4. The ECC is known for its authentic and growing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Six-Fold Test: [www.covchurch.org/resources/six-fold-test/](http://www.covchurch.org/resources/six-fold-test/)

5. The ECC is known for its sexual ethic that affirms faithfulness in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in singleness as the Christian standard for human sexuality.

EMBRACE: www.covchurch.org/embrace

6. The ECC is known for its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, applying the key principle that local congregations retain authority over their mission and ministry and delegate responsibility, while churches work together in mission.

7. The ECC is known for understanding that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ means fully embracing evangelism together with compassion, mercy, and justice.

B.L.E.S.S.: www.covchurch.org/evangelism/bless/

**Questions for Small Group Discussion**

What aspect of this message was most personally relevant to you? Why?

Which of the seven Covenant distinctives do you value the most, and why?

Which of the seven Covenant distinctives do you wrestle with, and why?

How does the Covenant commitment to focus on what unifies us help build and mature our church? Can you imagine any ways it could weaken our church?

Which of the Covenant distinctives are particularly difficult to live out in Nelson?

Are there any distinctives that you believe to be extremely important for us to pursue as a church moving forward? Why? (Try to ground your answer in Scriptural themes or principles).

Are there any distinctives that you believe to be relatively unimportant for our church to pursue moving forward? Why? (Try to ground your answer in Scriptural themes or principles).

Nelson

Evangelical

Covenant

Church

**Order of Worship (i.e. What’s Happening)**

Announcements

4 Songs

Offering

1 Song

Time of Prayer

Children’s Talk

Sermon: “Identity and Mission: Covenant Distinctives”

1 Song

Benediction





**Sermon Notes**

**“Identity and Mission: Covenant Distinctives”**

• We affirm the centrality of the word of God.

• We affirm the necessity of the new birth.

• We affirm a conscious dependence on the Holy Spirit.

• We affirm a commitment to the whole mission of the church.

• We affirm the church as a fellowship of believers.

• We affirm the reality of freedom in Christ.

“Our Covenant affirmations have consistently guided our choices and decisions from generation to generation, shaping over time a set of key distinctives that set us apart from other church movements.”

1. The ECC is known for emphasizing what \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us, rather than what \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from each other

*“In essentials unity, in nonessentials*

*liberty, in all things charity.”*

2. The ECC celebrates the sacrament of baptism as commanded by Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20, and we affirm both \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ baptism.

Baptism Study:

www.covchurch.org/resources/study-on-baptism

3. The ECC is known for its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in ministry at all levels of leadership.

Called and Gifted:

www.covchurch.org/resources/called-and-gifted-material/

**We are glad you’re here!**

Children up to grade 5 will be invited upstairs approximately mid-way through our service. A staffed nursery is also available upstairs.



**IGNITE JR. YOUTH** – Grade 6-8 youth are welcome to join us Tuesdays from 3:30pm-5:00pm.

**IMPACT YOUTH** – Grade 9-12 students are welcome to join us Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00pm.

**YOUNG ADULTS** – For upcoming events and more information contact Rick.

**Questions? Contact rick@nelsoncovenant.com**

STUDENT

MINISTRIES



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**www.nelsoncovenant.com**

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