

The Fair Trade Covenant: (inspired by the Covenant Prayer of John Wesley)

Sisters and brothers, let us make a covenant with each other and with God to strive for fairness and for justice in everything we do, and wherever Christ leads us.

To take up this covenant means that we are content that Christ directs us and that Christ alone is our reward.

Christ calls us to fairness and justice in many different ways. Some ways are easy and require little effort or personal sacrifice, but others are difficult and will mean us having to change what we buy and where we shop, and to go without ourselves.

Some ways will bring us praise from those around us and win us admiration, but others will bring criticism and make us unpopular.

Some ways we will find interesting and absorbing and will play to our natural strengths, but others we will find tedious and a chore.

In some of these ways we may please both Christ and ourselves, in others we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves.

Yet we know that we have the power to be able to act in all these ways because Christ inspires and strengthens us, and because we know that he has no hands or feet on earth but ours. If justice is to be done, it is we who are called to do it.

Therefore, let us make this covenant with God our own, giving ourselves anew and relying on His promises and grace.

Loving Lord, since you have called us through Christ to share in this covenant, we will take on this duty with joy. For whatever we do for the least of our sisters and brothers, we do it for you.

We are no longer our own, but yours.

I am no longer my own but yours.

Call me and open my eyes to the injustice around me, the unfairness around me and the poverty around me; call me to dare to change my lifestyle, my habits and my outlook for you.

Call me to strive for fairness and justice in everything I do, not just in words, but in actions; not just locally, but globally.

Let me change myself for you, and so change the world for you.

I freely and wholeheartedly commit myself to this duty, knowing that in everything you will give me your inspiration, strength and grace.

Glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it.

Let this covenant now made on earth be fulfilled in heaven. Amen.

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