



Connecting to Colonial's Covenant – 11
September 20, 2015

Pastor Phelps
Phil. 2:12-16

COMMITMENT #11 – CONSISTENT CONDUCT

The American Heritage Dictionary defines a “Covenant” as “A binding agreement made between two or more parties; a compact; contract. A solemn agreement or vow made by members of a church.” Those who choose to join Colonial Hills Baptist Church become members of a “Covenantal Community.” As members of such a community, each person pledges to “consider one another to provoke to love and to _____ works” (Heb. 10:24).

The Covenant of Colonial Hills Baptist Church says, “We do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ We . . . engage . . . to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger.”

This section of our Covenant contains a commitment to consistent Christian conduct. There are three places in which our conduct must be carefully considered.

OUR CONDUCT IN WALKING

We are commissioned of God to walk wisely “toward them that are without” (Col. 4:5). Our Covenant encourages us to “walk circumspectly in the world.” In other words, we are to live in a manner that never brings shame or reproach to the name of Jesus Christ.

THIS WILL REQUIRE A _____ CONSCIENCE (Acts 24:16). As we walk in the world the Spirit of God gives witness to our spirit through the Scriptures. Don't let your conduct quench His Spirit (I Thes. 5:19).

THIS WILL REQUIRE A _____ HEART (I Cor. 8:9). Our liberties are not to be seized, they are to be invested in service. We are to live as Christ who came not to be served but to serve (Matt. 20:28).

OUR CONDUCT IN THE WORLD

The Christian is in the world, but not _____ of the world (John 15:19; 17:14-21). The Lord did not pray that we would be taken _____ of the world, but that the world would be taken out of us (I John 2:15-17). In order to reach the world we must be in touch with the world, but we must be sure that we are touching the world with hands that are pure. Our Church Covenant is a pledge of pure and proper conduct in the world in three areas in particular:

OUR _____ (Rom. 12:11). Being part of the Christian community brings expectations of proper Christian conduct.

1. Christians should be the community's best _____ (Eph. 6:6).
2. Christians should be the community's best _____ stewards (Luke 16:9-12).

OUR _____ (James 5:12). For the Christian, punctuality and dependability are not matters of convenience, they are matters of _____!

OUR _____ (Matt. 5:16). The Christian's deportment must be right or the light of the gospel will be deflected or dulled.

OUR CONDUCT IN WORD

It is very convicting to consider the taming of the _____. “Tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger” are problems all too frequently exhibited within the congregation of the saints (James 3).

_____ - or Gossip is not to be tolerated. God's Word teaches us to “study to be quiet” (I Thes. 4:11) and reminds us that in “the multitude of words there wanteth not _____” (Prov. 10:19).

_____ The American Heritage Dictionary says that “This word means to slander the character or reputation of an absent person.” Only you can prevent fellowship _____ (Prov. 25:23)!

EXCESSIVE _____ (Eph. 4:26). We ought to be righteously indignant and willing to attack problems but not _____.



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