



## **Overflow Guidelines**

### **Biblical Principles**

At Overflow, we desire to create wise Biblical guidelines. We recognize and respect the fact that each family has a responsibility to adopt their own boundaries based on their interpretation of Biblical principles. We have great freedom in Christ to live as a holy people before God. But we must not let our freedom become an opportunity for sin. The following questions are to be used to determine if a given behavior or activity are beneficial.

1. **Is it helpful?** Is the behavior or activity beneficial and helpful? “‘All things are lawful for me,’ but not all things are helpful.” 1 Cor 6:12a
2. **Does it threaten to enslave me?** Is the behavior or activity going to lead me to sin? “‘All things are lawful for me,’ but I will not be enslaved by anything.” 1 Cor 6:12b
3. **Does it build up?** Is the behavior or activity going to encourage and edify others or could it cause someone to stumble into sin? “‘All things are lawful,’ but not all things are helpful. ‘All things are lawful,’ but not all things build up. Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.” 1 Cor 10:23,24
4. **Does it glorify God?** Is the behavior or activity something that you can do in the name of the Lord Jesus and for his glory? “So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.” 1 Cor 10:31
5. **Is it in opposition to my parents’ wishes?** Is the behavior or activity (area of genuine freedom) contrary to the instruction or wishes of my parents? “Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching.” Prov 1:8

## **Guidelines**

### **Concerning Overnight Trips**

We have three simple rules for overnight trips.

1. **No Purple** (Pink + Blue = Purple. No guys in girls' rooms and vice versa, no exceptions.) "But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints." Eph 5:3
2. **No Pranks** (No pranks, no exceptions. Someone always gets hurt.) "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing." 1 Thess 5:11
3. **No Pairs** (No pairing off, especially guy/girl pairs.)

### **Concerning Student Drivers**

We will not permit students to drive during youth activities out of town. For a in-town activities, only students with prior written parent permission may ride with an approved student driver. The Overflow Consent Form includes a place for parents to permit their child to ride with a high school driver. All student drivers and their parents must complete a Driver's Covenant, which is also included on the Overflow Consent Form. Student drivers will be reminded to drive responsibly. Any indiscretions will be properly dealt with.

### **Concerning Discipline**

We are aware that there may be occasions for the expression of discipline within the programming of the student ministry. It is our desire to consider in advance what challenges might arise and be prepared to act wisely, effectively, graciously, and within balance in dealing with behavioral offense. If necessary, the student ministry may contact parents, or even expel a student from the premises if the behavior persists. Parents will always be notified.

### **Concerning Sensitive Information**

As we seek to develop relationships with students, there will be times, when the doors of authenticity are opened, that students may share serious issues like: a drug problem, suicidal depression or even possible abuse. Leadership, whether staff or volunteer, when faced with these potentially life threatening situations, must communicate these issues immediately with the responsible pastor to determine if the situation warrants contacting the student's parents or other authority. Training is provided for volunteers concerning how to best minister in these difficult situations.

### **Youth Ministry Workers**

All youth ministry workers (paid or volunteer) must agree to and follow all policies as set forth in the Redeemer Presbyterian Church Children's Ministry Handbook.