



# **Student Handbook**

Life Challenge  
6500 Hope Road  
Amarillo, TX 79119  
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# Life Challenge of Amarillo:

The essence of the Life Challenge program is the love of Jesus Christ. The goal is a re-direction of lifestyle, brought about through strict discipline, balanced with genuine love, faith, mentoring, and work therapy. The program aims toward the transformation of the whole man: spirit, soul, and body.

Our home seeks to be as non-institutional as possible because the rehabilitation process must take place on an individual basis. In this way, the Christ-like love and care of the staff creates an atmosphere which allows healing a chance to work in each individual's life.

## **WHAT TO EXPECT**

1. Sincerity: If you want to play games, we cannot help you.
2. Honesty: If you are accepted into the program, you and your belongings will be thoroughly searched. We also need to know if you are in any legal trouble. It will not necessarily hurt your chances to become a resident, and we may be able to help you.
3. Commitment: Be prepared to put yourself totally into the program and stay for the completion which is a minimum of 12-14 months. Completion is based on final evaluation. When you enter the LC Center, you are placing yourself in our hands. We take our responsibility seriously.

## **WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT OF US**

1. Genuine Love and Concern: We are glad you are coming to LC. We will do all that we can to help and encourage you.
2. Discipline and Guidance: We believe that we can help you to re-direct your life. We assume that if you are here, you want to change in a real way, and you are asking us to have a part in bringing this change about.
3. A Testimony of Jesus Christ: The whole program revolves around Jesus and the Bible. We do not want to "shove religion down your throat," but you need to know that the help you are looking for will come from Jesus.

# General Policies

- RESPECT YOUR COMMITMENT TO GOD AND THE PROGRAM
- RESPECT YOURSELF
- RESPECT OTHERS
- RESPECT THE PROPERTY

1. All local laws must be kept.
2. Possession of drugs, alcohol, tobacco (in any form), materials, or weapons of any kind, including knives and scissors are prohibited.
3. By virtue of your enrollment in Life Challenge, you have agreed to submit (live by) the rules of the program. 24-hour supervision is maintained.
4. Everything here is God's property and you are expected to treat it as such. Only staff is permitted to operate equipment including air conditioners, heaters, fans, sound equipment/instruments. You are expected to protect, maintain, and conserve the building, van, all equipment, and the utilities.
5. The Bible teaches us to put off the flesh (old way of living) and not put stumbling blocks before others. Therefore, bragging about your past life and talking or singing about counterculture (drugs, rock and roll, partying, sexual experiences, etc.) is prohibited. Furthermore, the staff reserves the right to dispose of or send home any personal items that might hinder the successful attainment of the above in your life or in the lives of those around you (all drug related articles are prohibited – posters, shirts, incense, etc.).
6. Everyone must follow the daily schedule and be on time to each activity. If tardiness is unchecked it leads to poor habits so it will result in disciplinary action.
7. Morning Prayer is a time to seek and talk with God. You are to be kneeling in the classroom/prayer room. You should not be writing letters or studying for your test at this time. Prayer lists are encouraged. The prayer wheel and Bible may be used.
8. Students are not allowed to keep money on them at any time. All money, and wallets will be stored in your name in the Administrative office. If you desire to know the amount in your account or need personal items, you may fill out a Student Request Form.
9. The following are not permitted at Life Challenge: cell phones, candy, gum, vitamins, vehicles, radios, CD's, IPod, tape players, TV's, Smart watch, flashlights, reading lamps, and personal cups. In addition, personal books, magazines or any other printed material is not permitted. Only a Bible, devotionals, and the teaching materials that are provided by Life Challenge are allowed. You are allowed to have a "clear" water bottle for water only. This bottle must have your name on it and must stay in your room or with you at all times.
10. 1<sup>st</sup> month students are not permitted to be together in pairs either on or off campus and must be in the company of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or 4<sup>th</sup> month students at all times.
11. Lying on the entrance application may be grounds for dismissal.

# General Rules

Read the Life Challenge Student Handbook routinely throughout your time in the program and be familiar with the contents. These rules are not all inclusive and are subject to change based on individual program needs and the needs of the center. If you have questions or need assistance, ask the staff person on duty. The Executive Director's decisions, under the authority of the Board of Directors, are final.

## Policy

You will have to kick "cold turkey" off drugs, alcohol and tobacco at the Center. There will be a staff worker available to pray with you as you are coming off drugs. If you feel you need to detox, discuss this with the staff before entering Life Challenge.

Remember, that you are not forced to stay at LC. You can leave if you so desire. We are never happy when this happens because we do want each of you to make it. If you decide to leave, you might first consider our 30 day wait policy on acceptance if you want to return. If you want to return and have any court issues, they must be resolved before you can return. Students choosing to leave the program or are dismissed will not receive a phone call for transportation.

