



## Family Covenant

### What is a Covenant?

**Covenant** – A “formal, solemn, and binding agreement...a written agreement or promise usually under seal between two or more parties especially for the performance of some action.” – Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary

**Covenant (Theologically)** – Covenants were created by God as a way to confirm His agreements with humankind (a Testament). In biblical terms, the word “covenant” is interchangeable with “agreement,” but carries more weight than a casual or even contractual understanding.

#### 1) **VALUES:** What are the non-negotiable beliefs you hold?

Values aren’t taught just by bringing children to church or having a little talk. Children learn values through daily interaction with their parents. They learn them in everyday, ordinary encounters with Mom and Dad. They learn by listening to what we say and watching what we do. “...*when you sit at home and when you walk along the road.*”(Living out Deut. 6:4-9)

So it’s important that parents model what they teach and teach what they model. When parents have integrity—that is, when their teaching and example are consistent—the communication of their core values becomes compelling to children.

“As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with **compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another** and, if anyone has a complaint against another, **forgive each other**; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, **clothe yourselves with love**, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the **peace of Christ** rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And **be thankful**. Let **the word of Christ dwell in you** richly; **teach and admonish** one another in all **wisdom**; and with **gratitude** in your hearts **sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs** to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, **do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” (Colossians 3:12-17)

#### 2) **MISSION:** Why does your family exist? What is your family’s overall purpose?

“Our desire is to build a family that is fully devoted to God by intentionally passing down our faith in Christ to our children and grandchildren.”

#### 3) **VISION:** How will your family accomplish its overall purpose (or mission in life)?

Note: Your vision (or “how to”) may change from time to time.

“We will grow in Christlikeness by applying spiritual disciplines (prayer, Bible study, worship, and rest) within our marriage and during our extended family times, and in doing so; build a legacy of sincere faith in Christ.”

**4) GOALS:** Milestones marking an achievement. Goals must be specific, attainable and measurable if they are to help you take charge of the direction of your family's spiritual growth.

“Practicing the Liturgical life of the Church (weekly Communion, Bi-monthly Confession), Bible Study, Spiritual meetings, mission trips, Community service, family vacations, and times of rest.”

**5) ACCOUNTABILITY:**

Families are encouraged to meet periodically with the sole purpose of offering prayer, support, and accountability, as they develop their spiritual discipleship plans.

Time to write our own ...

\_\_\_\_\_ **FAMILY COVENANT**

Names of Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Our Values:

Our Mission:

Our Vision:

Our Goals:

Accountability:



