

The Watermen Community's Women's Stewardship Commitment

The Watermen Community's Women's Stewardship commitment is a commitment among all women regardless of their profession of religious faith. As wives of watermen who have committed to the Watermen's Stewardship Covenant or as women of the watermen community, we agree to be supportive of our husbands and/or relatives by: 1) being good stewards of our financial, human and natural resources under our care; 2) practicing contentment by reducing our demands for, and consumption of, material goods that are fulfilling unnecessary wants rather than necessary needs; 3) reusing and recycling as many materials as possible; 4) willing to obey all civil laws; 5) purchasing things for children that are fulfilling their needs and some wants rather than their every want; and 6) teaching our children to be content and to be good stewards of Creation (fishery, island etc.).

For professing Christian women, this commitment is considered a covenant with God and means that we additionally agree to pursue a crucified and resurrected life--a selfless life--that is yielded to the leading of the Holy Spirit. We agree to pursue Exodus 20:17 --not to covet anything of our neighbors. "For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing will be there. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy (James 3:16-17). We will seek to practice contentment in obedience to God and for the sake of our husbands and children, God's Creation and our heritage. "Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content (1 Timothy 6:6-8). We are called to "train up a child the way he or she should go and when they are old they will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). Therefore, we agree to teach our children to live the selfless life, obedience to the commandments of God, to care for Creation, and to be content in all things so that the Creation is not pressed relentlessly.

We agree to set a high standard of obedience to God's laws and, therefore, to civil laws. By humility and the reverence of the Lord are riches and honor and life (Proverbs 22:4). "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold (Proverbs 22:1). Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up (James 4: 10).