



HONOR CODE

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The Honor Code is a commitment we ask all leaders to make, not because we expect perfection, but because we understand how to walk in the grace of God as examples to the people who are following our leadership.

As a leader at (*Church name*), I realize that I am a representative of the church and the Lord Jesus Christ. I agree to continually develop the relationship that I have with God through prayer and Bible study. I commit to care for my personal wellbeing – spirit, soul, and body. I will also nurture my family relationships, giving them priority over my ministry responsibilities.

I commit myself to (*Church name*) by regularly attending church services, praying for church leaders and church needs, speaking only life-giving words about the church and its leaders, and giving my tithes and offerings to the local church.

I agree to give attention to the development of relationships with other believers. I will be a team player and work together with others in unity. I will keep my attitude positive and uplifting. I will not be argumentative, opinionated, or allow strife and offenses. I will be quick to repent and quick to forgive.

I agree to keep myself accountable to the person in church authority over me. I will be careful not to be offended by instruction, but rather yield to my overseer with my heart surrendered to God's care. I recognize that I am not alone, and if I see that I need help, I will contact the person in authority over me in ministry.

In leading others, I will serve people with humility and honor. I will build relationships with them to earn their trust through God's love that is in my heart. I will take responsibility to help them fulfill God's plan for their lives.

I will not repeat information given to me in confidence unless that information is causing harm to the individual or another person. In that case, I will notify the person in authority over me so they can take the appropriate action.

If I see that someone is in error, even if it is someone in authority, I will first go to them privately. If the matter is not corrected, I will consult someone on the Pastoral Care Team. At all times, I will demonstrate God's love by not repeating the matter to anyone other than the church authority I have entrusted.

I will be faithful to keep my word, to be prompt, honest and hardworking. I will not gossip, criticize, or complain. I will not respond to criticism or make negative comments about other ministers or ministries.

I will abstain from illegal drugs, drunkenness and all behaviors which could influence a weaker Christian to fall away from their faith.

I will keep my personal business separate from ministry. I will not use my church relationships to get personal favors or to profit myself financially, but rather to serve others selflessly.

For my own reputation and the reputation of the church, I will respect the opposite sex with my speech, appearance, and conduct. I will avoid being alone with someone of the opposite sex so as not to give the appearance of wrongdoing. I realize that I need to guard myself from temptation in any form, not putting myself in any sort of compromising situation.

I will treat my brothers and sisters in Christ with equality, not giving preference to anyone based on their age, race, or gender.

I realize that in living a holy lifestyle before God and others, I have freedom to know the blessings found in the life of God. In keeping the Honor Code, I understand that I am not being restricted, but liberated to know true joy and peace that Christ purchased for me at the cross.

Signature

Date