

A Covenant for Christian Nonprofit Leaders

Our passion as leaders of Christian nonprofit ministries is to glorify God by proclaiming the Gospel, advancing Christ's Kingdom and meeting the needs of people. We are committed to equipping and mobilizing the Body of Christ in our region to this end.

We covenant together to maintain the unity of the Body of Christ. We seek to please Christ and become the answer to His prayer in John 17 by walking in obedience to Biblical mandates regarding unity.

Therefore:

- We will invest time to develop encouraging relationships with other ministry leaders and pray faithfully for one another.
- We reject the notion of competition and isolation. We are one in Christ.
- We seek to collaborate with others in the Body of Christ in every way possible, while maintaining a focus on the unique call He has given to us and to our ministries.
- We will steward God's resources entrusted to the Kingdom in our region by wisely sharing what God has provided to us.

We will honor the unique calling of other ministries and will faithfully steward our own unique calling, living joyfully in the reality that we are not called to become all things to all people. We covenant together to find our place in the loving continuum of care for those in need, while strategizing with others to ensure that all persons in our region, from conception to death, experience the love, protection and provision of God.

Above all, we desire to see Christ's Kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

**Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think,
according to the power that works in us,
to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations,
forever and ever. Amen.
(Ephesians 3:20, 21)**

Possible Practical Applications of A Covenant for Christian Nonprofit Leaders

Collaboration – We will co-labor for the Kingdom.

- Identify geographic sectors where collaboration is flourishing and resource the effort with leadership and funding
- Learn best practices from existing collaborations and strategically duplicate the principles and best practices in other locations
- Highlight and resource the ministries that provide service to other ministries (“B2B”)

Stewardship – We will diligently steward all that God has entrusted to us, recognizing His ownership of all things. We will hold what we steward with open hands.

- View donors and volunteers as fellow workers and disciples to be loved, disciplined and shared
- Share facilities and physical resources with other ministries when appropriate
- Create a system of offering professional skillsets to the Christian nonprofit sector to reduce costs on individual ministries (accounting, legal, fundraising, construction and maintenance, architecture, etc.)
- Provide shared office and ministry space to increase collaboration and reduce overhead expenses

Generosity – We will collectively seek to encourage Biblical generosity throughout our region by living generous lives and equipping the Body of Christ to be joyful givers.

- Create opportunities for mature givers to mentor young givers
- Develop a strategy to more easily resource smaller ministries
- Educate the Body of Christ regarding local resources and organizations that promote giving and stewardship
- Develop a method of communication regarding nonprofit critical financial needs and seek to collaboratively solve the problem
- Deploy funding to agreed upon strategic ministry vision

Excellence - We will seek to lead our ministries with excellence and continually develop our organizations to become the best for God’s glory and the benefit of those we serve.

- Maximize Mission Increase workshops and coaching and other training resources
- Utilizing and accessing resources and subject matter experts in our community

Unity – We will gather as a city to celebrate the work of God in our community and mobilize the Body of Christ for more effective service to our city.

- Plan and execute regular gatherings of Kingdom-minded leaders
- Plan and execute an annual “Kingdom Conference” to celebrate, pray, motivate and strategically deploy the Church to the City

Other Possible Practical Applications of A Covenant for Christian Nonprofit Leaders

- On-going, regular leadership training
- Board training and match-making
- Strategic planning for geographic development and ministry expansion
- Development of joint capacities
- Work force development
- Coordination of professional services
- Regular problem solving or crisis management sessions
- Sharing of expertise and best practices

