



# *Student Ministry Code of Conduct*

The vision of the First Baptist Student Ministry is to mentor and equip our teens to develop a faith that exists outside of the church building. A walk with Christ that is dynamic, lived out, and shared beyond our church walls. As with any group, whether it is Scouts, a sports team, a club at school or even a job, there are certain rules and expectations provided which are there to help make the group stronger. As a youth group, we want to set a positive example for others of what it means to be a member of the body of Christ, so we must also hold ourselves to certain expectations. Here are some of the standards that we will strive to live up to as members of "OnFire Student Ministry" (First Baptist Student Ministry):

*"Then he said to them all: 'If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.'" - Luke 9:23*

The teens of OnFire Student Ministry seek to **SERVE**:

- Submit to God (James 4:7-8)
- Examine Your Heart (James 1:19-21)
- Reach Out to Others (Matthew 25:31-40)
- Value Others Above Yourself (Romans 12:10)
- Exemplify Christ (1 John 2:3-6)

Therefore, we act in accordance with our faith and our vision.

## **Youth Group Guidelines**

*"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35*

- Show respect for everyone you come in contact with, by your actions and your words. This means that making fun of others and cutting each other down is not acceptable.
- Respect your brothers and sisters in Christ. An example would be, do not talk when someone else is talking.
- Respect the facilities. Do not damage or destroy church property and always clean up after yourself.
- Keep a positive attitude.
- Remember that you are an ambassador for Christ and this church, and your actions and words can provide a good or bad example.

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## ***Student Ministry Code of Conduct Continued . . .***

### **Youth Group Rules**

*“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.” Romans 12:1*

### ***In General***

- No obscene language.
- No drug, alcohol, or tobacco use.
- No weapons.
- Public display of affection with your significant other while at church functions is inappropriate. This detracts from our purpose.
- For the safety and well being of all, every meeting and event has physical boundaries. Stay within those boundaries.
- During study time, you must remain seated to avoid disrupting the group with the exceptions of emergencies (please use the restroom prior to Bible studies and Worship services) and turn all cell phones and electronic devices off (Devices will be placed in basket at front of the room).

### ***Church Trips***

All of the normal church rules and expectations, plus:

- Couples will adopt the “friends rule” for the duration of the trip. At all of our church functions, we want the focus to be on Christ and not each other, so if you are in a relationship, we will encourage you to “just be friends” on our church trips.
- Couples will not sit next to each other in vehicles while traveling. We want to encourage you to develop friendships with others in our group and not be focused only on the person you are dating.
- No sharing blankets or sleeping on one another’s shoulders in vehicles (unless you are siblings).
- Never be alone with a person of the opposite sex. Whether it is on a trip or here at church, always take another (third) person with you and stay with the whole group as much as possible.
- Clean up after yourself:
  - a. In vehicles- throw trash away at various stops and do not throw on floor
  - b. At host homes- make beds, do not leave clothes lying around, do not ask for or take food or items that are not provided for you, do not go “snooping” around through drawers, cabinets, etc.
  - c. At other churches/venues (hotels, conference halls, etc.)- leave things better than they were before you came. This includes making beds, not leaving clothes lying around, messy bathroom areas, etc.
- Music devices may be used (unless otherwise noted) with headphones, but only Christian music should be listened to on them. Do not plan on listening to music for the whole trip. Enjoy the company of your youth group!

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## *Student Ministry Code of Conduct Continued . . .*

- Cell phones may be brought, but only used for: Christian music (with headphones), for calling (or texting) your parents only, if necessary, and for trip purposes, designated by Leaders. No videos, gaming or internet usage, unless it is deemed necessary for the trip, by Leaders. (Other restrictions, time frames for example, may be placed on cell phone usage depending on the purpose of the trip.)

### **Consequences of Inappropriate Behavior for All Church Activities**

We gather together twice a week for a period of worship and study. We cannot allow disruptive behavior to detract from our time together and our focus on Christ. Disruptive or unsafe behavior on trips will not be tolerated either. Disruptive and unsafe behavior includes any violation of the Youth Group Rules as well as specific rules imposed for trips. The final authority determining of disruptive and unsafe behavior will be the Youth Minister. Consequences will be as follows:

1. Student will receive a verbal warning from the teacher or assisting adult.
2. If disruptive behavior persists, the parents of the student will be contacted and further action will be determined.

### ***Consequences while on church trips:***

1. **First Offense:** Student's parent(s) will be contacted to explain the problem and to ensure that the parent understands the situation. Appropriate consequences will be enforced on the trip.
2. **Second Offense:** Student will be sent home at his or her own expense. An adult will contact the parent(s) in order to ensure that the parent understands the situation and arrange for transportation home.

### **Dress Guidelines**

It is important that our dress is appropriate. It is our intention to be holy and pleasing to God. Clothing should not be disruptive or bring unnecessary attention to the wearer. The following will not be permitted:

- Bare midriffs, spaghetti straps, tank tops with less than 2" straps, see through clothing, tube tops, halter tops.
- Visible undergarments. Pants should be worn at waist/hip level.
- Dresses, skirts, shorts, skorts and garments that are not longer than the wearer's fingertips with the arm and hand fully extended. If a garment has a slit, the top of the slit must be lower than the wearer's fingertips with the arms and hand fully extended.
- No clothing with offensive or obscene pictures and/or words.

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## ***Student Ministry Code of Conduct Continued . . .***

### **Swimwear-**

- Girls- One piece swim suit or colored t-shirt over two piece.
- Boys- T-shirts should be worn at all times other than when actually swimming, such as to and from swimming pool.

If you would not wear it to church on Sunday morning or to school then chances are you should not wear it to youth group. Should you dress in an inappropriate manner, you will be asked to change or contact your parents to bring you different clothing or to take you home.

### **Bradley's Personal Guidelines**

I love to talk with you and hang out with you. Out of mutual respect, let us agree to the following:

- 1) Feel free to call or text Bradley any time before 9pm. However, if an emergency arises, call or text him any time day or night.
- 2) All teens (and parents!) are welcome at Bradley & Kelly's house. However, we ask the following:
  - a) Do not come over alone; there must always be more than one.
  - b) Female visitors must include at least one male in addition to Bradley or Kelly must be there also.
  - d) You should call in advance and your parents must know where you are.

***The above also applies for visits to the Youth Room or Bradley's Office!***

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As a student in the First Baptist Youth Ministry, I have prayerfully read and understand OnFire Student Ministry's General Conduct Code and choose to adhere to it at all OnFire Student Ministry functions.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

As a parent of a teen in the First Baptist Youth Ministry, I have prayerfully read and understand OnFire Student Ministry's General Conduct Code. I support this Code of Conduct and expect my child to adhere to it at all times.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_