

# Guidelines for Disciplining

Battle Ground Bible Church Children's Ministry

## Disciplinary Issues with Children and Students

**No Tolerance Rule:** when a student's behavior is a sinful and disruptive to others—physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually—action (discipline) needs to take place. "If" action needs to be taken this is the proper order of discipline:

1. Call to attention the Child's sinful behavior with a verbal confrontation.
2. Call child's parents to have them pick up the student [you may need to get contact information from ministry leader], and at this time you will discuss with the parent's their child's behavior and probation [see box to the left].
3. Call authorities to have them properly aid the student.

### Probation Period:

- 1<sup>st</sup> 1 week
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 3 weeks

Note: Your attitude in disciplining can determine or alter the student's response towards your disciplining. Discipline is done out of love and care to see the student overcome sin [cf. Hebrews 13:1-19]. Discipline needs to be dealt with in truth and grace [John 1:14]. An action done out of anger versus an action done out of love can tarnish God's glory, your church and reputation of your honesty, integrity and purity.

### Report Disciplinary issues with your respective ministry leadership:

- Sunday School Teachers report to Sunday School Superintendent.
- Children's Church Teachers report to Sunday School Superintendent.
- AWANA volunteers report to the AWANA Commander.
- Nursery volunteers report to the Nursery Director.
- FUEL leaders report to the Youth Director.
- *Ministry leaders must report to the Christian Education Director.*

## Disciplinary Issues with Children Student Leadership

There are times when teachers, leaders, or volunteers need to be confronted for their sinful actions or attitudes. The Bible has clear and effective guidelines to abide by in the process of disciplining sin. **Confrontation** for a believer must take place when ones attitudes and actions are contrary to Bible and in conflict with their/others spiritual walk. The Scriptural pattern is this and in this order (Mt. 18:15-20):

1. "between you and him alone" (v.15)
2. "take with you one or two more" (v.16)
3. "tell it to the church" (v.17a)
4. church discipline (v.17b)

*"Disciplining can be a great opportunity to teach about the **grace** and **truth** of Jesus Christ."*

Note: If the problem is solved in step one **stop there**. Do not begin at step two and so on, **unless** the problem is severe enough it already involves more people. When the discipline can be dealt with individually, deal with it individually. When the discipline dealt with in a church program inform the ministry leadership so that they are not ignorant of concern for the church body. Make sure that what you are confronting is biblical sin not personal preferences.