

RELATIONAL COVENANTS

A relational or behavioral covenant is a written document developed by leaders, agreed to and owned by its creators and practiced on a daily basis as a spiritual discipline. The covenant answers the question, "how will we behave (how will we live together?) when we don't understand each other and when we don't agree?"

Guidelines for Loving Relationships and Values to Guide Our Interaction

Colossians 3:12-17

- we seek to build each other up and not tear down
 - we seek to communicate clearly, completely, and directly
 - we offer our opinions with charity and humility
 - we make positive investments in each others lives
 - we believe the best in each other and give each other the benefit of the doubt
 - we seek to discover what is best for our church as a whole, not what may be best for us or for some smaller group in the church
 - we accept disagreement, conflict and evaluation as normal and natural
- we are committed to being inconvenienced for the sake of the gospel

the church is not an end in itself; it is a means to an end.

...anytime we forget that OUR church has meaning only as it exists within God's Intention for THE CHURCH...

...anytime we lose sight of what God wants because of what we want

...anytime we begin to think of our church as OUR church... we have become something other than The Church.