

Christian Brother Rules

Newpoint Partnership, Inc.

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As a Christian Brother, you are expected to live out the Christian life in thought and deed, fully recognizing that each of us is a new creation in Christ, but still has the old nature within us. We need to love one another, submit to one another, be accountable to one another, and do all we can to please God by what we think and do. All of this will help each of us to grow towards maturity in the Christian life and in a family setting. These guidelines, many with Scriptural references, have been developed to cover most of the expectations we have for you and for each other during your participation in the Newpoint Partnership program.

You are a part of this discipleship program because the Lord placed you here. You are under His full authority. By entering this program, you are also placing yourself under the authority of the Newpoint Partnership Executive Director and staff, your mentors and your local church. Titus 3:1-2 commands us "*to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.*" You must submit to the authority of the Residence Manager ("RM") and your local church, otherwise you are rebelling against God's authority (Romans 13:1-7; 2nd Peter 2:10). However, if you can show through the authority of the Scripture that any of these people are wrong in a particular decision, then they must submit to the Word of God. Otherwise, you must comply with their judgment. Remember that the scriptures teach biblical principles and we apply them to our lives in difficult situations in order to do what is right in the eyes of the Lord. The Scripture may not say word-for-word what you want it to say for your specific situation, but it will clearly imply what needs to be done in your particular situation. The RM and your mentor(s) are God's chosen vessels to point you to the truth and assist you in applying scriptures.

The Newpoint Partnership staff, volunteers and your local church leaders all want you to succeed and to be all that God has enabled you to be. They will assist you in any godly way they can, if able. If, however, you choose to not conform to the rules of the Newpoint program or are disobedient to those in authority over you, you will be subject to discipline. Discipline is provided as a training mechanism, not a punishment. The RM will issue a Disciplinary Report (DR) as he deems appropriate. Receipt of DRs may result in loss of privileges and/or removal from the Newpoint Partnership Program.

Newpoint Partnership is a biblical ministry, as is your local church. We are **not** a social service agency. We are directed solely by the authority of the Word of God. God's Word is final in all matters.

Christian Brothers are encouraged to think of what they can do and, even more, what God can do through them. We encourage each man to ponder the great and noble things God may be calling him to, and then to strive to fulfill that calling.

General Rules

1. Newpoint Partnership strives for excellence in all its operations to bring glory to God. Each Christian Brother is to do likewise. (1st Cor. 10:31, Col. 3:23)
2. You are expected to continually exemplify the highest standards of integrity during participation in the program. You are to be truthful, forthright and honest always about everything. (Proverbs 12:22)
3. We are representing Jesus Christ in our community. You must not demonstrate any appearance or behavior that does not bring glory to God (inappropriate clothing, cursing, foul language, littering, etc.).
4. We are working hard to build meaningful relationships with our neighbors. They need to know that we love them and are here to serve. It is very important that you avoid inappropriate joking and political or racial

comments. We want them to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ from us. Keep their confidence and anonymity as you pray for them and love them.

5. You are not to get involved in disagreements or altercations on the street or with neighbors. If there is an urgent situation, your role is to immediately solicit aid from the RM (or call 911) and pray. If someone is upset with you, bend, be flexible, diffuse the situation. We will discuss it as a family and go from there. Our goal is to love our neighbors into the light. Do not take sides in disputes.
6. We are a ministry and will conduct neighborhood outreaches and events. Christian Brothers will take an active role in planning and execution of these events to the extent they are not precluded from doing so by either work or school commitments.
7. Listen with care and keep your word with everyone. Be slow to speak, quick to listen and slow to wrath. Give them your attention when you are with them.
8. Clothing is to be worn properly. Top of pants must be at the waistline. No sexually suggestive, obscene, or foul language is permitted on clothing.
9. Each Christian Brother is required to attend church services and be in small group meetings and Bible studies.
10. Smoking and/or vaping is not permitted in Newpoint House or on Newpoint property.
11. The only drugs that may be consumed are medications prescribed by a licensed physician and over-the-counter medications as distributed by the RM. Consumption of any other drug is a violation and sufficient cause for termination of your participation. (Proverbs 20:1; 1st Corinthians 3:16)
12. Consumption of alcohol is not allowed and is sufficient cause for termination of your participation. (1st Corinthians 6:12, 19-20)
13. Pornography in any form (print, vocal or electronic) is not allowed and is sufficient cause for termination of your participation.
14. Gambling or playing the lottery is not allowed. (Hebrews 13:5)
15. Fights, threats, and/or aggressive behavior are strictly forbidden. (James 4:6, Mark 11:25)
16. Possession of weapons of any nature will terminate your participation. (Romans 8:5-6)
17. Be respectful of the property of others. Avoid borrowing or trading items.(Proverbs 22:7b)
18. Borrowing money is strongly discouraged and should never be done from Newpoint volunteers or other not connected to Newpoint house.
19. You are not to purchase or receive as a gift any electronic communications or media device unless approved by the RM and/or Executive Director (cell phones, tablets, etc.). (Proverbs 22:7b)
20. You are to be prepared and seated 5 minutes prior to all scheduled training or meetings unless given prior permission by the RM. Unless permitted by the leader, there is no eating during any training or meeting, and you are to be attentive and appropriately involved during each meeting or training session. (Proverbs 19:20)
21. You are to treat others with consideration and respect. This is particularly true for the RM, your mentors and others involved in your discipleship. (Romans 12:16-18, Philippians 2:1-5)
22. You are to heed the counsel and advice given by Newpoint staff and program volunteers (Prov. 15:22, 9:9)
23. Do not engage in any form of sexual activity apart from your legally wedded wife. (1st Corinthians 6:13; Hebrews 12:16)
24. Family and romantic relationships need to be put on hold to enter the Newpoint Partnership Program. This is necessary so your full attention will be on building a firm spiritual foundation that you will use for the rest of your life. A strong and intimate relationship with Jesus will provide you with the strength, wisdom

