

pattaya covenant

ADOPTED BY THE 48 MEMBERS OF GROUP 22:
RECONCILIATION AT THE 2004 WORLD
EVANGELIZATION FORUM IN PATTAYA THAILAND
OCTOBER 4, 2004

"For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither slave nor free, neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus" Galatians 3:27-28

Who We Are

We came to the 2004 Lausanne Forum in Pattaya, Thailand from six continents across God's earth, sharing a vision for reconciliation. Although we arrived mostly as strangers, we leave as committed companions in a strong Christian bond. We gathered across historic and continuing divisions and many places of conflict: as black, Asian, Latin American, and white; different tribal and ethnic groups; Israeli and Palestinian; North and South; privileged and marginalized; women and men; as Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant. We heard each others' stories of pain and hope. We confessed that we in the Christian community are often part of the division and conflict. We listened, debated, prayed, sang and danced, and shared laughter and tears. We began to see common convictions arise among us. We witnessed breakthroughs of unity which caused us to rejoice. And we find ourselves hoping for an on-going community of relationship and partnership.

Our Common Call

We believe that reconciliation is God's initiative. The Church is called to be a living sign of the one body of Christ. Reconciliation is at the heart of the gospel and the church's life and mission, and is integral to evangelism and justice. Reconciliation is a deep and costly process, and requires humility, forgiveness, courage, and patience. We are committed to pursuing God's reconciling mission in a world of broken relationships and destructive conflicts.

Our Commitments

We pledge to continue and extend the community birthed in Pattaya, and to help each other be faithful ambassadors of reconciliation. Therefore, we shall:

- Pray for one another and for the Church;
- Practice confession and forgiveness in our personal lives, seeking healing;
- Stay in touch and gather to tell our stories, discern, help each other, learn about and lament destructive divisions and conflicts, and seek and celebrate signs of hope;
- Establish a network to forward relationship and partnership, and invite Christians across the world to join us;
- Advocate and speak prophetically for justice and reconciliation, including engaging church, civic, and political leaders, without compromising our biblical convictions;
- Contribute and share resources;
- Research, publish, communicate, and disseminate;
- Work humbly together as servants to seek the church's renewal and to help mobilize the global Christian community to be partners in God's reconciling mission.

Our Prayer

We covenant before God and one another to live into these commitments. May God give us grace to do so: "And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us" 2 Corinthians 5:19-20

