Next Level Covenant Groups

COVENANT OF SISTERHOOD

Name of Group (optional):

Date:

Between: Myself and the women in my covenant group who have signed below

1. COVENANT OF PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT

I will make meetings a priority in my schedule, and endeavour to be on time and prepared for them. I will look for opportunities to participate and engage in meaningful ways in the discussions that happen in my group.

I will seek to engage in the lives of my sisters outside of our scheduled meeting times as need or opportunity arises.

2. COVENANT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

I will not disclose to anyone outside of my group anything said inside my group that could be injurious or embarrassing to any member of my group. This covenant will apply to all members of my group: past, present, or future.

Proviso: This covenant will remain in effect at all times, but will not be considered to be breached where a sister has been lovingly confronted in her sin by one or more women in the group, and who then refuses to respond to that confrontation by seeking to return to the will of Christ. If that situation arises, with humble reliance on God, and subsequent to

- 1) careful and comprehensive searching of the applicable Scripture(s), and
- 2) concerted prayer, and
- 3) continued attempts to admonish the sister through supportive warnings, and
- 4) the unanimous consensus of all available members of the group.

the applicable outside person(s), agencies or organizations can be discreetly approached to assist in the prevention of egregious victimization of persons resulting from the sister's sinful action(s), including extremely serious or life threatening harm to herself.

3. COVENANT OF CANDOR

Knowing that I can rely on the covenant of confidentiality, I will be as open, honest and transparent with my life as I can, and will share with you those areas of my life that I know are broken.

"Confess your sins to each other ... " James 5:16a NIV

4. COVENANT OF GRACE

I will first prayerfully check my attitudes, motives and the timing of my comments before I make them. I will look for evidence of spiritual growth in you, and endeavour to affirm you whenever I see it. I will encourage you to consistently engage in spiritual disciplines, particularly the study of God's Word, meditation, and prayer.

I promise to be patient with my Christian sisters as God works in us all to make us what He wants us to be.

I will trust God to convince others of His will. I will not try to manipulate or pressure others to do what I think is best. I will simply bear witness of what I sense God may be saying to us and watch to see how the Spirit uses that witness.

5. COVENANT OF MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Having revealed areas of my life that I know are broken, I will ask you to share with me areas of brokenness in my life that you see but I do not. With your help, I will set and disclose to you goals in my life to address that brokenness, and to help me walk closer to the Lord. I will expect you to hold me accountable to the realization of those goals.

Conversely, I will lovingly exhort or admonish (warn) you whenever I observe some action or attitude in you (or its absence) that could jeopardize your spiritual development and hurt your Christian reputation.

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17 NIV.

I will graciously and gratefully receive your words of exhortation or rebuke, knowing you care about me and that you desire that I be conformed to the likeness of Christ. I will take whatever you say to me, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, make every effort to become more like Christ.

"Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you; rebuke the wise and they will love you. Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning" (Proverbs 9:8-9 NIV)

6. COVENANT OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

I will pray for the women in my group on a regular basis, to lift up their needs to the Lord.

"...and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." James 5: 16b NIV

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