and character to properly lead a family and to succeed at the other endeavors God will lead you through. This restriction means you may not be able to spend holidays with your family and that time spent with them may be limited. This restriction also includes all of the following romantic behaviors:

- Going out with a female (Matthew 6:34; Philippians 4:6)
- Facebook (or similar platform) communications with a female
- Writing a letter or email or text to a female (unless required for work or school)
- Having a phone conversation with a female (unless required for work or school)

This involves being honest with yourself. Don't play the "just friends" game. This restriction may be adjusted at the discretion of the RM and Executive Director, but any adjustments are an earned privilege, not a right to be demanded, and will be based upon your proven, maturing Christian character.

25. Hold one another accountable. Edify (build up) your Brothers in the Lord.
26. You are in a discipleship program that requires a high level of accountability. A motor vehicle provides freedom of movement that has proven to be deleterious to many returning citizens. Therefore, a motor vehicle may only be obtained with the consent of the Executive Director, based upon your need, your ability to financially support the purchase and operation of the vehicle, and your proven, maturing Christian character.
27. You must obtain a pass from the RM and your CSO to be away from Newpoint House for anything other than items related to the Newpoint Partnership Program (school, employment, classes/church services, community service, etc). This is for your own protection and is part of being a responsible and accountable family member. See the Newpoint Partnership Pass Policy for further clarification.
28. The name, address and phone number of your employer and supervisor, as well as your pay period and work schedule are to be given to the RM and kept on file.
29. In order to protect yourself, you are to abstain from communication with former inmates not approved by the Executive Director and your CSO. Accountability in all areas is key. (1st Peter 2:13a, 17a)
30. Consistent fellowship in an approved church, and fellowship and discipleship with others involved in your discipleship is required and will help you build ongoing self-confidence, lessen negative temptations, and provide encouragement during your participation. Church attendance and relationships will also prepare you to live triumphantly when you complete your time of discipleship. (Hebrews 3:13; 10:24-25)
31. You and any guest of yours are to log every entry onto and exit from the Newpoint House property. Entries must be made at the time of occurrence and may not be entered in advance or backdated.
32. You are to follow directions and advice from staff members.
33. You are to honor the confidentiality and privacy of other Christian Brothers, Newpoint staff, and volunteers.
34. You are to avoid making unreasonable demands.
35. You are to keep appointments or promptly coordinate any necessary changes.
36. You are to take an active part in the Newpoint Partnership program. Newpoint Partnership's Christian Brother Program is meant to assist you but it cannot and will not replace the requirement for you to work diligently to fulfill God's call on your life and your personal goals.
37. Sin struggles may require professional biblical counseling and accountability measures (e.g., no computer or smart phone). The Christian Brother is expected to willingly comply with any such determination by Newpoint staff.
38. You are to communicate to the RM immediately incidents that were or can be harmful to you and/or others. This includes physical, emotional, spiritual or psychological harm.
39. The following are *Scriptural Principles for Any Task*. They should be memorized so you can develop the habit of using them:

- a) Take initiative - be pro-active, not reactive
 - b) Follow through - don't leave things to chance
 - c) Deliver - finish what you start
 - d) Keep your eyes wide open - be aware of your environment and circumstance
 - e) Be concerned with details - small details can make or break a plan
 - f) Pour your heart into everything you do - have a good attitude and strong work ethic
 - g) Check your work, AFTER you believe it is completed - be care-full
 - h) Always have a plan of protection - build a fence and abide by it...always
 - i) Do all things as unto Jesus
40. In the event a Christian Brother leaves the program, all Newpoint Partnership branded clothing is to be immediately returned to the RM to avoid a charge for its replacement. This requirement may be waived by the Executive Director.

