

King's Way Christian Fellowship Communication Covenant

1. a. If I have a problem with another person, I will go to him privately (Matthew 18:15-17), with Christian love (Ephesians 4:15) and in a spirit of humility (1 Peter 5:5b).
 - b. If someone has a problem with me, I want him to come to me privately and I will try to be open when he comes.
 - c. If I am aware that someone holds something against me, I will take the initiative to talk to them and seek to make things right (Matthew 5:23-24).
 - d. If someone has a problem with somebody else and comes to me, I will send them to the person with whom they have the complaint. Jesus teaches in Matthew 18:15-17 that any disagreement, hurt, or misunderstanding between individuals should be first addressed strictly between those individuals. Only after one can not resolve an issue should anyone else be consulted.
2. I will be careful about how I interpret the words, attitudes and actions of others. If I have any misgivings, questions or concerns, I will ask them to clarify themselves. I will be careful not to assume...
 3. I will be careful not to judge other people's motives (Matthew 7:1).
 4. I will not gossip (Proverbs 11:13; 26:20; see also Psalm 141:3). I will seek to measure all my speech according to Ephesians 4:29.
 5. I will not send or pay attention to unsigned letters or notes. Information should always travel with a person's name so it can be cleared up if necessary. I will never circulate any letter of complaint (even signed) without having first exhausted the channels of communication with the leadership of the church.
 6. I will not manipulate; I will not be manipulated.
 7. I understand that I have to earn the right to speak truth into someone else's life. I will be careful to gauge my relationship first with any one to whom I feel the need to offer advise, constructive criticism, correction or rebuke. It may be advisable to seek counsel from my pastor or an elder before confronting a person.
 8. Before speaking difficult words to anyone, I will first pray for wisdom (James 1:5, 3:17), search my own heart to make sure my motives are pure (Proverbs 16:2), and know that anything I say must be birthed from love (Ephesians 4:15).
 9. If it's confidential, I won't tell. (Unless someone is harming himself or someone else.) (Proverbs 11:12-13)
 10. When in doubt about any decision of the church or church leadership, I will address my concern or question to the pastor, an elder, or appropriate church leader.
 11. I will not speak negatively about my church, church leaders, or my fellow church members, to those outside our church.
 12. Before I consider leaving the church, I will address any concern, misgiving, or hurt to the pastor or an elder. (Notice the order: BEFORE I consider leaving, not AFTER I have decided to leave.)

I will, to the best of my ability, seek to follow these principles in all my relationships in the body of Christ, and will submit to the admonition of the church leadership when I fail to do so.

name

date