



ACU COMMUNITY COVENANT

Arizona Christian University embraces a Community Covenant based on our mission to educate and equip students for ministries and professional occupations. A significant part of the Christian college journey is being a part of a grace-filled community. As we follow Jesus together we want to create an environment for authentic discovery of our true selves in Christ, holistic development of loving relationships and strengths-based discernment of our vocation as members of the body of Christ. We willingly enter into this community and value the following core commitments.

We covenant together to love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength. We love God by following the life and teachings of Jesus as revealed to us through God's Word by the work of the Spirit. Our response to receiving God's love is recognizing our privilege to worship and serve.

We covenant together to love others as we love ourselves. We seek to cultivate this love as we celebrate individual strengths, encourage and challenge one another with truth and grace, and forgive one another when hurt or disappointed. As we seek wholeness and establish boundaries, we will pursue healthy relationships.

We covenant together to learn the wisdom and ways of God. Our faith compels us to seek understanding within the scope of orthodox, evangelical Christianity. Humility and respect for others are vital as we commit to seek truth together.

We covenant together to pursue excellence in everything. We want our words and actions to represent Christ and to express gratitude to God. We are committed to the wise use of our time, money, talents and resources as good stewards of God's gifts and graces.

We covenant together to live a lifestyle of integrity. We desire to create a safe environment where we can express authentically our identity in Christ and humanity with honesty and seek purity of thought and action and unity of our inner and outer lives.

Our aim is that all faculty, staff and students will actively participate in our community and discover a place of safety, growth and opportunity. As we share life together we give ourselves to the process of being transformed into the likeness of Christ Jesus.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO EMBRACE A COMMUNITY COVENANT?

"Covenant" is a Biblical term for the mutual agreement between two parties to share life together. It is not a "have to" but a "want to" opportunity that flows out of a heart that loves God and others. We cannot live out a covenant by ourselves but by trust and submission to God and the community.

Community is the "who" of those sharing their lives together on mission. It reminds us that we need one another in honest, affirming and supportive relationships. There is safety in accountability as we build trust and encourage one another in this process of growth.

Covenant is the "what" of our lives and the mission we are committing to. It signifies the spiritual dimension and seeks to reflect the heart behind the actions. Agreeing to a covenant reminds us that we have freedom in Christ, and that with freedom comes responsibility. As the Community Covenant is embraced and embodied, God will be glorified on the campus of Arizona Christian University.

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