



### Dwelling in the Word

Prayerfully read Jeremiah 31:31-34 and ask:

1. What words, phrases, or images stood out to you?
2. What does this say about what God desires to accomplish in you?
3. How could you respond to what God says in this passage?

### Beginning the Conversation

1. As we have talked through the various points of our Church Covenant, i.e., Loving God, Loving One Another, and Loving Neighbour, is there one of those postures that comes more naturally to you?
2. What have been some important commitments that you have made in your life? (marriage, competing in a sport, etc.) What have those commitments formed in you?

### Digging Deeper *(pick some of the following questions to discuss as a group)*

1. What is your response to Darrell Johnson's comment, "At the centre of the universe is a relationship" (*Experiencing the Trinity*, 31)? How does knowing that God is at his core relational change the way you relate to God?
2. Have you heard the interpretation of the image of God in humanity as primarily as our capacity for relationship? If humans were created to be in community — both with God and one another — how does this change the way you think about the importance of relationships?
3. Read through some of the covenants that God has made with his people (Genesis 12, 15, 17; Exodus 19; 2 Samuel 7). What are some of the promises God made in these covenants? What was the expected human response in covenanting with God?
4. The Old Testament tells the story of covenant failure on the part of God's people. The prophet Jeremiah looked forward to the day when God would make a new covenant with his people. From your reading of Jeremiah 31:31-34, what would be different about the New Covenant?
5. In the New Testament, the letter of Hebrews contains the most reflection on Jesus as the fulfilment and mediator of the New Covenant (read Hebrews 7:22; 8:6-13; 9:15-22; 10:15-18). How is the new covenant fulfilled and established with the coming of Jesus the Messiah?
6. Is there a time when you feel that God has called you back to renew your covenant with him? What led to that place? What has the journey looked like since?

### Living it Out

1. Is there an area in our Church Covenant that you would like to grow? If so, commit to doing one thing this week to move towards growth in that area.
2. What are some ways that you find you are best able to connect with God? Take time this week to connect with him in one or two of those ways and delight yourself in the Lord and his love for you.



## Our Covenant with God & One Another

Covenant Sunday  
February 1, 2026  
Pastor Tyler



# Relationship

“At the centre of the universe is a <sup>love</sup>relationship” – Darrell  
Johnson, *Experiencing the Trinity*, 31.

# Relationship

“What does it all mean? It means that in the deepest mystery of his being God is an intimate relationship, a fellowship, a community of love” (51).



## Relationship

God is fundamentally relational and desires to be in relationship with his creation.

- God created humanity in his image to share in this relationship (Gen 1:26-27).
- We are meant to be in healthy relationship with God and one another; this is human flourishing.



# Covenant



An ancient and biblical way of *formalizing* a relationship.

- Describes God's relationship with his people.
- The covenants form the *backbone* of the Scriptures.

## Covenant



Much of the Old Testament unfortunately tells the story of *broken covenants*.

But it also tells the story of how God relentlessly pursues his people with grace and forgives them and desires to make a *new covenant* with them.

## Covenant



"The days are coming," declares Yahweh, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them." <sup>33</sup>"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares Yahweh. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people...." <sup>34</sup>For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more" (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

## Covenant



Jesus is the fulfilment of the New Covenant (Hebrews 7:22; 8:6-13; 9:15-22; 10:15-18).

- Initiated by God the Father
- Mediated by Jesus the Son for all peoples
- Enacted by the Holy Spirit

# Love



Love is the most basic demand of the new covenant and the master virtue of Christian community.

- Defined and grounded in the love of the Triune God.
- The expectation and hope for all of our relationships: with God, with one another, and with our neighbour.

## Love



Jesus identified the double command to love God and neighbour as the greatest (Matthew 22:37-38; cf. Mark 12:29-30; Luke 10:27; cf. Deut 6:4-5 and Lev 19:18); and taught love of one another as a new command (John 13:34-35).

Paul taught, “the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself’” (Galatians 5:13-15) and “whoever loves others has fulfilled the law” and “love does no harm to a neighbour” (Romans 13:8-10).

## Love



“The three great disciplines of discipleship — worship, community, mission — cannot be separated, because they are grounded in the Trinity. Co-lovers with God of God — worship. Co-lovers with God of one another — community. Co-lovers with God of the world — mission” (Johnson, *Experiencing the Trinity*, 69).