A Covenant of Holy Manners

For the Leaders of

To the best of my ability with the help of Jesus Christ, I commit to the following "Holy Manners" in our work together:

- 1. To regularly pray for this church, its staff and leadership.
- 2. To act as an outspoken advocate for this ministry in every public setting.
- 3. To actively grow my faith in Jesus through regular Worship attendance and study of God's Word, as well as through serving and generosity.
- 4. To always speak well of everyone especially fellow staff members and leaders avoiding the traps of gossip and slander, which only cause division.
- 5. To seek out and speak directly with anyone I have a misunderstanding or disagreement with before speaking with anyone else about it (Matthew 18:15)
- 6. To support, encourage and hold one another accountable.
- 7. To never let a relationship with another staff member or leader stay broken.
- 8. To engage in healthy discussion where differing ideas and opinions are welcome, and in the end support the group's decision.
- 9. To clearly identify what should be kept in confidence and honor that confidence.
- 10. To interact appropriately and respectfully at all times with members of the opposite sex.

Signature	Date	
Printed Name		

A Bible Study on Forgiveness for Private or Group Study

In Philippians 4:2-3

The apostle Paul talks about two women in the church whose disagreement with each other has come to his attention.

In verse 3 how does he describe their efforts along side of him?

What does he ask of the rest of the church to do for these women?

Even without knowing the details, what would you do for them?

Matthew 18:15-17

According to Jesus' words, who is to take the initative when they have been wronged (sinned against)?

What is the goal of speaking to the one who has hurt you?

What are some not good reasons for speaking to the one who has wronged you?

Matthew 18:21-35

How many times does Jesus say we are to forgive our brother?

In this parable Jesus is using financial debts as a metaphor for sin. What did the hugely in debt servant "do" that lead to his debt being cancelled (forgiven)?

How does this parable connect with the portion of the Lord's Prayer that says "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us?"

Ephesians 2:8-9

What do we contribute or do to earn God's grace (his forgiveness)?

Romans 5:6-8

What were our qualifications and what was our status when Jesus died for us?

Ephesians 4:15

There are many different reasons for speaking the truth, but what is the Bibical motive here?

How might this relate to the goal of Matthew 18:15?

Ephesians 4:25-27

Verse 26 seems to indicate that anger at times might be appropriate but we are warned that it can lead to what and to who gaining control?

How are you doing balancing that line between appropriate and sinful anger?

<u>Luke 15:1-7</u> is the beautiful parable of the search and rescue of the lost sheep Have you ever gratefully put yourself into this parable knowing that you who were once lost have now been found?

Jesus concludes the parable by saying that finding that lost sheep is like a sinner repenting and when a sinner repents that's cause for what?