



Seminary Stewardship Alliance Covenant

The following is a covenant signed by presidents/deans of our partner seminaries. The signing of the covenant signifies a dedication to learning about good stewardship practices, and a promise to help hold other partner schools accountable.

Inasmuch as we affirm that God, out of an infinite and unbounded love, did freely choose to create a world and populate it with a myriad of creatures, and

Inasmuch as we affirm that God did create humans in the very image of the Triune God, and did assign them with responsible stewardship of that world and its creatures, and

Inasmuch as we affirm that God did look at the completed and ordered creation and did declare it to be very good, and

Inasmuch as we affirm that God's love extends over every aspect of the creation, and

Inasmuch as we affirm that all creation groans in anticipation of the full revelation of the renewing of creation, and

Inasmuch as we affirm that through the incarnation the second person of the Trinity became human in Jesus Christ, and was bodily raised as the first fruits of that renewed creation.

Therefore, as representatives of the institutions charged with educating, preparing, and equipping the leaders of churches all around the world, we do publicly, and with God as our witness, covenant together that we will:

1. Teach creation care as the outworking of God's command that humans steward the created order, showing its relation to Christian life, ministry, and calling.
2. Model sustainable practices in areas such as our facilities, hospitality, housing, missions, communications, recruitment, travel and use of resources.
3. Integrate creation care teaching across the academic disciplines and encourage the development of opportunities for living out what they are learning in the classroom.
4. Take a leadership role in all facets of creation care, with particular attention to those that are distinctive to followers of Christ, including simplicity, humbleness, love, forgiveness, retreat, forbearance, faith, prayer, and compassion.
5. Examine how biblically and theologically based creation care principles can inform relevant exchanges in areas such as science, medicine, technology, and commerce.
6. Facilitate spiritual formation through biblically and theologically based creation care principles, such as sabbatical practices, self-control, and sacrifice.
7. Facilitate the fruitful exchange between Alliance partners of scholarship, teaching, prayer, and discipleship centered on creation care and stewardship.
8. Work with humility, self-control, and love with those who may not share our faith commitments in order to secure the common well being of future generations.
9. Establish an institution-specific plan with identified creation care goals and to report our progress on an annual basis.
10. Hold each other accountable for our efforts in these areas, and celebrate and encourage those who excel according to their gifts and means.

Signature _____

Date _____