

# Canberra Christian Conventions

## Leader Commitment (Code of Conduct)

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## Introductory statement

*Canberra Christian Conventions is a Christian ministry that exists to bring honour to God by promoting the ministry of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. We seek to bring glory to God in the building of His church through the proclamation of the gospel and the teaching of the Bible. Our events edify God's people through Christ-focused expository Bible teaching and prepare God's people to persevere in Christian ministry.*

*In His word, God commands His people to "be holy, because I am Holy" (1 Peter 1:16). This integrity of life is required of everyone involved in Canberra Christian Conventions. God's word must be a lived word (James 1:22). In His kindness, God does not leave His people without instruction for a holy life. His written word gives us guidelines and specifics of how, in the power of His Holy Spirit, we are to live.*

*This Code of Conduct seeks to clarify what is acceptable conduct for all people involved in the ministry of Canberra Christian Conventions. It seeks to ensure a common understanding of Canberra Christian Conventions' expectations. It is the hope, prayer, and expectation of the Canberra Christian Conventions Board that every person engaged in the activities of this ministry will abide by this Code of Conduct and honour the Lord Jesus in every aspect of life.*

## Our Purpose, beliefs, and mission

The following statement of purpose, beliefs, and mission are outlined in the constitution for Canberra Christian Conventions.

### Statement of Purpose

The association is established for the principle purpose of bringing honour to God by promoting the ministry of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Statement of beliefs

The fundamental beliefs of the association are:

#### (a) God

There is only one God, who exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son and Spirit, in perfect unity. He is the almighty and loving Creator, Saviour and Judge who sustains and governs all things according to his sovereign will for his own glory.

#### (b) The Bible

The Bible, as originally given, is the God-breathed and infallible word of God. This precious, life-

giving word is sufficient for our knowledge of God and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

(c) Humanity

All people, men and women, are created in God's image and are called to love God with all their beings. However, since the fall, all people are guilty of rebellion against God and human nature is thoroughly corrupted by sin. This makes everyone subject to God's righteous anger and condemnation.

(d) Jesus Christ

God demonstrated his love toward us by sending his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who is both fully God and fully man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, and lived a sinless life in obedience to the Father. He died on the cross, rose from the dead, and in his resurrected body ascended into heaven where he is exalted as ruler over all.

(e) Salvation

Salvation is entirely the gracious gift of God and cannot be earned or deserved. It is accomplished through the atoning death, once and for all time, of our representative and substitute, Jesus Christ, the only mediator between God and sinners. By Christ's death God's anger is turned aside, we are redeemed from sin and death, and we are declared to be righteous in God's sight. This salvation is offered in the gospel and received by turning to God from sin and trusting in Jesus Christ.

(f) The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit has been sent from heaven by the Father and the Son. He enables people to turn to God, the Father, and to trust in Jesus Christ, the Lord. He makes the death of Christ effective to individual sinners, imparting spiritual life. God's Spirit dwells in all those he has regenerated, producing in them likeness to Christ in attitudes, actions and speech.

(g) The people of God

The Lord Jesus Christ builds the church, his people, through the proclamation and teaching of his word. All who have been saved through the work of Christ are members of his church and united with one another. God has equipped his people with gifts to be used for mutual edification in the church and for the proclamation of the gospel to the world. In church leadership, as in marriage, the roles of men and women are not always interchangeable. Biblical differences are to be expressed within relationships of mutual dependence.

(h) The future

The Lord Jesus Christ will return from heaven. He will welcome his people into a life of eternal joy

in fellowship with God, and he will execute God's condemnation on all who have not received him. On that day death will be completely destroyed and God will be glorified forever.

## Statement of mission

The objects of the association are:

- (a) to bring glory to God in the building of his church through the proclamation of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching of the Bible;
- (b) to edify God's people through biblically determined activities, particularly, but not limited to, Christ-focused expository Bible teaching;
- (c) to prepare God's people for Christian ministry and to encourage them to persevere in serving God and others; and
- (d) to promote, provide for and develop such ministries as mentioned in (a), (b), and (c), focused in, but not limited to, Canberra and its surrounding region, and especially by, but not limited to, conventions and conferences.

## Personal Leader Commitment

1. I commit to conducting myself in a manner consistent with the Safe Ministry Training "Leadership Training Course" when serving with Canberra Christian Conventions;
  - a. I will treat adults, children and young people with respect and value, without favouritism.
  - b. I will behave appropriately, being faithful to my appointed tasks, being an example to others, and being careful in how I interact with others, whether emotionally, physically or spiritually.
  - c. I will never use physical punishment or abusive language - even as a form of discipline.
  - d. I will act transparently, as far as possible, ensuring that another adult is present or within eyesight when I am with a vulnerable person (including other people's children).
2. I commit to ensuring that the spaces and activities I'm responsible for are safe and do not put people at risk of significant harm.
3. I commit to including vulnerable people (and/or their carers/significant other) in discussions about decisions that will significantly affect them.

4. I commit to encouraging openness by listening to people's concerns with a willingness to support them and help them.
5. I commit to reporting any concerns or suspicions about harmful or illegal behaviours and significant risks to the Canberra Christian Conventions Safe Ministry Contacts without bias or partiality.
6. I will submit to the Canberra Christian Conventions leader screening process to ensure I'm a suitable person to work with vulnerable people.
7. I will submit to disciplinary steps if I am found to violate these commitments or act in an otherwise inappropriate or illegal manner at any Canberra Christians Conventions activity or event.
8. I declare that I am not involved in any behaviour that, if publicly exposed, would result in me becoming the subject of scandal or bad report, being stood down from my position of ministry, facing charges and possible conviction from law enforcement authorities that are punishable by penal servitude or imprisonment, and/or bringing the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ into disrepute.

Such behaviours may include (but not be limited to) such things as:

- Sexual misconduct, such as:
    - Marital unfaithfulness
    - Promiscuity
    - Addiction to pornography, including child pornography and production and/or distribution of the same.
    - Sexual abuse
  - Drunkenness
  - Addictions to alcohol or other drugs
  - Financial malpractice including failure to pay just debts.
  - Domestic violence - either verbal or physical
  - Child abuse, including inappropriate pastoral conduct involving a child.
9. I commit to inform the Chair of the Canberra Christian Conventions Board if any conduct in conflict with those outlined in the Leader Commitment (Code of Conduct) were to begin at any time, and/or I no longer believe any part of the Statement of Faith.

## Policy Review

Date Instituted by Board: 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Date of Last Review by Board: 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Next Review due by: March 2024

This policy will be reviewed annually by the board.

## Declaration

For all Volunteers, Speakers, Special Guests & Staff to sign and return to the appropriate Canberra Christian Conventions representative.

You have been invited to be involved in the ministry of Canberra Christian Conventions as a volunteer, speaker, special guest or to be employed as staff. We thank you for your willingness to serve the Lord Jesus Christ and us in this way and ask that you read and sign the following Declaration. This is a non-negotiable requirement for involvement with Canberra Christian Conventions in the capacities listed above.

We ask for your honesty before God, in considering your response.

If you are unable to sign this declaration, we ask that you please decline Canberra Christian Convention's invitation for involvement or offer to withdraw from your involvement.

If you are unable to sign due to any issues relating to the Code of Conduct, particularly in the area of personal conduct, we also want to encourage you in the strongest terms to begin to seek help immediately by talking to one person you can trust with this confidence and asking them to begin helping you.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned, hereby declare that I have read and agree to abide by the Leadership Commitment (Code of Conduct) in full, including the Statement of Faith and Personal Leader Commitment.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Signature of Board member: