

Disciplining Students in the Teen Challenge Program

Course Syllabus

3rd Edition

Course Description

This ten lesson course is designed to help staff understand the Biblical principles of discipline used in the Teen Challenge residential programs.

Objectives

By the end of this course:

1. The staff will understand how his/her past personal experiences of discipline can influence his/her current views on discipline.
2. The staff will understand the Biblical principles of discipline that provide a foundation for the discipline structure used in the Teen Challenge residential program.
3. The staff will understand the role of the staff in the discipline process.
4. The staff will survey the different methods of discipline used in the Teen Challenge residential setting.
5. The staff will understand the Teen Challenge National Standards of Accreditation that relate to the discipline process used in the Teen Challenge residential setting.
6. The staff will learn how to assess a method of discipline and its desired outcome and learn how to document the results.

The Method of Study

1. Teaching methods will include lecture and student-centered discussion.
2. Case studies of discipline situations will be used to help staff understand the elements of discipline in the TC setting.
3. Weekly projects will be assigned to prepare for the next class session or follow up on issues covered in the last class session.

Requirements for the course

1. Complete projects in study guide as assigned by the teacher The text (student manual) is required for this course. Additional reading assignments may be required for some lessons.
2. A research project will be assigned based on additional information provided by your teacher.

Outline of the Course

I. Discipline in your life

—a look at your childhood experiences of being disciplined

II. Principles of discipline

- A. The need for discipline
 - 1. Biblical reasons
 - 2. Three stages of obedience
 - a. Obey because you were told to do it
 - b. Obey and discover the main reason why you were told to do it
 - c. Obey on your own because it is the right thing to do.
 - 3. Three stages of discipline
 - a. Self discipline
 - b. Discipline by others
 - c. Discipline by God
- B. Setting of discipline
 - 1. In context of meaningful relationships
 - 2. In context of damaged relationships
 - 3. Delusion/denial/rebellion
- C. The main goals of discipline
 - 1. Change
 - 2. What motivates a person to want to change?
 - 3. Punishment vs correction
 - 4. Redemptive discipline
- D. Consequences of actions
- E. The attitudes of the staff

III. Role of staff in discipline

- A. Understanding authority
- B. Self image of the staff
- C. Avoiding the wrong kind of help – Enabling
- D. Understanding cultural differences
- E. Communicating with Godly love

IV. Methods of discipline

- A. Teen Challenge Accreditation Standards related to discipline
- B. Local center policy & procedures
 - 1. Rules for the students
 - 2. Policies on discipline
 - 3. Documenting discipline given to students
- C. Overview of methods of discipline
 - 1. Counseling
 - 2. Educational projects
 - 3. Loss of privileges
 - 4. Work detail assignments
 - 5. Discipline for major violations
- D. Prohibited disciplinary procedures
- E. How to assign appropriate discipline
 - 1. Student reactions to the discipline
 - 2. When to give the discipline
 - 3. How to document the discipline
 - 4. Offer your student a choice between 2 disciplines
 - 5. Tie your discipline to personal character development

V. Making discipline effective

- A. Show love and concern
- B. Avoid favoritism
- C. Stay calm during a problem
- D. Be aware that you are dealing with difficult people
- E. Patience vs. frustration
- F. Confronting conflict
- G. Making mercy (grace) an important part of your program

VI. Special situations in discipline

- A. Special challenges of being a new staff--the need for training & mentoring
- B. Confession vs. denial
- C. Evidence gathering & assessing
- D. Confidentiality
- E. When do you call the police?
- F. When do you discipline the whole group?
- G. Disciplining students with a background of abuse

Class project Option 1: - Biblical view of discipline

Identify at least 10 scriptures which related to: - What is God's view of discipline?
Explain how the key truths from each scripture should impact discipline in the TC setting.