

## **COMMITMENT TO CONFIDENTIALITY**

*A gossip betrays a confidence,  
but a trustworthy man keeps a secret (Prov. 11:13).*

The Bible teaches that Christians should carefully guard any personal and private information that others reveal to them. Protecting confidences is a sign of Christian love and respect (Matt. 7:12). It also discourages harmful gossip (Prov. 26:20), invites confession (Prov. 11:13), and thus encourages people to seek needed mentoring. Since these goals are essential to the ministry of the gospel and the work of the local church, all students and staff are expected to refrain from gossip and to respect the confidences of others regarding all information shared in counseling, training classes, and incidental conversation.

Because of its biblical nature and a commitment to honesty, Christian training encourages parties to openly and candidly confess their history. This requires an environment where parties may speak freely, without fear that their words may be used against them. All communications that take place during the Life Mentoring Training, shall be strictly confidential. This policy extends to all oral and written communications made by students, staff, or clients, and includes all records, reports, letters, notes, and other documents received or produced by *Life Ministries* or its parties.

Although confidentiality is to be respected as much as possible, there are times when it is appropriate to reveal certain information to others. In particular, when our leaders believe it is biblically necessary, they may disclose confidential information to appropriate people. *Life Ministries* may divulge appropriate and necessary information under the following circumstances, and the parties agree to waive confidentiality and hold the ministry harmless for doing so: (1) when, as part of its normal office operations, the Life Ministries Coordinator consults with its staff members or outside experts regarding particular issues or problems related to a case; (2) when compelled by statute or by a court of law; (3) when an action has been brought against *Life Ministries* as a result of its participation in a normal ministry activities.

the undersigned has read and agrees to this commitment,

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Signed

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Date