

## Ten Principles of Conduct

1. If you have a problem with me, come to me (privately).
2. If I have a problem with you, I'll come to you (privately).
3. If someone has a problem with me and comes to you, send them to me. (I'll do the same for you.)
4. If someone consistently will not come to me, say, "Let's go see him together. I am sure he will see us about this." (I'll do the same for you.)
5. Be careful how you interpret me – I would rather do that myself. On matters that are unclear, do not feel pressured to interpret my feelings or thoughts. It is easy to misrepresent intentions.
6. I will be careful how I interpret you.
7. If it's confidential, don't tell. If you or anyone else comes to me in confidence, I won't tell, unless
  - (a) the person is going to harm themselves,
  - (b) the person is going to harm someone else,
  - (c) it involves a child who has been physically or sexually abused. I expect the same from you.
8. I do not read unsigned letters or notes.
9. I do not manipulate; I will not be manipulated; do not let others manipulate you. Do not let others try and manipulate me through you.
10. When in doubt, just say it. If I can answer it without misrepresenting something or breaking a confidence, I will.

Taken from John Maxwell, *There's no such thing as Business Ethics* (Warner, 2003) pp.44-45.

## Christ Church Volunteer Teams Mutual Respect and Accountability

On the other side are ten principles of conduct or rules of mutual respect that we are introducing for all our staff and volunteer teams here at Christ Church. They are based on the instructions Jesus has given us in Matthew 18 on how to handle conflict or disagreement within the Church family in a way that honours one another and glorifies God.

"If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.

But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'

If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

"I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven... For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."  
(Matthew 18:15-20)

## A Biblically Functioning Community

As we seek to be a biblically-functioning community, let us encourage one another and hold one another accountable to live out these principles as Christ-followers in the power of the Holy Spirit to the glory of God the Father and the extension of his Kingdom.

Stephen Sizer  
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