## Behavior

1. No student will be admitted to the program if he arrives "high."
2. No secular music, no gambling, no playing cards, no books or magazines, music and reading materials will be provided by the Center. Only Christian music is allowed.
3. No music players, radios, or televisions are allowed.
4. No profane language or bragging about past life.
5. No witchcraft, astrology, or anything related to devil worship.
6. No back talk or arguing with the staff members.
7. Address others with respect.
8. STAFF – Staff (including volunteers) and their spouses must be addressed with proper respect; (A) male members "Brother" (B) female members "Sister".
9. Proper care of Life Challenge property is expected at all times. Students are financially responsible for any malicious damage.
10. Be kind and courteous to others even if they do not act that way to you. Bring complaints to staff on duty.
11. Do not develop new relationships with women. This year is to work on your own issues. Girlfriend relationships are stopped upon entrance into the program unless approved upon written request. Unsafe relationships may be refused visitation/phone calls.

# General Boundaries

1. Office, storage rooms, and the kitchen, are off limits to students unless assigned to work there. Students that are assigned may be in those areas only during scheduled work times. You must receive permission from the staff on duty to go to the office.
2. No one is allowed outside after 9:30 or after dark.
3. When anyone “appears” on the property, inform a staff member immediately.
4. If a staff member is off duty, do not knock on their door. Ask the staff member on duty for any of your needs. In an emergency, a senior student may knock on another staff member’s door.
5. When walking/running, you may use the paved area surrounding dorms and Dining Hall. Areas allowed outside of the paved area include: pond, classroom/weight room, library.
6. Leaving the grounds or being out of the boundaries without permission is interpreted as a decision to terminate your involvement with Life Challenge. Breaking this rule will constitute automatic dismissal.

# Administration Office

1. The administration office is for taking care of business and is frequented by visitors. Therefore, all students are asked to be considerate and quiet.
2. All needs, questions, appointments, etc. are to be handled through the staff on duty.
3. Students are not permitted in the office without permission from the staff on duty.

# Marriage Relationships

It is part of our program to provide mentoring sessions with both husband and wife. Visits by spouse not in the program are subject to same regulations as all other visits. Our purpose in working with married couples is to establish them in a Christ-Centered marriage. Marriage certificate must be in our files for proof of marriage.

Goals for married couples who wish to be mentored:

1. To acquaint both parties with the LC Program.
2. To work out any problems.
3. To get to know each other better.
4. During the second phase MARRIED students are allowed one (1) overnight pass every 30 days based on prior staff approval.

When a married person comes into the program, he or she must leave family problems outside until they can be dealt with in a mentoring session. Commit spouse and children to God.

# Personal Appearance

The Bible says in Romans 12:2, “and be no more conformed to the patterns of this world.” This means no baggy, saggy pants, untied shoes, toboggans, bandanas, or anything else that identifies you with the drug culture.

1. Everyone is expected to shower and shave daily. Personal uncleanness will not be tolerated. Showers are to be limited to 5 minutes and should be in the evenings.
2. Your hair must be moderate in length, and style. It cannot be in your eyes, halfway covering your ears, or below the middle of the ear. Beards, side burns, or facial hair of any kind is not allowed while a student at Life Challenge. You may not give yourself or another student a haircut (including shaving your head), bleach, or dye your hair while at Life Challenge.
3. Clean and appropriate clothing must be worn at all times. Shirt tails must be tucked in and shoes and socks are required at all times. You must wear a belt.
4. White T-shirts are not allowed. Sweat shirts and sweat pants are not permitted in the classroom, chapel, or dining hall. Tank tops and sleeveless shirts are prohibited at all times.
5. In cold weather, all students must wear a jacket and appropriate clothing.
6. Hats and sunglasses may be worn for protection from weather and sun only and are prohibited in the building.
7. Leave your jewelry at home (bracelets, rings, necklaces, etc.). Watches (excluding smart watches) and wedding rings are permitted.
8. Ear or Body piercing is prohibited at Life Challenge. Women may wear earrings only.
9. Collared shirts or sweaters are required for class and chapel. You may not wear white under-shirts, sleeveless shirts, T-shirts or sweat shirts for class or chapel. T-shirts with band logos, sexual innuendos, and drug and/or alcohol references are not permitted on any occasion.
10. Jeans **without** holes, graffiti or other designs associated with various sub-cultures are permitted for class and chapel unless otherwise noted.
11. Shorts such as golf type shorts may be worn in warm weather months. Athletic style shorts and sweatpants are not permitted for class or chapel.
12. Belt, socks, underwear are required – slouch look in trousers or shorts will result in the required use of suspenders.
13. Tight and revealing clothes are not to be worn. Spandex is not allowed unless underneath clothing and not visible.

