



MVSM CODE OF CONDUCT

1) Respect and obey staff. Our staff care deeply about youth and wants to protect and nurture them. God has put us in positions of influence and authority for the purpose of teaching, correcting and training them in his ways. It is essential that they learn to submit to authority so that they will learn to obey God and have the blessings that come with obedience.

Hebrews 13:17 *"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you."*

2) Stay with the group at all times. Students come to youth group to be with the group. There is rarely a need for a student or group of students to separate themselves from the group without staff permission. This causes disunity, cliques and hard feelings. It is also unsafe for the staff to be unaware of their activities or location.

Ephesians 4:3 *"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."*

3) Speak and act in love. Our youth group is a place where students come for encouragement, comfort, understanding and friendship. It is a place where we learn to work out our differences and difficulties with love and mercy. Behavior that is unloving will not be accepted.

4) Keep electronic devices TURNED OFF AND PUT AWAY (cell phones, games, iPods, etc). These devices distract youth from focusing on what is being taught and on building friendships with other students. It is selfish to ignore youth group members and staff by spending time using electronics while we are together as a group. This also includes the use of a electronic device to use as a Bible, we have plenty of Bibles available. (If a youth has a legitimate need to make a phone call, they must ask permission from a staff person. Parents can reach youth by calling a staff person.) If a student breaks this rule, a staff person will retain the device until a parent arranges to pick it up.

5) Dress with modesty. Our purpose in being together is to grow in Christ and Christian friendship. Therefore it isn't appropriate to dress in a way that causes others to be tempted to think about us in a way that is impure. If a staff person feels that your clothes are not modest, we will ask you to put on other clothes. For summer events, please wear a modest swimsuit and bring along t-shirt and shorts to wear during group activities.

2 Cor. 6:3 *"We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited."*

6) Refrain from public displays of affection Holding hands, sitting close, hugging, "side" hugging, kissing, back rubs, and all other forms of PDA will not be accepted because it is distracting and uncomfortable for the rest of the kids in the group. We encourage students to set a high standard of purity in their relationships, so that they can keep their focus on God.

1 Tim 5:1-2 *"Treat younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity."*



7) Foul language, drugs and weapons of any kind WILL NOT be tolerated.

CONSEQUENCES FOR DISOBEDIENCE

As Mountain View Youth Staff, it is our goal to handle problems immediately, consistently and in a spirit of love and gentleness. Using scripture, we will show students how their behavior is not pleasing to God and is harmful to themselves or the youth group. The staff will always seek a result that includes confession, forgiveness and restoration. Failure to follow the rules will result in the student experiencing one of the following consequences:

Correction from youth staff. So that we do not humiliate a student, this will happen privately and will be carried out by 2 or more staff persons (for accountability). Whenever possible, one of the staff will be the same sex as the student.

Dismissal from the event (a parent will be contacted for immediate pick-up) or suspension from a future youth group event. It is our desire for youth to be at every event, but when a student violates our rules, they interfere with other students' opportunity to learn about God and experience Christian community. It would not be fair or loving for us to allow a student to interfere with God's work in the lives of other students, so we will remove them from the group for a time if necessary. It is our prayer that they would use this time for self-reflection and return to the group with a right attitude and willingness to obey.

Any time one of these measures is taken, the youth staff will notify the parent in person or by phone within 1 week of the offense.

I have read the rules and consequences and agree to submit to them.

Parent Signature _____

Student Signature _____