



# COUNSELLOR STANDARDS

## **Introduction**

Gospel Light Bible Camp (GLBC) is an organization of Christians who, because of our experience of God's grace and the tenets of our faith, are committed to showing the love of Christ through helping young people and children attain their full life potential, demonstrating our love and care for their whole person and encouraging them to serve God as fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. We cannot do this if we ourselves are not following Christ. Therefore, GLBC staff members and ministry volunteers must hold the Christian beliefs held by GLBC based on GLBC's understanding of the Bible and commit to remain faithful to Christ in our daily conduct.

*Please read this Counsellor Standards document and check the appropriate box on your onling application to confirm that you hold the beliefs and make the commitments set out in this document.*

## **Relationship with God**

We are committed to nurturing a deep personal relationship with the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit as a consistent, continuing priority.

## **Personal Wholeness**

We believe in the importance of whole person wellbeing: spiritual, physical, psychological, mental and emotional. We are committed to fostering personal wellbeing that sustains ongoing effective ministry and life.

## **Godliness**

We are committed to a maturing disposition, attitude and speech exemplified in our daily lifestyle that is characterized by the fruit of the Spirit and godliness, such as: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, mercy, humility, thankfulness, purity, seeking and granting forgiveness, and truthfulness in all dealings.



### **Family**

We believe and accept the Biblical instruction regarding the sacred trust of marriage and family. Therefore, we are committed to the priority of marriage, parental and immediate family relationships. **Respectful Treatment:** We believe that every person is made in the image of God and is to be treated with respect and dignity, and we commit to loving others as God loves us.

### **Speech**

We are committed to speech and action that reflect purity, helpfulness and encouragement. Recognizing that counsellors may have varying opinions as to what language or actions are offensive, we strive to use discernment and sensitivity. We prohibit the use of God's name in a way that dishonours his holiness.

### **Faith Community**

As members of the body of Christ, we are committed to consistently participating with our physical presence and active engagement in a local Christian body of believers or church.

### **Stewardship**

As stewards of God's creation and recipients of His material and financial blessings, we are committed to responsible stewardship and generosity.

### **Discernment**

Consistent with Biblical principles and teachings, we are committed to careful discernment, integrity and godly discretion in such areas as entertainment, media, social networking, personal online accounts and electronic communications.

### **Sexual Relations**

Recognizing sexuality as a gift from God, we are committed to the purity and sanctity of sexual relations within marriage which we believe is a committed union between one man and one woman which is created and consecrated in a public ceremony with vows to God and each other. We believe that all sexual activity outside of such marriage is against God's will for our lives. We also agree to abstain from impure practises such as sexually provocative dress or behaviour and/or the use of pornography in any form.



### **Unborn Life**

We believe that God creates each human being in his image and that life begins at conception. Therefore, we uphold the sanctity of all life, including that of the unborn.

### **Addictions**

In recognition that our bodies are God's temple, we commit to keeping our minds and bodies free from the control or influence of substances or activities that would cause our behaviour and/or thinking to be out of personal control and would cause impaired judgement and behaviours, for example by being under the influence of drugs or alcohol. We also recognize certain activities could become addictive and cause questionable judgement and we do not want any such to have ungodly control over us or damage our long-term wellbeing.

### **Occultism**

We believe and embrace the Biblical teaching about [1] accessing supernatural power and knowledge only through the triune God, and [2] prohibiting occultic practises such as witchcraft, astrology, and Satanism.

### **Promoting Otherwise**

We commit to not intentionally disrespect or misrepresent other people's beliefs and practices who do not agree with us. At the same time, we commit to refrain from promoting or implying acceptance of beliefs or practices incompatible with the GLBC Statement of Faith and these Counsellor Standards.

### **Encouraging Commitments**

We are committed to encouraging, supporting and challenging one another to honour and pursue these Standards. If any staff member or ministry volunteer violates these commitments, ceases to hold any of these beliefs, or demonstrates an unwillingness to keep these commitments, he or she should advise the Directors. The desired outcome is for the staff member or volunteer to return to a consistent pursuit of the Standards.