Leadership Covenant



For Elders, Deacons, CG Leaders, and Staff

First of all, thank you for considering a formal leadership role here at Seaside. Following the pattern of Jesus and the Apostle Paul it's one of our highest desires to help develop leaders whom God has called and who desire to serve with us on our mission together in this church.

Seaside's vision is to make disciples and plant churches in Bremerton, Kitsap, and Beyond. We do this by drawing to Christ, developing in community, and deploying to culture. By partnering with us in leadership you are agreeing to join with us on that mission as well as being entrusted to care for the people in this family of believers with the love Christ.

As elders we have to give an account for how we care for those God has entrusted to us (Hebrews 13.17). It is because of this high calling that we ask that you agree to the following Covenant. As an Elder, Deacon, Community Group Leader, or Staff Member you will be publicly recognized as someone that the elders trust and are recommending for the church to also trust. For us to put you forth in that way we need to make sure we are in agreement together on the essentials of what it means to be a part of our church as well as the commitments we ask of our leaders.

A covenant is an agreement between two parties. So first please read our covenant as elders to you. It's important to understand that none of us will keep this covenant perfectly. But by agreeing to it we are agreeing that this is our desire and we will work towards these things.

With the help of the Holy Spirit, the Elders covenant to you the following:

- 1. To lovingly care for you and seek your growth in Christ above your service in the church.
- 2. To provide help, coaching, and equipping so that you will thrive in your leadership role.
- 3. To be available to you and make your needs a priority to us in ministry.
- 4. To seek God's will for our church community to the best of our ability as we study the Scriptures, engage in prayer, and follow the Spirit (Acts 6:4, Acts 20:28, 1 Peter 5:1-5).
- 5. To set an example and join you in living out our partnership in the gospel together (1Corinthians 11.1; Philippians 3:17; 1 Timothy 4:12).

With the help of the Holy Spirit I covenant to the following.

- I am a Christian who has been saved from my sins by the grace of Jesus Christ. I have been baptized to give testimony of my union with Christ, my identification with the body of Christ, and in obedience to the Scriptures.
- I have read and agree with the Seaside doctrinal statement as well as the distinctives and values
 of our Network (Acts 29) and agree to not be divisive to it's teaching and content. I have
 completed the discipleship class and elder interview. I understand the importance of following

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church leadership and will be diligent to preserve unity and peace (Hebrews 13:7, 17; Ephesians 4:1-3)

- 3. I will, by God's grace, seek to maintain a close relationship with the Lord applying the gospel to my life daily through faith and repentance as well as through regular personal Bible reading, prayer, and fellowship. My journey in Christ will be evident through my regular participation in the weekly Sunday gatherings, and my involvement in a Community Group and/or Bible group (Psalm 119:97, 105; Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:23-25).
- 4. I will, by God's grace, try to properly manage the resources God has given me, including my time, body, gifts and talents, attitudes, finances, and possessions (Ephesians 5:15-18; Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:1-16; Galatians 5:22-26; Proverbs 3:9-10). This includes regular giving to Seaside that is sacrificial and cheerful (2 Corinthians 8-9).
- 5. I commit myself to the Seaside church family and agree to join with this group of believers in fulfilling our mission (Christ, Community, Culture) and vision to make disciples and plant churches in Bremerton, Kitsap County, and beyond.
- 6. I commit to using the spiritual gift(s) God has given me for the building up of the church, both as part of Seaside and universally (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Peter 4:10-11; Romans 12:1-8; 1Corinthians 12:7-31).
- 7. I agree to practice the humility and sacrificial attitude of Christ by considering the needs of others (Philippians 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 13:4-5), not gossiping (Proverbs 16:28, Matthew 18: 15-17), and seeking spiritual friendships (Proverbs 17:17).
- 8. I agree to be accountable to my Seaside church family and listen to the believers I'm close with as well as the leadership (CG leaders, Deacons, Elders) if I get stuck in a pattern of sin that is hurting myself and our church. This means things like simply listening, being willing to meet, potentially getting counseling, and having a teachable humble heart with others. I understand that the goal of this accountability is always my growth in Christ and the well being of the church. I also understand that this process could mean things like taking a break from the leadership role I serve in, being a part of a specific Community Group, Bible Group, Serve Team (Worship, Youth, Hospitality, etc), or in the worst case scenario being removed from attending Sunday Gatherings or participating in our church in any way. These will be decisions made by the Elders. (Matthew 18:15-17; Galatians 6:1-5)
- 9. I agree to submit to the authority of the Scriptures as the final word on all issues (Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- 10. I will be honest with the Elders if I feel like I can't keep this covenant any longer either because of doctrinal disagreements or a deep struggle with sin that would keep me from leadership.

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