

## Tool Kit: Interaction with students

1 Tim. 3:1-7

Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task. Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

\*As an adult you assume a certain amount of personal risk and responsibility for the students you are around. Be wise with your actions and words. Act responsibly and appropriately, always being aware that the students you are influencing are minors.

\*Remember you are not a certified counselor so you can only listen and share information of a situation that applied to you that would be relevant. If you feel a student needs to talk with a counselor, please notify the Youth Pastor immediately.

\*You should never be alone with a student in a private place, a home, or even riding in your car. If you need to meet with an individual student, seek to meet in a place that provides the ability for them to share personal conversation, yet you are still visible to other people. This rule applies to both opposite genders and same genders.

\*If you plan to communicate or interact with a student personally during the week, you should make their parents/guardians aware of who you are and why you are communicating with their child.

\*You may meet as two adults alone with a student, or at least two students with one adult.

\*If a student of the opposite sex begins to confide personal information with you, lead them to a leader of their same sex.

\*Guard your words and actions so that they are never misunderstood as angry or abusive.

\*Be sure you do not interact or speak with a student in a way that can be misconstrued as flirting.

\*Leaders are never allowed to date a student regardless of how close in age they may be.

\*An adult leader is never permitted to hit, slap, or unnecessarily restrain a student.

\*If you suspect abuse or neglect you must (by law) make the Youth Pastor aware of your suspicion.