
WHAT IS THE CODE OF ETHICS OF FELLOWSHIP ATLANTIC?

The Fellowship Atlantic family of churches is committed to integrity in all areas of life. The relationships within our community of individuals, churches and organizations are to be biblical and thus positive, supportive and nurtured in an atmosphere of trust and care.

This covenant is a solemn pledge whereby individuals, churches, and organizations place themselves under an obligation to God and accountability to one another. Everyone who accepts responsibility as a pastor within Fellowship Atlantic sincerely embraces this covenant, while recognizing that any covenant cannot capture our full ethical responsibilities to God. The Scriptures alone are sufficient for that.

1. RELATIONSHIP TO GOD

Through faith in Christ Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I will strive to guard and grow in my personal relationship with my Lord, and to walk in obedience to His Word (Psalm 119:1-16), as one who must give account to God (Hebrews 13:17). I will seek to exalt Christ and not myself. I will strive to be a godly example before others to the glory of God (Titus 2). I will seek to be in mentoring relationships (2 Timothy 2:2).

2. RELATIONSHIP TO MY FAMILY

I will seek to care for my family and protect these relationships as given in 1 Timothy 3:2-5, namely: to be lovingly faithful to my wife, as a “one-woman man,” to be self-controlled; to pursue purity; to be gentle; to manage my family well; to discipline my children in such a way that they will respect me.

I subscribe to the biblical position of a heterosexual marriage: one man and one woman united for life. I renounce and reject any sexual activity outside the covenant of marriage, including all forms of sexual deviation, such as but not limited to adultery, homosexuality, incest, child abuse and pornography (Romans 1).

3. RELATIONSHIP TO MY CHURCH

I will seek to carry out my pastoral function in the light of 2 Timothy 4:1-2. Namely, to preach the Word; to keep prepared in all seasons; to correct, rebuke, and encourage with patience and doctrine, and to equip the saints for the work of ministry. I will strive to continue personal study of God's Word (2 Timothy 2:15) that I may rightly divide the Word of truth.

4. RELATIONSHIP TO THE COMMUNITY

I will seek to maintain a good reputation in the community as stated in 1 Timothy 3:7. I will fulfill all financial obligations; obey government laws and regulations not contrary to Scripture; and seek to contribute as much as possible to the life and welfare of the community. I will seek to be a man of integrity (Romans 12:17) in all my dealings with others, and above reproach in morals and relationships with men and women.

5. RELATIONSHIP TO THE FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHURCHES IN CANADA

Because the church I serve is affiliated with the Fellowship Atlantic Region, I fully agree with and will teach and demonstrate agreement with the Fellowship Affirmation of Faith. I will participate wholeheartedly in the life of the Region and then the National Fellowship. This includes praying for God's blessing on its life, witness, ministry and growth and encouraging my church to participate in the missional objectives of the Fellowship regionally, nationally and internationally.

If my doctrinal convictions or practices should change in the process of time so that, despite prayerful study and after discussion with both my church and Regional leadership and/or National leadership, my settled position continues to conflict with the Fellowship Affirmation of Faith, I will notify my church and Regional and/or National leadership of my voluntary resignation.

Should I leave for any reason and consider entering another ministry within the immediate area of the city, town or community of the church I am leaving, I shall only do so after communication with the church I am leaving and with the Fellowship Atlantic Regional board, seeking their understanding and blessing. I will not initiate contact with members of my former church for pastoral direction or to influence those under the pastoral care of my successor. I will not take or use resources or assets that belong to my former church.