

CONSTITUTION OF THE TYNDALE FELLOWSHIP

1. Name

The full name of the Tyndale Fellowship constituted hereby shall be 'The Tyndale Fellowship for Biblical and Theological Research' (hereinafter shortly referred to as 'The Tyndale Fellowship').

2. Constitution

The Tyndale Fellowship shall be a part of the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (hereinafter referred to as the UCCF), and shall be a union of evangelical Christians who have accepted the conditions of membership as set out below and who sincerely desire to promote the aims of the Tyndale Fellowship.

3. Relationship to the UCCF

The Tyndale Fellowship shall operate as a part of the research division of UCCF. The Tyndale Fellowship's Committee as hereinafter defined shall be accountable to the Tyndale House Council (hereinafter referred to as the THC), and shall report regularly on the activities of the Tyndale Fellowship to the THC. It shall cooperate fully with the Kirby Laing Institute for Christian Ethics (KLICE), the Student Ministries Division ('UCCF: the Christian Unions') and other connected bodies such as Inter-Varsity Press.

4. Doctrinal Basis

The basis of the Tyndale Fellowship shall be the fundamental truths of Christianity, as revealed in Holy Scripture, including:

- a. There is one God in three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- b. God is sovereign in creation, revelation, redemption and final judgement.
- c. The Bible, as originally given, is the inspired and infallible Word of God. It is the supreme authority in all matters of belief and behaviour.
- d. Since the fall, the whole of humankind is sinful and guilty, so that everyone is subject to God's wrath and condemnation.
- e. The Lord Jesus Christ, God's incarnate Son, is fully God; he was born of a virgin; his humanity is real and sinless; he died on the cross, was raised bodily from death and is now reigning over heaven and earth.
- f. Sinful human beings are redeemed from the guilt, penalty and power of sin only through the sacrificial death once and for all time of their representative and substitute, Jesus Christ, the only mediator between them and God.
- g. Those who believe in Christ are pardoned all their sins and accepted in God's sight only because of the righteousness of Christ credited to them; this justification is God's act of undeserved mercy, received solely by trust in him and not by their own efforts.

- h. The Holy Spirit alone makes the work of Christ effective to individual sinners, enabling them to turn to God from their sin and to trust in Jesus Christ.
- i. The Holy Spirit lives in all those he has regenerated. He makes them increasingly Christlike in character and behaviour and gives them power for their witness in the world.
- j. The one holy universal church is the Body of Christ, to which all true believers belong.
- k. The Lord Jesus Christ will return in person, to judge everyone, to execute God's just condemnation on those who have not repented and to receive the redeemed to eternal glory.

5. Aims

The aims of the Tyndale Fellowship shall be to advance the Christian faith by promoting biblical and theological studies and research and disseminating the useful results of such study and research for the public benefit in a spirit of loyalty to the Christian faith as enshrined in the consensus of the Historic Creeds, the Confessions of the Reformation and the Doctrinal Basis of the Tyndale Fellowship.

6. Membership

a. Membership shall be by election of the Committee, on the recommendation of one sponsor who has been a member of the Tyndale Fellowship for at least three years and one referee who is from the applicant's church and who will testify to the applicant's personal faith and local church commitment.

b. The following are eligible to apply for membership:

(i) Those who hold an honours degree of a recognized university or the equivalent, in biblical or theological studies or a related subject, and are engaged in research, or in teaching at a university, theological college or other institution of higher education.

(ii) Others whom the committee may judge to have a scholarly contribution to make.

c. Members shall make the following declaration when applying for membership and be willing to reaffirm this declaration when renewing membership each year: 'I declare my faith in Jesus Christ as my Saviour, my Lord and my God, and my agreement with the aims and doctrinal basis of the Tyndale Fellowship.'

d. Members shall pay an annual subscription as fixed by the Committee, except when this is waived in whole or in part by the Committee because of need or other good reason.

7. Committee

a. The affairs of the Tyndale Fellowship shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of a chair, a secretary, a treasurer, the chairs and secretaries of each of the Tyndale Fellowship's study groups, and up to five additional members. All of these shall be members of the Tyndale Fellowship. In addition, the following shall be *ex officio* members: the chair of the Tyndale House Council, the Warden of Tyndale House, the Director of KLICE, and the IVP commissioning editor for theological books. All decisions and resolutions are made by a majority of Committee members, registered by a show of hands or in writing.

b. The chair and secretary of the Tyndale Fellowship shall be appointed by the THC, after suggested names have been submitted to them by the Tyndale Fellowship's Committee. With the THC resides the authority to remove from post the chair or secretary.

c. The chairs and secretaries of Study Groups shall be appointed by the Tyndale Fellowship's Committee in consultation with members of the respective study groups. With the Tyndale Fellowship Committee resides the authority to remove from post chairs or secretaries of Study Groups.

d. The additional members shall be elected by the Committee of the Tyndale Fellowship.

e. The appointments of chair, secretary and treasurer, and other elected appointments to the TF Committee, shall be for a period of five years, after which time the appointed people shall be eligible to be elected for re-appointment in the same capacity, for a further five years, to a maximum of ten years of continuous service in that capacity.

8. Powers of the Committee

a. To set up and supervise the running of Study Groups in different areas of biblical studies and theology, appointing chairs and secretaries for these groups.

b. To arrange annually lectures in different areas of biblical studies and theology. These lectures, to be known as Tyndale Lectures, shall be scholarly contributions to biblical or theological research.

c. To arrange other activities, lectures, meetings, study courses, summer schools and conferences, on either a national or a local level, such as will further the aims of the Tyndale Fellowship.

d. To advise on, promote or supervise such research projects as will further the aims of the Tyndale Fellowship.

e. To carry out such correspondence with evangelical scholars, graduates and students at home and overseas as will further the aims of the Tyndale Fellowship.

f. To initiate and promote such leaflets, articles, books and other publications as will further the aims of the Tyndale Fellowship.

g. To appoint sub-committees and regional committees for the better functioning and development of the Tyndale Fellowship.

9. Tyndale Lecturers and public speakers

All Tyndale Lecturers and others speaking publicly on behalf of the Tyndale Fellowship shall be those who are believed to be in agreement with its aims and doctrinal basis.

10. Relations with other religious bodies

No joint activities shall be arranged in cooperation with other bodies that might compromise the distinctive theological witness of the Tyndale Fellowship.

11. Finance

The expenses of the Tyndale Fellowship shall be provided by members' subscriptions and by such donations and endowments as are specifically designated for the Tyndale Fellowship. The Tyndale Fellowship's budgets and accounts shall be administered as part of the accounts of the UCCF, through the THC.

12. Amendments

No alterations shall be made in this constitution except by the agreement of two thirds of the voting members of the Committee and the concurrence of the THC.

13. Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the Tyndale Fellowship any assets remaining after satisfying any outstanding debts and liabilities shall belong to the UCCF and are to be applied or distributed in accordance with the above Aims of the Tyndale Fellowship.

As amended by TF Committee 7th July 2010 and agreed by THC 8th September 2010.