

LEADERSHIP COVENANT OF ETHICAL BEHAVIOR

Believing that Christian Leaders are to set the highest example for Christ's followers (I Timothy 4:11-16);
Committed to fulfill Christ's Great Commandment and Great Commission (Matthew 22:36-40; 28:19-20); and
Because the reputation of Christ and His Church demands a public witness above reproach....

Therefore, I commit my thoughts, attitudes and behaviors to represent Christ through the following disciplines of my calling:

- 1. Leadership:** By His grace and Spirit, I will lead God's people with the spiritual authority which issues from a servant heart, godly character, and gifted performance. I will develop disciples of Christ and empower spiritual leaders for the Kingdom. (II Timothy 2:2)
- 2. Purity and Integrity:** I will conduct myself with sexual purity and integrity whether I am married or single. If married, in covenant faithfulness I will, in my thoughts, words, and deeds, love and respond toward my spouse as Christ loves and responds to me. If single, I will commit myself to celibacy until I enter marriage. I will not neglect my family: I will express my love for them in my time, attention, affection, and respect.
- 3. Spiritual, Emotional, and Physical Health:** I will endeavor to pray daily; to read, study and meditate upon God's Word; and to maintain other spiritual disciplines such as solitude, reflection, and fasting. I will keep myself mentally challenged through disciplined reading, attending seminars, and peer mentoring. I will keep myself emotionally and physically fit through proper eating habits, regular exercise, vacations, recreation, and Sabbath keeping.
- 4. Confidentiality and Pastoral Care:** I will hold in confidence any privileged communication received by me during the conduct of my ministry. I will not disclose confidential communications in private or public except where in my practice of ministry I am convinced that the sanctity of confidentiality is outweighed by my well-founded belief that the parishioner/client will cause imminent, life-threatening or substantial harm to self or others, or unless the privilege is waived by those giving the information. Furthermore, recognizing I am in a position of relative power in my dealings with others, I will conduct myself as a servant to their best interests, with respect and responsible behavior. (Philippians 2: 2-5)
- 5. Relationships in the Body:** I will avoid gossip, slander, and all such "evil speaking" in my communications. I will develop accountable relationships with one or more of my peers. I will speak well of fellow leaders within the Body of Christ. When concerns and conflicts develop, I will follow the admonition of Matthew 18:15-17 to bring all such matters to reconciliation and/or resolution. (Ephesians 4: 29-32, II Timothy 2:24-26)
- 6. Financial Management:** I will handle my personal and ministry finances with honesty and responsibility. I will tithe to my church and its mission as an example of faithful stewardship. I will develop the saints under my care in their financial awareness and responsibility as stewards of God's resources. (Romans 13:7, Matthew 20:21)

- 7. Facing my Failures:** I will risk exposing my own flaws and shortcomings as a fellow learner among the saints. When I fall short of this covenant, I will confess my sin, repent and depend on God's grace for healing and restoration. If such failure brings shame upon Christ, the church, or my marriage, I will withdraw from the ministry and place myself under the care of appropriate counseling and pastoral leaders until such time as it is deemed advisable by Transformation Ministries for me to return to professional leadership. (James 5:16; I Timothy 4:19-20)

- 8. Departing in Grace:** When concluding service in a ministry, I will sever my leadership responsibility with the ministry, endeavoring never to interfere with the pastoral leadership of my successor or alienate people from the leadership of the ministry. I will agree to requests for pastoral ministry (e.g., weddings and funerals) among those I have previously served only after I have personally obtained permission from the current pastor.

As long as I am engaged in ministry with Transformation Ministries, I will be willing to reaffirm my support of this covenant, annually.

I am in agreement with this statement: _____ Date: _____