

DEALING WITH VIOLATIONS

It is the desire of our Student Ministry to never have to use the following steps. However, should any of the above guidelines be violated, students can expect that the following corrective steps will be taken to deal with the violation.

For a first offense:

The student will be spoken to by an adult volunteer or staff member. For inappropriate dress, the student will be given the option of providing additional appropriate clothing or wearing some furnished by the Student Ministry.

For a second offense:

The student will be spoken to by an adult volunteer or staff member. In addition, a meeting with the student and their parent(s) will be established.

For a third offense:

All previous steps will be taken and the student may be prevented from participating in certain Student Ministry events for a specified period of time.

The objective of each of the corrective actions is not to condemn, but to lovingly produce repentance that leads to restoration (2 Corinthians 7:9). Galatians 6:1 says, ***“Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.”*** When a student demonstrates disrespect in any of the above areas, our ministry will do all that we can to help restore that student consistently yet compassionately.

I have read the code of conduct and the procedures for dealing with violations and I agree to abide by them.



STUDENT MINISTRY CODE OF CONDUCT

Our Student Ministry purpose statement is ***“Connecting students and their families to God and others.”*** Everything we do as a ministry is done with that overarching thought in mind. To help facilitate an environment where that is realized, we have developed this code of conduct. These are the expectations of both students and adults involved in our Student Ministry. Please understand that we desire in no way to be a “legalistic” Student Ministry. However, we understand that certain guidelines must be established and enforced ***IN LOVE*** for us to create an environment where we are successful at ***“Connecting students and their families to God and others.”***

The key word when it comes to our expectations regarding conduct is **RESPECT**. We expect for those participating in our ministry or one of our ministry’s functions to respect the following: **God, Leaders, Others, Yourself, and Property**. The following guidelines are reflective of our desire to respect those 5 things.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding these guidelines, please feel free to contact Pastor Joe @ 305-247-1662.

Signature of Student

Signature of Parent/Guardian

1. I will demonstrate respect through my speech.

The following are Biblical examples of inappropriate speech: gossip (Prov. 16:28), slander (James 4:11), arguing (2 Timothy 2:24), lying (Leviticus 19:11), negativity (Ephesians 4:31), and coarse joking (Ephesians 5:4). Because Scripture plainly teaches against such speech we will not allow those involved in our ministry to engage in them.

Appropriate speech will fulfill the instruction found in Ephesians 4:29: ***“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”***

2. I will demonstrate respect through my dress.

This is directed at both men and women! It is important that all of us demonstrate respect for ourselves and others with this area of our lives. Scripture teaches the importance of dressing modestly (1 Timothy 2:9-10). Because there are varying understandings of what those standards are, we will spell out the expectations of our Student Ministry.

For girls, the following is expected: no clothing that is sexually suggestive—that includes shirts that reveal your midriff or cleavage. We do not allow spaghetti strap tops and tank tops must have a strap width of at least two fingers. No t-shirts that contain evil, vulgar, illegal, or inappropriate content. No sagging pants, low-rise pants, short shorts, or sofiles. Appropriate length shorts will extend past your fingertips with your arms placed at your side. Appropriate swimsuits are modest one-pieces or tankinis.

For guys, the following is expected: no t-shirts that contain evil, vulgar, illegal, or inappropriate content. No sagging pants (no boxers or underwear showing) or pants with holes in inappropriate places. Guys are not allowed to wear Speedo brief swimsuits.

3. I will demonstrate respect through my physical contact.

The Bible teaches us that we are not to have any ***HINT*** of sexual immorality among us (Ephesians 5:3). Therefore, there is absolutely no PDA (Public or Private Displays of Affection) allowed on church property or church functions, unless it occurs between two people who are married ***TO EACH OTHER***. We believe that it is very important that appropriate physical touch between students and/or adults is modeled through our ministry. Again, because of the varying understandings of what is and is not appropriate, we will spell out the expectations of our Student Ministry.

Appropriate touch includes the following: handshake, high five, brief hugs.

Inappropriate touch includes the following: hand holding, prolonged hugs, kissing, cuddling, sitting in laps, laying on one another, etc.

4. I will demonstrate respect through my attitude toward leaders.

Scripture teaches that we are to respect the leaders that God places over us (1 Thessalonians 5:12). Therefore, we will expect students to respect the leaders in our Student Ministry by (1) not talking or passing notes during worship or teaching times; (2) turning off cell phones during worship or teaching times; (3) obeying the instructions of the leaders; (4) not yelling or threatening leaders; and (5) not leaving the supervision of the adult leaders.

5. I will demonstrate respect through my stewardship.

Scripture teaches that everything belongs to God and that He has given us the responsibility to steward the resources He has given (1 Chronicles 29:11; Psalm 8:6). Therefore, we will expect students to respect the property of the church and others. No stealing, vandalism, or graffiti is allowed.