

5 Talent Academy Covenant

We _____ (name of church) enter into this covenant along with other churches committed to the 5 Talent Academy to signify our commitment to being more faithful and fruitful as described in the parable of the talents.

¹⁴ "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶ He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷ So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸ But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²² And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' (Matthew 25:14-23, ESV)

Within the three year period from the date signed below we will undertake the prayer, training, coaching and focus necessary to achieve the following goals:

Worship - Average worship attendance (AWA) will increase by _____% annually

Evangelism – Professions of Faith will represent _____% of AWA

Faith Development – Small Group participation will represent _____% of AWA

Engage in Mission and Ministry with the Poor-

Members serving in hands on ministry will be _____% of AWA;

Giving in support of ministry with the poor will be _____% of annual operational budget

Stewardship – Tithes and Offerings will increase _____% annually

In addition, we will prayerfully pursue a plan to plant or partner in planting a new faith community within the next five years. In order to accomplish these goals we will:

- Attend all 5 Talent Academy events over the next three years
- Develop and implement a plan to meet the above goals
- Provide annual reporting on all five goals areas at our yearly charge conference
- Participate fully in appropriate peer learning groups to accelerate results

We hereby make our commitment, trusting in the grace of God to give us the will and the strength to keep this covenant.

Pastor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Church Council Chair Signature: _____ Date: _____

Once your 5 Talent Academy Covenant has been completed, please make 2 copies. Please send your original to Mark Ogren, Director of Congregational Excellence: PO Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA 23058-5606; send a copy to your District Office; and keep a copy on file for your church.

