

1 **OVERTURE 83** from the Northwest Georgia Presbytery (to CC, CTS)
2 “Require Courses on Scripture and Doctrine at Covenant College and Covenant
3 Seminary Be Taught by Ordained Elders”
4

5 **Whereas**, Holy Scripture clearly teaches that women are not permitted to teach or exercise
6 authority over men, grounding this prohibition not in culture but in the created order
7 itself (1 Tim. 2:12–13; 1 Cor. 11:8–9); and
8

9 **Whereas**, the *Book of Church Order* affirms that the authoritative teaching of God’s Word is
10 a function of those lawfully called, examined, and ordained to church office, which
11 offices are restricted to qualified men (*BCO* 7-2; 8-1; 8-5; 21-4); and
12

13 **Whereas**, creation ordinances are binding beyond the immediate context of gathered worship
14 and are applicable wherever the moral law of God governs human conduct (Gen. 2:18–
15 23; 1 Tim. 2:13–14); and
16

17 **Whereas**, educational institutions affiliated with or serving the Presbyterian Church in
18 America (i.e., Covenant College and Covenant Seminary), while not themselves
19 churches, nevertheless operate under the authority of Christ and seek to apply all of
20 Scripture to all of life; and
21

22 **Whereas**, the scholarly study and systematic teaching of the Bible and of Christian doctrine
23 require thorough knowledge of Scripture, its original languages, and the system of
24 doctrine taught therein, and the PCA requires formal examination and ordination to
25 safeguard doctrinal fidelity (*BCO* 12-5; 21-5; 24-1);
26

27 **Therefore, be it resolved**, that the General Assembly affirm that courses on the systematic
28 study of the Bible or of Bible doctrine taught at Covenant College or Covenant
29 Seminary should be taught only by men who have been duly examined and ordained
30 as teaching or ruling elders in NAPARC denominations; and
31

32 **Be it further resolved**, that this restriction applies specifically to instruction whose primary
33 purpose is the authoritative exposition of Scripture or Christian doctrine, and not to
34 courses in which Scripture is applied incidentally or illustratively within broader
35 academic subject matter; and
36

37 **Be it further resolved**, that the respective Agencies be directed to amend their bylaws to
38 reflect and enforce these resolutions.
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41 *Adopted by the Northwest Georgia Presbytery at its 60th stated meeting, April 14, 2026*

42 *Attested by TE Robby Baxter, Stated Clerk*