

## Church Covenant

Lord, we agree that in following Your purpose for our lives, we achieve the greatest degree of happiness and usefulness (Matthew 5:3-12, Psalm 39:5). You purchased us on the cross and, therefore, all our time, money, thoughts, desires, and actions must be under Your control (Romans 13:13, Romans 14:8). Holiness is Your will for our lives (1 Thessalonians 4:3), and that holiness was purchased by Christ on His cross and is received by faith (2 Thessalonians 2:13). We realize that we cannot know the refreshment that renewal brings without repentance (Acts 3:19-20). Because of that, we will quickly confess our sin and accept Your forgiveness and cleansing (1 John 1:9).

Lord, we agree to guard what we listen to (jokes, gossip, criticism of others, flattery, religious views, stories, etc.) (Mark 4:24); to guard what we touch and how we touch it, recognizing the severe pitfalls of greed and lust (Exodus 20:17, Colossians 3:5); and to guard what we taste, acknowledging that gluttony and drunkenness are sin in Your sight (Romans 13:13, Romans 14:21, 1 Corinthians 10:31, 1 Thessalonians 5:5-8). We prayerfully seek God's help in abstaining from all drugs, food, drink and practices which harm the body or jeopardize our own or another's faith (1 Corinthians 8:9)

Lord, we agree that You deserve our daily praise and adoration (Hebrews 13:15). We will engage in daily prayer as well as discover how to pray without ceasing (Colossians 4:2). We will pray together and consistently for one another and for revival (2 Chronicles 7:14, James 5:16). Regular Bible study and daily devotional reading of Your Word is vital in order that we may be equipped for godly living in this godless world (2 Timothy 2:15; 3:15-16). Hearing Your Word regularly is essential, and we pledge ourselves to observe the Lord's Day faithfully (Hebrews 10:25). We need the help of fellow believers in maintaining our own fires of devotion and purity (Hebrews 3:13). We seek transparent honesty with our brothers and sisters in the Lord so they can encourage, comfort, warn, and assist us in the things pertaining to Your kingdom (Ephesians 4:25; James 5:16). Restitution will be made to any we have wronged as a necessary prerequisite for personal worship (Jeremiah 35:15, Matthew 5:24).

Our love of others is a test of our love for You (1 John 4:20-21). Unity among all those in Christ is Your will. We therefore commit ourselves to be agents of peace and reconciliation, and to refuse to be divisive over issues of personality, methodology, and non-essential doctrinal matters (John 17; Ephesians 4:3). Effective witnessing means being totally open in our confession of You before others (Luke 12:8). Your first great commandment requires us to love You with all our heart, soul, strength and mind (Matthew 22:37-38). You alone are worthy of praise, honor, and glory, and we refuse to glory in ourselves or to seek or accept that praise and honor which are Yours alone (Revelation 4:11).