

Communication Covenant

FAITH BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” (Ephesians 4:29)

1. Before I talk to anyone about any issue I will speak to the Lord first about the issue.

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” (James 1:5)

2. I won't 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 won't deal with conflict via email.

“There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.” (Proverbs 12:18)

3. I will not manipulate; I will not be manipulated.

“From the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way.” (James 3:10)

4. When in doubt about an issue, I will ask the appropriate people to achieve clarity.

“The mind of the prudent acquires knowledge, And the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.” (Proverbs 18:15)

5. If it's about you and confidential, I won't tell (unless someone is harming himself or someone else). If it is confidential about someone else see #9 below.

“He who conceals a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates intimate friends.” (Proverbs 17:9)

6. If I have a problem with another person, I will go to that person privately.

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.” (Matthew 18:15)

7. If individuals have a problem with me, I want them to come to me privately and I will be open when they come.

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.” (Matthew 18:15)

8. If I discover that someone has a problem with me I need to go to them.

“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.” (Matthew 5:23-24)

9. If someone has a problem with me, and goes to you, send the person to me. (I'll do the same for you.)

a. If someone hesitates to go, say, "Let's go together." (I'll do the same for you.)

"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift." (Matthew 5:23-24)

10. Be careful about how you interpret me—I'd rather help you interpret me. In turn, I will be careful about how I interpret you.

To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing. For, "The one who desires life, to love and see good days, Must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit. "He must turn away from evil and do good; He must seek peace and pursue it. "For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, And His ears attend to their prayer, But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." (1 Peter 3:8-12)