

# **Christian Youth Tutorial (CYT)**

## **Handbook**

**Fall 2008**

## WHO ARE WE?

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We are not a school. We are a group of home school parents who have come together to hire tutors to assist us in the home education of our middle and high school age children. Our children will meet for classes with a tutor one day a week. On the remaining four days, we parents will reinforce concepts presented and make sure the students are prepared for each weekly session. We recognize that teaching our children at home is our privilege and responsibility and can't be met by bringing our children to a class once a week.

In order to attract quality tutors, we agree to make sure that our children come to class on time and prepared. We agree to promptly address any concerns that should arise. We ask our tutors to make a commitment to us for an entire school year and agree to make the same commitment to them by paying them for the entire year even if we decide to remove our children from their classes.

We plan for our children to be prepared for college. Our classes are challenging and require our children to stretch their minds. The format of meeting together one day a week with additional work to be completed independently is similar to what students will encounter in college. These classes are ideal for motivated, independent learners.

We share a vision in pursuing academic excellence while still incorporating the love of learning. We come from all denominations of churches and feel the need to share our goals and vision without getting into areas of controversy about doctrine. Religious doctrine will not be a part of our classes as we feel that is best left for the home to cover. When spontaneous expressions of faith occasionally occur in a classroom we expect everyone to show tolerance and respect for each other.

We believe that faith and intellect are to be mutually exclusive. We agree that as our children mature, we want to share with them ideas that might challenge their faith later in life, introducing these ideas to them while they are still within our reach for influence.

The students and adults will get to know each other very well and will function as a large family. There will be social activities as well as academics. As in a family, all ages eat and play together. We will not tolerate any form of social rejection. Gossip is a form of rejection that will not be tolerated. The Scripture tells us in Proverbs 20:20 "A gossip betrays a confidence, so avoid a man who talk to much." We expect kindness and acceptance to be practiced and will address any lapses immediately.

## **PARENT'S BOARD**

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A few dedicated parents have agreed to continue to serve together to provide leadership for our group. They define current policy and provide direction for the future. We encourage input from the entire group. We ask that comments and suggestions be put in writing.

## **OUR HOST CHURCH**

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New Song Christian Fellowship is gracious enough to let us use their building, please have respect. We are guest of the church. We need to keep it clean and respect the church's property. Remember we want to be invited back next year. Please note you signed the Property Contract.

## **STUDENT GUIDELINES**

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We ask that each student adhere to the following guidelines so that our classes will function smoothly.

1. Students are expected to be on time and prepared for class. This is very important and includes having all materials necessary.
2. No gum, food, beverages or cell phones are allowed in class.
3. Restrooms should be used between classes.
4. Students may not wander through the sanctuary or offices. Students who are not in classes should be in the designated study hall or may wait in the foyer for up to 5 minutes for a parent to pick them up.
5. Students must come to study hall prepared to study and not talk.
6. CYT has a zero tolerance policy regarding tobacco, alcohol, drugs, sexual harassment and weapons of any kind. Weapons are not limited to guns and knives but could include any object used in a threatening manner toward someone else.

## **DRESS CODE**

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Students are expected to dress modestly, keeping in mind what is appropriate for serious study and the location of the classes.

1. Underwear is called underwear for a reason. If your underwear is visible, your outfit is inappropriate for these classes. Please check to make sure your underwear is covered even when you raise your arms and/or bend over.
2. Shirts should not be cut low enough to reveal cleavage or high enough to reveal midriff.
3. Shorts should be at fingertips. Skirts and dresses should fall right above knee or lower. Length should remain modest even when a student is sitting or bending over.
4. These items are unacceptable dress: "wild" haircuts or colors [only colors God created on human heads are acceptable], body piercing [there than ears], spaghetti straps, tank tops, halter tops, sheer clothing, bare midriffs, very tight clothing, and clothing with pictures or emblems of tobacco products, alcohol, drug products, or "shock value" terms or symbols.

## **DRIVERS**

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1. Students who drive themselves to class and wish to leave for part of the day must have a permission to leave form on file. The form must state the conditions the parent expects to be followed such as times student may leave and/or times they should arrive at CYT, names of any student allowed to ride with student, etc.
2. Students who drive may never take another student with them with out written permission on file from all parents of all students involved.

## **ACADEMIC PROBATION**

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Any student whose grades fall below a C in any class for the first semester will be placed on academic probation for the second semester. Grades below a C for the second semester may indicate that our program is not appropriate for this student. The board will meet with the student and his/her parents to determine if there is a problem.

## **DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

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Our program does not have a rigid set of rules with a specific set of consequences for every infraction. As a general rule, the offender will be informed that the behavior is unacceptable and must not occur again. Negative consequences will increase with repetition and severity of offense up to possible expulsion. A student who is expelled is not entitled to any refund of tuition or fees.

## **PARENT GUIDELINES**

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Our program cannot succeed without your help. We ask your assistance in the following ways:

1. As a parent, it is my responsibility to check assignment sheets far enough ahead of time that students will have all materials needed for their classes. Many families have found it helpful to go over all assignment sheets the morning following the class and break the assignment into four parts. This helps students stay on tack, especially if you meet again at the end of the day to check assignments completed.
2. If a problem arises between your child and a tutor, please contact the tutor first. Most problems are the result of a misunderstanding and are easily resolved by talking. If you cannot resolve the problem in this manner please contact the board member that is assigned to your family.
3. Please administer take home tests in the manner prescribed by the tutor. If a tutor has asked your assistance in checking daily assignments, please do not give up your right to do so. Your student will benefit from catching errors early, but not from copying answers out of a key. Please be fair to your child and do not place this temptation in front of even the most honorable students.
4. CYT supports activities as a group and not dating. Social activities will be planned with this in mind and prefer that "couples" not be a part of our classes or CYT social events. There will be no public display of affection [PDA] at anytime whether at classes or our social events.

5. Remind your student to check the mailbox each week at the end of the day. Sometimes they will be empty, and other times they will contain announcements, which may be important to you even if they are not important to the student.
6. Pray for our tutors and students. It is not easy to cover a lot of material in a short class time, but it is possible. Your prayers can help tutors know what to cover and help students understand.