

Group Covenant



I, as a member and representative of both my home (or host) congregation and the whole body of Christ, agree with the following statements concerning the *Summer Serve* mission experience and promise to adhere to these expectations and guidelines. I understand that, should I fail to abide by this covenant, I could be sent home (at my parents' expense) prior to the event's completion according to the adult sponsors' discretion.

- I will respect the other youth – including their feelings, belongings, reputations, and all other aspects of their person
- I will respect the designated leaders and authorities, understanding that they make decisions for the benefit of the group at large, which may or may not be the decision I wanted
- I understand that the vehicle(s) we will be driving as well as the facilities we will be staying in do not belong to me personally and I will treat them with great care
- I will stay out of the sleeping rooms and in public activity areas unless I am sleeping, preparing to go to sleep, or getting ready for the day
- I understand that I am not allowed to bring the following items:
 - Illegal substances and alcohol
 - Undocumented prescription or non-prescription drugs
 - Weapons (including pocket knives)
- I understand that electronic devices will be allowed so long as they do not distract from my participation in *Summer Serve* – I will inform my adult leader before using an electronic device
- I will receive the permission of one of the adult leaders and take a (same-gender) buddy prior to separating from the group for any reason
- I understand that I am attending *Summer Serve* and I promise to participate in events, activities, service projects, Bible studies, and whatever other experiences are offered by *Summer Serve* staff and leaders (in other words, give 100% one hundred percent of the time!)
- If I get separated from my group, I will immediately contact one of the adult leaders
- Should I wish to make phone calls to friends or family who are not attending *Summer Serve*, I will make sure these calls do not distract from planned activities, nor will they interrupt the schedule of the group
- I will not be alone in a room with any person(s) of the opposite gender unless there is an adult leader present
- I will dress in such a way as to not cause my brothers or sisters of the opposite sex to lust (girls, this means one-piece or tankini swim suits; guys, this means no boxers hanging out!). In addition, I understand that this is a mission trip and on any given day, I may be engaging in activities that could damage clothing (such as painting, cleaning, etc.) so I will dress appropriately for working

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- I will not participate in sexual activity of any kind while on this youth event – including kissing, inappropriate touching, and/or sexual intercourse (*Summer Serve* is an inappropriate time for public displays of affection, as well)
- To the best of my ability, I will strive to refrain from using language that could be considered offensive (this includes inappropriate jokes *and* bad words)
- I understand that *Summer Serve* will be both exciting *and* exhausting and I will respect the curfews set forth by the adult leaders

The adult leaders are attending *Summer Serve* in order to shepherd and disciple me and, when necessary, to discipline me. I understand that the adult leaders are taking on the following responsibilities during this trip and I will hold them to the following standards in the same way that I expect them to hold me to my standards. “As an adult leader...”

- I will respect every aspect of the youths’ person, including listening to him or her and valuing his or her opinions, beliefs, and ideas
- I will strive to disciple more often than I discipline
- I understand that God has given me undeserved grace and I will hold this grace in mind as I interact with and (when necessary) correct youth
- I promise to hold myself to the same standards I expect the youth to follow

PARTICIPANT

By signing, I agree that I have read all of the above statements and agree with both their message and implications. I will abide by this covenant during my time as a participant in *Summer Serve 2015*.

Signature of Participant

Date

Printed Name of Participant

PARENT or GUARDIAN

By signing, I agree that I have read all of the above statements and agree with both their message and implications. I will support the adult leaders through prayer, encouragement, and support of the group’s covenant and its standards.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

Printed Name of Parent or Legal Guardian

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