



March 3, 2019

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The Vow of Partnership

The Vows

Vow # 1: I promise God will be my first priority and my _____ will be my second.

Vow #2: I promise to always pursue my two.

Vow #3: I promise our marriage will be about “_____” and not “_____”

Partnership The _____ Plan

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." ²⁷ So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. **Genesis 1:26-27 (NRSV)**

¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." **Genesis 2:18 (NRSV)**

⁵ ... 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." **Matthew 19:5-6 (NIV11)**

Marriage is a Covenant, Not a Contract

- a contract is based on mutual _____.
- A covenant is based on mutual _____.
- covenant: cutting, a binding agreement, a blood covenant

In the name of God, I _____ take you _____ to be my wife/husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until we are parted by death. This is my solemn vow.

Covenant Partnership is Summarized with Godly Leadership and Mutual Submission.

²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:21 (NIV11)

My Next Step Today Is To...

- Meditate on and/or memorize Ephesians 5:21
- Identify three ways that I could be more of a servant in my most important relationships.
- Repent of my desire to rule over my spouse and instead do all I can to become a partner with my spouse.
- Give myself to God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit so that I may be increasingly be shaped into their likeness.

The Crossing Free Methodist Church Membership Covenant

The Confession and Commitment

We confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. By faith, we walk with Him. We commit ourselves to know him in His full sanctifying grace.

As Regards God

As God's people, we reverence and worship Him.

We commit ourselves to cultivate habits of Christian devotion, submitting to mutual accountability, practicing private and corporate prayer, studying the Scriptures, attending public worship, and partaking of Holy Communion;

We commit ourselves to observe the Lord's Day, setting it apart for worship, renewal, and service;

We commit ourselves to give our loyalty to Christ and the church, refraining from any alliance which compromises our Christian commitment.

This we do, by God's grace and power.

As Regards Ourselves and Others

As a people, we live wholesome and holy lives and show mercy to all, ministering to both their physical and spiritual needs.

We commit ourselves to be free from activities and attitudes that defile the mind and harm the body, or promote the same;

We commit ourselves to respect the worth of all persons as created in the image of God;

We commit ourselves to strive to be just and honest in all our relationships and dealings.

This we do, by God's grace and power.

As Regards the Institutions of God

As a people, we honor and support the God-ordained institutions of family, state, and church.

We commit ourselves to honor the sanctity of marriage and the family;

We commit ourselves to value and nurture children, guiding them to faith in Christ;

We commit ourselves to seek to be responsible citizens, and we pray for all who lead.

This we do, by God's grace and power.

As Regards the Church

As God's people, we express the life of Christ in the world.

We commit ourselves to contribute to unity in the church, cultivating integrity, love, and understanding in all our relationships;

We commit ourselves to practice the principles of Christian stewardship, for the glory of God and the growth of the church;

We commit ourselves to go into our world and make disciples.

This we do, by God's grace and power.