

Expectations of Rock International Family Members

Introduction: Every healthy spiritual family has expectations of its members, whether they are spoken or unspoken. Clear, written expectations help people to understand what they are committing to, and inspire them to high levels of love and ministry. A group with no expectations is open to chaos, confusion, indifference, lack of commitment and therefore a lack of impact. Any group of people that wishes to have a maximum level of intimacy with Jesus and each other and wishes to have significant kingdom results in cities and nations, will call its members to the highest levels of love, commitment and servanthood. Of course, having expectations of members should not result in elitism (as if the group is better than others) legalism (members earning their place based on performance), or judgmentalism (members acting as though they were God by critically determining the spirituality of each other). We believe that it is wisdom to communicate expectations for several more reasons:

1. Clear expectations increase and preserve the “unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace” by calling people to excellence in relational skills.
2. Clear expectations help people understand the attitudes and actions that most enable acceptance, love, and mercy.
3. Clear expectations save a lot of pain and grief that come from those who, due to ignorance, violate relational “rules” described in Scripture.
4. Clear expectations help people channel their time, energy, affections, talents, and money for common values and vision so that the maximum level of impact can be achieved.

Expectations for Membership in a Local Rock Congregation:

1. A Rock family member is a Christian and a member of the larger family of God. They have been indwelt by the living Christ (making them born again) and filled and baptized by the Holy Spirit. Christ is their Savior and Lord. They are Christ’s disciple, an obedient follower of His. They have publicly affirmed their faith in Christ by water baptism. They believe and apply the Bible as the Word of God, and it is their rule for faith and practice.
2. A Rock family member seeks to be in unity, submission, and commitment to the values, beliefs, vision, strategies, and leadership of Rock International and a local Rock House Church. They have accepted and are committed to the Rock International mandate which is to forcefully advance the centrality and supremacy of Christ and His kingdom in cities, regions and nations and to be a part of an “apostolic and prophetic” people who helps to fulfill the great commission.

3. A Rock family member will try their best to increase the love and ministry of the whole family by:
 - a. Communicating righteously about the other members of their family (no gossip, slander, triangulation, etc.).
 - b. Remaining loyal
 - c. Resolving conflicts and offenses in a Biblical manner.
 - d. Extending forgiveness and mercy when there is failure or sin
 - e. Communicating openly and not concealing problems or concerns
 - f. Exercising patience as each person attempts to learn, grow and mature
 - g. Providing solutions rather than contributing to problems
 - h. Praying for and encouraging rather than criticizing, accusing, and condemning
 - i. Following the due process and steps of appeal prescribed by the leaders when resolving critical matters. (See the “Prescribed Steps For Restoration In The Rock”.)
4. A Rock family member will be actively involved in the life of the Rock International “Tribe” in the following ways:
 - a. They will be an active member of a house church.
 - b. They will be involved in the Rock International “Tribe” events, and participate in the equipping track.
 - c. They will contribute financially through tithes and offerings.
 - d. They will help with the evangelistic, house church planting, city reaching, and missionary efforts.
5. A Rock family member will have gone through the “On This Rock” orientation for membership. They will have discussed membership with their house church leaders and the elders to determine whether joining the Rock family is Father’s will. If they are coming from another spiritual family (i.e. church), the transition is done in such a way that both God and the churches can give their blessing. The new family member will publicly acknowledge and confirm their faith in Christ as Lord and their desire to be a part of the Rock family. Rock elders and house church leaders will also confirm membership in the Rock International Tribe.