

Living the Life of a Leader

Expectations of Leadership in Youth for Christ/USA (YFC/USA)

YFC/USA has been called to evangelize young people and raise them up to be contributing leaders in the body of Christ. Our strategy focuses on practicing the 5 Essentials (Widespread Prayer, Loving Relationships, Faithful Bible Teaching, Collaborative Community Strategy, and Adults Who Empower) through community-embedded ministry sites. YFC/USA hires staff, recruits volunteers and depends on local boards to lead this evangelistic endeavor. In addition, YFC expects our staff, volunteers and board members to be involved in a local Christian faith community for fellowship as well as spiritual accountability. We consider each of these people who are called into the YFC/USA ministry to be charged to live by standards of Christian leadership. The Bible instructs us that grace is freely given and will ultimately be demonstrated in the life of every Christian. But the Scriptures also take those expectations to higher levels when it describes the life of a Christian leader.

Paul wrote to Titus with instructions on what to look for in a leader (Titus 1:7-9). Where YFC/USA is not a church in the traditional sense, we believe the same principles apply to our leadership of board members, ministry staff and volunteers. Though many scriptures speak to lifestyle standards, this passage in Titus summarizes the expectations given by the whole Bible regarding Christian leadership. *“For an overseer, as God’s steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.”*

The Bible instructs us that following Jesus Christ means we are not to be conformed to the world, *“... but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”* (Romans 12:2)

Further explanation of these principles is spelled out in other YFC documents, including the “YFC/USA Statement of Faith”, “YFC/USA Standards of Conduct” and “YFC/USA Employee Handbook”, whether local or National, that applies to each respective staff, volunteer or board member as stated in the Charter Covenant.

As leaders in the YFC/USA movement we are committed to hold each other mutually accountable to be the leaders we are called to be in Scripture. All failures to follow these standards will be addressed fairly and consistently, but behaviors that are non-compliant, unrepentant, and ongoing are of particular concern. Such individuals will not meet our qualifications for hiring or retention.

Staff, volunteers and board members: By signing below I acknowledge that I have read and agree with YFC/USA’s Statement of Faith and Standards of Conduct. For staff only, your signature also acknowledges you have read and agree with the applicable Personnel Handbook.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Board

Staff

Volunteer