

Covenant of Leadership Unity

Christ's Church – Martinsville, Virginia

Loving Christ and His people, I agree to walk in the following Biblical principles, striving to maintain the unity of our congregation and be more effective in fulfilling the Great Commission:

1. Loving One Another

I will begin by remembering the love that the Holy Spirit has poured into our hearts. Out of this love will come a Godly respect for my brother's and sister's lives, opinions, and gifts.

2. Honesty In Self-Differentiating

In decision making, I will openly and honestly share where I stand, why I stand there, how I feel about it, how I feel about the others involved for decisions facing us. I will not merely look to my own personal interests. I will strive to seek what is best for the church and be willing to sacrifice my position for the good of all (**Philippians 2:1-8**).

3. Bearing A Good Report

In obedience to God's Word, concerning my relationships with other servant-leaders, I promise to only be a good report to others and to give a good report to others:

When I discover that I have been an offender, I will:

- * Ask God to search my own heart and lead me in the way of reconciliation (**Psalm 139:23-24**)
- * Take the initiative to privately go to the offended, confess my failure, ask for forgiveness, and seek reconciliation (**Matthew 5:23-24**).

When I discover that I have been offended, I will:

- * Ask God to search my own heart and lead me in the way of reconciliation (**Psalm 139:23-24**)
- * Take the initiative to privately go to the offender, reveal my own feelings about the offense, and seek understanding and reconciliation (**Matthew 18:15**). Or, when appropriate, totally release the offense to God for His care and remain silent, lest I become an offender.

4. Triangling

I will not give passive assent to griping or emotional dumping on other servant-leaders or Body members receiving such reports. I will seek to direct the offended party to the offender with the charge to carry out (**Matthew 18:15-17**).

5. Godly Confrontation

In dialoguing on controversial issues, I will speak using "I" statements (owning rather than accusing) and non-emotional words.

6. Godly Listening

I will strive to accept unconditionally, other's perceptions, especially when they differ from my own. I will listen with open ears, open posture, and a closed mouth, believing that it is more important for me to understand what others say, than for them to understand what I think they mean. In an effort to show the other of my concern, I will respond to them by letting them know what I heard them say, rather than responding with what I think they mean.

7. Decision Making

I will strive to implement a redeemed democracy in which I will work toward a united decision. However, I understand certain decisions are urgent and will require that we operate on a majority rule.

8. Support Decisions

Having practiced honesty in Self-Differentiating, I will walk-on with the application of decisions of the group even if my position was in the minority. If I have recurring struggles with the decisions, I will discuss it only within the group and no others within the congregation.

9. Fulfill My Role

I agree to my role on this Leadership Team as spelled out in our respective position of descriptions. I will prayerfully seek to walk out this role.

10. Faithfully Carry Out My Responsibilities

I promise to be faithful and diligent in serving Christ and His people by completing my ministry tasks on time, and to the best of my ability.

11. Pray For One Another

I will joyfully pray for my brothers and sisters regularly, giving thanks for who they are in Christ, interceding on behalf of their personal and ministry needs.



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www.ccmartinsville.com