

The Pastor/Leader Covenant of Repentance and Prayer

“Let the Priests Weep Between the Porch and Altar”

(by Dr. Gregory Frizzell)

Throughout Scripture and history, deepest repentance begins with pastors and spiritual leaders. When repentance and prayer do not flow from God-ordained leaders, they are seriously limited in churches and society. Thus, today’s greatest hope of sweeping revival is deep repentance and united prayer among pastors and leaders. Yet repentance that brings revival is not about just turning *from* sin. It is about seriously returning *to* the required biblical patterns of obedience. True repentance must also flow from a first love relationship with Jesus, Spirit-empowerment and grace, not legalism. (Revelation 2:1-4) It is about renewal and strength for isolated, burned-out pastors.

The Pastor/Leader Covenant of Repentance and Prayer is designed as an instructive biblical plumbline for ongoing growth and power in leaders. Regardless of theological slant, organization or worship style, each of the seven commitments are non-negotiables for full biblical obedience and empowerment. It is important to understand the commitments in this covenant are more than just some nice sounding prayers. They reflect the seven essential elements of fully empowered, New Testament churches. Prayerfully consider the essential commitments and the Scriptures from which they flow. May God’s commands and ways become our own. (Isaiah 55:8)

The Seven Essential Commitments of New Testament Leaders

1. **Lord Jesus, You are ever-worthy of my deepest love and worship. I confess and repent of any ways my spiritual passion, service or worship have become lukewarm, routine or ritual.** By Your grace and Spirit, I covenant to love You with all my heart, soul, mind and strength. I will seek to lead this church in a first love passion for Jesus. (Matthew 15:8, 22:37; John 4:23-24; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 5:18; Hebrews 13:15; Revelation 2:1-4, 3:15-19)
2. **Blessed Lord, thank You for grace to abide daily in Your word and power. I confess and repent of any neglect in personal and corporate prayer, fasting, Scripture study and Spirit empowerment.** I further confess and forsake inadequate patterns of praying with and for my family. I also repent of spiritual isolation and will seek Your guidance to fellowship and pray with other pastors and leaders. (Psalm 119:11; Matthew 21:13; John 8:31-32, 15:4-16; Acts 1:14, 2:1, 42, 4:29-31, 6:4, 12:5-12; Ephesians 5:24-6:4; James 5:16-18; 1 Peter 3:7)
3. **Righteous God as You are holy, I desire to live in ever-deeper holiness. I confess and repent of any neglect of daily spiritual cleansing, moral purity, denying self and yielding of heart idols in daily life.** By Your grace and Spirit, I covenant to lead this church in deep cleansing, biblical repentance and full yielding to Christ’s Lordship. (Leviticus 10:3; 2 Chronicles 7:14; Ecclesiastes 12:13; Ezekiel 14:1-4; Joel 2:17; Matthew 16:24; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:6, 4:17)
4. **Lord Jesus, thank You for grace to seek love and reconciliation toward all. I confess and repent of ignoring any damaged or inappropriate relationships in the present and past.** I covenant to fully forgive all who have offended me and seek forgiveness from all I have offended. By Your grace and Spirit, I will lead my people to seek forgiveness from all they have offended and forgive all who have offended them. I covenant to grow this church in fellowship and love. (John 13:34-35; Matthew 5:23-24, 6:14-15, 17:20-22, 18:35; Hebrews 12:14; 1 John 4:7-11)
5. **Father God, Your word is truth and I will faithfully proclaim it. I confess and repent of any failure to boldly proclaim the whole council of Scripture in sound doctrine and truth.** By Your grace and Spirit, I will lead this church to strong biblical discipleship and clear preaching of Your whole word. I will live and teach the reverential fear of the Lord. (Jeremiah 3:15; Habakkuk 2:14; Matthew 5:18-19, 10:28, 28:18-19; Mark 8:38; Acts 20:27; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 2 Timothy 3:12, 16-17; 1 Peter 5:2)
6. **Blessed Savior, I resolve to keep Your Great Commission my first priority. I confess and repent of any neglect of strong biblical discipleship, new-birth evangelism, missions and kingdom expansion.** By Your grace and Spirit, I will lead this church in fervent soul-winning, discipleship, evangelistic preaching, revival and missions to our city, state, nation and world. (Psalm 85:6-7; Proverbs 11:30; Matthew 28:18-19; Acts 1:8; Colossians 1:27-28; 2 Thessalonians 3:1; 2 Timothy 2:2-4; Revelation 22:30)
7. **Lord Jesus, I will lead Your church in loving ministry and vision. I confess and repent of any failure to lead this congregation in healthy church body ministry and God-revealed vision for kingdom advancement.** By Your grace and Spirit, I covenant to lead this congregation in full biblical ministry within and beyond our church body. Fill me with a kingdom vision for our church, city, nation and world. (Proverbs 29:18; Acts 4:12-35, 6:1-4; John 10:17; 1 Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 4:7-16)