**Covenant quotes**

‘Everything you do is connected to who you are as a person and, in turn, creates the person you are becoming. Everything you do affects those you love. All of life is covenant.

Embedded in the idea of prayer is a richly textured view of the world where all of life is organised around invisible bonds or covenants that knit us together. Instead of a fixed world, we live in our Father’s world, a world built for divine relationships between people where, because of the good news, tragedies become comedies and hope is born.’

 **Paul E. Miller**

‘Then God establishes his Covenant with Noah, and with his sons, “and with every living creature”. Many recall the Covenant with Noah, but forget the Covenant with all other living beings. However, God does not forget it. He repeats the terms “all flesh” and “every living creature” a number of times, to make sure we get the point. No one can make a Covenant with a stone: for a Covenant to exist, there must be a minimum of two live and responsible parties to it.’ **Margaret Atwood**

‘When God makes a covenant with us, God says: “I will love you with an everlasting love. I will be faithful to you, even when you run away from me, reject me, or betray me.” In our society we don’t speak much about covenants; we speak about contracts. When we make a contract with a person, we say: “I will fulfil my part as long as you fulfil yours. When you don’t live up to your promises, I no longer have to live up to mine.” Contracts are often broken because the partners are unwilling or unable to be faithful to their terms.

‘But God didn’t make a contract with us; God made a covenant with us, and God wants our relationships with one another to reflect that covenant. That’s why marriage, friendship, life in community are all ways to give visibility to God’s faithfulness in our lives together.’ **Henri JM Nouwen**

‘The Exodus was not a movement from slavery to freedom, but from slavery to covenant. Redemption was for relationship with the redeemer, to serve his interests and his purposes in the world.’ **Christopher Wright**

‘The Covenant of Grace is that eternal and intimate bond of friendship that God has established with his people in the Lord Jesus Christ; in which he is their sovereign friend and they are his servant friends; and in which God gives to them a communion of life with him and a sovereignly dictated order of life.’ **Joe Morecraft III**

‘God doesn’t want us to have rigid rituals with him. In the New Covenant he is more interested in having a relationship with us.’ **Joseph Prince**

‘Marriage has a unique place because it speaks of an absolute faithfulness, a covenant between radically different persons; and so it echoes the absolute covenant of God with his chosen, a covenant between radically different partners.’ **Rowan Williams**