

Youth Ministry Boundaries

****COMMON SENSE AND RESPECT****

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

Philippians 2:3-4

Unless stated otherwise within the Boundaries, all offenses will be handled based on the disciplinary policy on page 3

PEOPLE

- The greatest commands are to Love God and Love Each Other. We will embody this. Bullying, Cliques, or any hateful actions will not be tolerated in Youth Group. We are a Family and as such will serve and show the Love of God to every person that comes through the doors.

“Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. *Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.*”

Romans 12:9-10

FACILITIES

- This group will treat all buildings, rooms, tents, supplies, and any other items used with the utmost care and respect. If something is spilled it will be cleaned up by the student. If anything is broken or damaged in any way, a Youth Leader will be made aware. Accidents happen, so Grace will be given until it becomes a habit, then further action may be taken according to the Disciplinary Policy.

**“For everything *comes from him* and exists by his power and is *intended for his glory*. All glory to him forever!
Amen”**

Romans 11:36

SPEECH

- This group will be a safe place for people to bring their struggles. As such, there will be no discussing other people, or the things they share, outside of Youth Events. We all have struggles and will respect the privacy of those around us.

“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.”

Ephesians 4:29

RELATIONSHIPS

- Dating can be a huge part of the life of a student. However, while at Youth Group activities, students will be expected to avoid Public Displays of Affection. Couples are encouraged to represent God’s design for relationships and to be honoring to themselves and each other in their words and actions. Youth Group is a place where students should primarily grow in their relationships with God. Secondly, relationships with other youth will also be built and strengthened.

“So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a *pure heart*.”

2 Timothy 2:22

ZERO TOLERANCE

- Any student using alcohol, drugs, tobacco, vape, or any other substances deemed inappropriate by the Youth Leaders, at a Youth Sanctioned Event will be dismissed immediately. Parents will be notified. The student may return to Evening Youth Group/other events according to the established Disciplinary Policy below.

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were *bought with a price*. So glorify God in your body.”

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

TECHNOLOGY

- God has blessed us with amazing tools that give us access to the world at our fingertips. When used correctly cell phones and social media can connect us and promote unity around the world. If used incorrectly, they can tear us apart. These tools will not be used at the expense of others in this group. We will respect the privacy and dignity of the other members of this family. We will honor God with every aspect of our lives whether virtual or physical.
- If technology becomes a distraction from God or the group, the situation will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. We want God, not our phones, to consume us.

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything.”

1 Corinthians 6:12

DISCIPLINARY POLICY

1. First-time Offenders will receive grace and mercy. Infraction will be discussed along with the need for repentance and forgiveness with all involved parties. If restoration of relationship and change of action are achieved, there will be no further consequences. *
2. Second-time Offenders will be asked to refrain from attendance at Youth Group events outside of Sunday mornings for one month.
3. If the problem continues, further suspension from Youth events will be enacted. (Third time= 3 Months, Fourth Time= 4 Months)
4. Severe infractions will be brought to the attention of the Church Pastors: Ray, and/or George. Further Discipline will be discussed if needed.
5. Students will always be welcome to attend on Sunday Mornings even while under suspension from evenings and extra events. Evening Youth Group and extra activities are a privilege.

I reserve the right to alter the Discipline found in this document depending on the infraction.

***Students caught with substances against the Zero Tolerance Policy will immediately receive a two-month suspension from evening Youth Group and Youth events.**