

Westhigh Evangelical Covenant Church Behavioral Covenant *(full version - draft 5)*

At Westhigh, we recognize that we are one spiritual body composed of unique and indispensable members. As a beloved community called to unity in the Spirit, **we seek to reflect Christ's character and witness to God's love** through the way that we relate to each other. (*1 Corinthians 12:12-27, John 13:34-35*)

Therefore, as members of the Westhigh church body:

- **We pray with and for each other**, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide our relationships and continually mold us in Christ's image. (*Colossians 1:9-12*)
- **We seek to genuinely understand each other's** perspectives and experiences, approaching our conversations with humility, curiosity, and empathy. We listen to each other carefully, and confidentially when appropriate, inviting honesty and vulnerability in trusting relationships. (*Colossians 3:12, Ephesians 4:2-3, James 1:19*)
- **We speak our own viewpoint truthfully**, in words motivated by love and marked by grace. (*Ephesians 4:15, 25*)
- **We embrace healthy conflict** as a way to develop authentic relationships. We approach disagreements prayerfully and gently, addressing each other directly and seeking a mediator if needed. We are peace-makers, readily seeking and extending forgiveness. (*Matthew 18:15-17, Colossians 3:13-15*)
- **We use our words to encourage each other**, not to tear each other down. (*Ephesians 4:31-32, 1 Thessalonians 5:11*)
- **We explore, develop, and deploy our spiritual gifts** for the benefit of the church body and the broader community. (*1 Corinthians 12:4-7*)
- Following Christ's example of humility, **we discern and pursue what is best for our church as a whole**, not necessarily what is in the interest of ourselves or a small group of people. (*Philippians 2:3-6*)
- **We value our leaders** serving in various capacities. We encourage them, pray for them, and regularly thank them for their service to our church and to the Lord. (*1 Thessalonians 5:12-13*)