



## Montvale Youth Ministries

### Code of Conduct

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*"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." – Ephesians 5:1-2*

This code of conduct is a guideline that all volunteers and members of our student ministries are expected to follow. Willful failure to abide by these guidelines will result in the following three-step response:

- 1) A gentle verbal warning will be issued in private by leader at the first instance. *(Galatians 6:1-10)*
- 2) The second will result in a phone call home and the arrangement for immediate transportation to the same. If transportation cannot be arranged, the student will no longer be able to participate in the evening's activities. *(Matthew 18:15-20)*
- 3) The third repeat instance, even over a period of weeks, will result in immediate transportation home and suspension from the program for an indefinite period of time. *(1 Corinthians 5:9-13)*

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- 1) I will follow the directions of the volunteer staff, and do my best to show respect to those placed in authority over me, as they are here to provide for my safety and spiritual well-being, *and the well-being of all others involved in the ministry.* I will equally show respect for the facilities, as these are places where God is present and worshipped. *(1 Pet. 2:13-17; Titus 3:1-3; Rom. 13:1-7; Ex. 3:4-5)*
- 2) I will dress modestly and fully, and I will not wear any revealing or inappropriate clothing, which includes messages or images that are crude or provocative. If something is questionable, I will err on the side of modesty. I recognize the final judgment is determined by leaders, however, and I will abide by their directions. *(1 Tim. 2:9-10; 1 Pet 3:2-5; Rom. 12:1-2; Rom. 14:13-14)*
- 3) I will do my best to use language that is respectful, encouraging, and builds others up. I will not make inappropriate and profane jokes, lie, use foul language, or tell rumors. I recognize that the language I use charts a course that others around me will follow, and I am determined to promote a culture of love and respect. *(1 Thess. 5:11; John 17; James 3; 2 Tim. 2:14-17; Matt. 18:15-17; Gal. 6:1-1; Eph. 4:1-16; Eph. 5:4)*
- 4) I will take great care to secure all my electronic devices and leave them off for the duration of a youth event unless I have been specifically allowed to use them. *(Prov. 2:1-5; 1 Cor. 7:32-35; Luke 21:34-36; Psalm 46:10-11)*

- 5) I will under no circumstances ever bring any dangerous or illegal items to any program event, including but not limited to: alcohol, fireworks, illegal or unprescribed drugs, cigarettes, pornography, or weapons of any kind. Should I become aware of the presence of these dangerous elements, I will be faithful to report to a leader immediately. *(1 Tim. 5:8; Prov. 25:26; Matt. 26:52-54; Ps. 46:1-3; Ps. 84:10)*
- 6) I will obey all national, state, and local laws. Willful failure to do so will result in having the local authorities contacted immediately. *(1 Pet. 2:13-17; Rom. 13; Amos 5:14-15; Isa. 59:1-9)*
- 7) I recognize that youth events are social events with members of the opposite sex, and as such I will take great care to show only the highest level of respect for these members as brothers and sisters in Christ. I will refrain from inappropriate physical contact (kissing, sitting on laps, lengthy or inappropriate embrace, etc), I will be careful to avoid unwanted physical contact or comments (such as tickling, massages, or unwanted affection or compliments), and I will personally encourage others in the same. I will maintain a high level of respect in my mind, my speech, my hands, and my eyes with regards to members of the opposite sex, understanding they are precious in their Heavenly Father's eyes. *(Ps. 119:1-16; Matt. 5:8; 1 Cor. 6:18; Heb. 13:4; 1 Thess. 4:1-6; Gal. 5:19-21; Col 3:5-7; Rom. 13:13-14)*
- 8) If I am on a retreat, lock-in or mission trip, I recognize that any willful failure to abide by these guidelines will result in being sent home immediately at my own expense. I also recognize that traveling represents a heightened necessity for security both spiritually and physically, and as such the following will always remain true:
  - I will adhere to curfew
  - I will show respect for my environment and maintain situational awareness, putting the safety of my group and myself ahead of all other concerns
  - I will never be in a hotel room, sleeping area, or changing area designated for members of the opposite sex

**Seek Him. Love others.**