disclosure, preserving evidence, or taking necessary protection. Distinguish the internal finding from a person's legal reporting duty.

Preliminary examination and conflicts

An authorized bishop or elder shall determine jurisdiction, the governing provisions, seriousness, available evidence, conflicts, and immediate safety needs. Close a plainly unsupported or resolved matter with a brief recorded reason. Refer matters outside TGBC authority appropriately without claiming power over an unrelated organization.

A reviewer shall disclose material personal, family, or financial conflicts. The person accused shall not determine the finding against himself. Seek disinterested qualified bishops or elders for independent examination if the only internal leader is involved. Their written advisory findings do not automatically give them Circle seats or transfer the founder's protected office.

Protective action and reporting

When immediate danger exists, contact emergency services and make applicable civil reports without waiting for internal approval. Preserve evidence and avoid investigative questioning of a minor or vulnerable person. Never promise secrecy about abuse or threats.

Authorized protective steps may restrict particular premises access, contact with vulnerable persons, financial access, or custody of records while a matter is reviewed. Such steps are not a final finding of guilt. They do not by themselves transfer the Founding Bishop title or protected office. Any title protection remains subject to lawful civil orders and safeguarding duties.

Notice response and evidence

Give written notice of the substantial issues, the process, and proposed review date, ordinarily allowing at least 14 days to respond unless immediate protection requires earlier action. The affected person may provide Scripture, explanations, documents, and witness information. Refusal to respond does not prevent a determination based on reliable available evidence.

Consider supporting and contrary evidence, context, admissions, firsthand accounts, and lawfully available records. Protect private information and maintain a written account of material proceedings. Do not purchase a favorable outcome or favor a person because of title, family, wealth, or popularity.

Authority and outcomes

During the founder's life, he approves ordinary final ecclesiastical decisions within his authority; Circle-member removal requires the extraordinary process. After his death, the Overseeing Bishop handles delegated matters and the Circle determines extraordinary credential, office, Circle, and affiliation actions. The accused person does not vote on his own status.

Findings may close the matter, provide counsel or correction, require clarification of teaching, establish an accountability plan, restrict a duty, withdraw current credentials, remove an eligible nonfounder from the Circle, or suspend or terminate affiliation. Each affected status must be named expressly, with effective dates and conditions. A certificate cannot impose a decision that was never authorized.

The founder's lifetime office and title may not be removed or transferred by this Code. Concerns about his doctrine, conduct, or transactions remain subject to truthful independent examination, scriptural counsel, recorded findings, appropriate access controls, and lawful civil action. The founding protection does not require concealment or obedience to an unlawful instruction.

Restoration and reconsideration

Seek restoration in the spirit of Galatians 6:1 KJB when appropriate. Fellowship restoration does not automatically restore an office, credential, financial authority, safeguarding clearance, or Circle membership. Specify renewed examination, demonstrated conduct, duties, and review dates.

An affected person may request reconsideration in writing within 30 days after notice, identifying material new evidence, procedural error, or a scriptural or governing issue. Later genuinely new evidence may still be considered. The disinterested authorized reviewer shall record whether further review is warranted; a request alone does not stay protective measures.

Records confidentiality and nonretaliation

Keep permanent final decisions and restricted supporting files. Share only with persons having legitimate duties, subject to lawful disclosure. Do not destroy evidence or conceal wrongdoing. Good-faith reports and truthful participation are protected from retaliation. Deliberate fabrication may itself be examined, but an unproved allegation is not automatically a knowingly false one.

Adoption

Authority _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Effective date _____ Record reference _____