Newpoint House Related Rules

- 41. Overnight time away from Newpoint House must be approved in writing by the RM and your CSO and is dependent on the Christian Brother's current situation.
- 42. Newpoint may search personal belongings and/or require drug/alcohol testing at any time. Refusing to allow a search or drug/alcohol testing will result in immediate removal from Newpoint House and the Newpoint Partnership program.
- 43. Newpoint House is our safe haven, so unless **prior** approval is obtained from Newpoint staff, there are to be no visitors or guests in Newpoint House. If approval is obtained, the visitors/guests are limited to use of the first floor public rooms.
- 44. If you are the last person leaving Newpoint House, ensure ALL doors and windows are closed and locked.
- 45. Turn off all appliances (lights, fan, etc.) when leaving a room. (Proverbs 10:4)
- 46. Newpoint House is monitored by video recording devices, which may be provided to the appropriate authorities if necessary.
- 47. No candles, open flame, or incense is allowed.
- 48. When outside your room you must have on at least a t-shirt and shorts.
- 49. Approved television programming is:
 - News and news related specials
 - Sporting events (baseball, football, etc.)
 - Christian television stations
 Other movies and television programs may be allowed by the RM on a case-by-case basis. Movies and television programs that are sexually explicit or contain foul language are not allowed. (Matt. 5:28)
- 50. Computer usage may be limited by the RM.

Food/Drink

- 51. Newpoint will endeavor to provide family style breakfasts and dinners for all Christian Brothers. Food for lunch will generally be available but is the responsibility of the individual. Much of this food will come from our area's America's Second Harvest food bank, so the menus may vary considerably. The balance of food needs will be bought or obtained by donation. If a Christian Brother has a specific food requirement or desire, this will be his personal responsibility. Unless medically required by a licensed physician, all Christian Brothers are to eat the group meals prepared for breakfast and dinner.
- 52. Food is to be prepared and consumed at meal times. No snacking except while watching TV.

53. No food is to be consumed anywhere except in the dining room or kitchen, with two exceptions: a) drinks are OK elsewhere if coasters are used, and b) chips/snacks may be consumed in the living room while watching TV. These exceptions may be removed by the RM if Newpoint House cleanliness is degraded.
54. Everything dirtied during a meal is to be cleaned up immediately after the meal. Nothing may be left for cleaning at a later time.
55. Christian Brothers are to comply with Newpoint's ServSafe qualified manager's directives regarding all food preparation and storage.
56. The pantry must be kept clean and neat. Older items should be used first to avoid waste. Outdated items should be brought to the attention of the RM.

Newpoint House Cleanliness & Environment

57. Keep the house clean and neat at all times. Clean up after yourself. Wipe out the bathroom sink, shower, tub and mirror after each use.
58. Do not alter the thermostat. If there is an issue with temperature, speak with the RM. Space heaters may not be used.
59. Laundry, including bed linens, is to be done weekly or when you have a full load, whichever occurs first.
60. Do not move furniture or hang things on the wall without the approval of the RM.
61. If the indoor garbage or recycling can is full, take it out to the appropriate bin.
62. Scheduled chores are to be done on time and with a good attitude.
63. Keep your living space clean and neat. Clothes must fit in your closet and/or dresser and may not be left lying about your room. A hamper is provided for your dirty clothes. Keep your desk and night stand clean and neat. (Ecclesiastes 9:10; Proverbs 10:4)
64. Be considerate of others. For example, keep noise levels down and activities to a minimum after 10:00p.m. You are to be home by 9:00pm Sunday thru Thursday, and 10:00pm Friday and Saturday unless given permission by the RM to alter these times. (James 3:17-18)
65. All Christian Brothers will work to ensure Newpoint House is a pest-free residence. If any pest or evidence of any pest is noticed, immediately inform the RM. The RM will take appropriate action, up to and including obtaining professional services.

Miscellaneous

66. Doctor prescribed medications are stored in a locked container maintained by the RM. It is the Christian Brother's responsibility to request and take the appropriate medication from the RM as directed by his physician. See the Newpoint Partnership Medication Policy for further clarification.

I, _____ understand the above rules, agree to be bound by them and any updates to them, and understand that my failure to comply with them may result in discipline up to and including my removal from Newpoint House and the Newpoint Partnership program.

I also understand that the rules stated in this document may be supplemented by documents, received and signed by me, that contain additional details about the specific areas they cover.

Christian Brother's Signature

Date

Newpoint Staff (Signature)

Date

Newpoint Staff / Title (Print)