



Pastor Shawn

LIFE in Covenant

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Covenant in Christ: Shared Identity: A Basis for Unity, A Common Purpose & Hope

"God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation. For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God." Romans 5:8-11

Contract: **Responsibilities** in a contract are typically conditional and transactional. Each party's obligation depends on the other's performance.

Covenant: **Responsibilities** in a covenant emphasize loyalty, faithfulness, and a pledge to uphold a certain standard or relationship, regardless of the actions of the other party.

A story of keeping your vow: Joshua 9-10

"You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name". ("Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.") Exodus 20:7

As followers of Jesus – we represent the name & character of God on earth

"If you claim to be religious but don't control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless." James 1:26

"Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." Proverbs 12:18

LIFE of Words: Rebuilding Integrity in Christian Community

- Put your COVENANTS First

"A man who makes a vow to the Lord or makes a pledge under oath must never break it. He must do exactly what he said he would do." Numbers 30:2

"Now when people take an oath, they call on someone greater than themselves to hold them to it. And without any question that oath is binding." Hebrews 6:16

- CONSIDER your promises.

"Just say a simple, 'Yes, I will,' or 'No, I won't.' Anything beyond this is from the evil one." Matthew 5:37

"People will be responsible for every careless word they've said." Matthew 12:36

- COMMIT to your word.

"Who may worship in your sanctuary, LORD?... keep their promises even when it hurts." Psalm 15:1,4

"Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few. As a dream comes when there are many cares, so the speech of a fool when there are many words. When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it. Do not let your mouth lead you into sin. And do not protest..., "My vow was a mistake...".

Ecclesiastes 5:1-5

- CONFESS your failures.

"A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful. But if he confesses and forsakes them, he gets another chance."

Proverbs 28:13