## WHAT TO BRING...

Due to limited space, this is the **maximum** number of items allowed.

Below is a list of Items you will need:

### **CLOTHING:**

- 2 pairs of jeans
- 3 pairs of dress pants
- 5 pairs of work pants
- 5 work shirts
- 3 long sleeve dress shirts
- 2 suits/ or suit jackets
- 5 polos
- 2 belts
- 2 tie's
- 1 coat or jacket
- 1 hoodie
- 3 pair shorts
- 1 pair sweat pants
- 1 pair work gloves
- 2 hats
- 2 beanies (for winter)

### **SHOES:**

- 1 Tennis Shoes (sports, working)
- 1 Casual Shoes (school)
- 1 Dress Shoes (church)
- 1 Dress boots
- 1 Work boots (pref. not steel toe).

### **UNDERGARMENTS:**

- 7 T-shirts
- 7 Underwear
- 3 Pairs dress socks
- 7 Pairs of white socks (work)

### **GENERAL:**

- NIV or ESV Bible
- Postage stamps
- Calling card
- Ink pens & pencils
- One package of 3x5 index cards
- 3-ring notebook binder
- Hangers
- Alarm clock (without radio)

### **PERSONAL ITEMS:**

- Shampoo
- deodorant (non-aerosol)
- shaving cream
- disposable razors
- toothpaste
- toothbrush
- dental floss
- cotton swabs
- 2 towels
- 2 wash cloths
- foot powder
- nail clippers
- laundry soap
- laundry bag
- soap
- Mouthwash with alcohol is **not** permitted

### **WHAT NOT TO BRING:**

Cell phone, DVD's, electronics, personal books or magazines, inappropriate personal pictures, smart watch, products with alcohol, vehicles, pets, playing cards, tobacco, bedding, blankets, pillow

### **YOU WILL ALSO NEED:**

Bring a recent picture of yourself if you have one. **SOCIAL SECURITY CARD, PICTURE I.D. OR DRIVER'S LICENSE & MARRIAGE LICENSE IF MARRIED.**

# Dining Room

1. Only those students having assigned kitchen duties are permitted in the kitchen.
2. Students assigned to the kitchen are not to consume food or drink while on duty. Water is permitted.
3. Students assigned to cooking or cleaning duties in the kitchen and dining room are to complete their duties as scheduled and remain in the area they are working in until their assignment is completed.
4. All meals will be served in the dining room at the scheduled times. You are expected to be at all meals on time unless you have approval because you are laid in sick.
5. Each student must eat all the food on his plate
6. Students are not allowed to share food or drinks (for protection from communicable diseases).
7. You are expected to return your plates back to the dirty dish container and throw away your trash. If you make a mess, you are expected to clean up after yourself.
8. No food or drinks are allowed out of the dining area (except water bottle).
9. If you desire to fast a meal, please fill out a request with an explanation of why you want to fast at least one day in advance.
10. You must get everything you need for a meal the first time you are through the line. You must ask the staff on duty to return to the line/kitchen for any reason.
11. No entrance into Dining Hall until 15 min. prior to meal time.
12. Must remain seated until excused.

# Church

1. Chapel is a time of reverence to the Lord and everyone is expected to participate in worship, focusing your attention on the Lord and those conducting the services.
2. Bring your bible, take sermon notes, and be there 5 minutes prior to chapel time.
3. Students are to enter quietly and pray upon arriving.
4. Talking during chapel or leaving is not permitted until service is over. Chewing gum and candy are not allowed in church services.
5. All restroom needs are to be tended to before any meeting begins.
6. Classroom attire: Slacks (jeans are acceptable), collared shirts (must be tucked in unless it has a "V" at the bottom), dress shoes, belt, and clothing must not have holes. Unless otherwise noted.
7. Church attire: Suit, button up shirt, dress shoes, and belt (unless otherwise noted).

# Bathroom Courtesy

Be considerate of others waiting to use the bathroom. Throw out papers, straighten the bathmat, and rinse the tub and sink before you leave, always leaving it clean for the next person. Replace the empty roll of toilet paper. Always, wash your hands before leaving the bathroom.

# Dorm

1. Absolutely NO ONE is allowed in another student's room or to stand in their doorway.
2. Beds are made before breakfast and kept that way all day, and lights turned off.
3. Rooms must be clean, neat, and organized at all times and may be checked at any time. You will be graded on room cleanliness. You are not permitted to rearrange furniture anywhere at any time. No clothes or any other items are allowed on the bed except bedding materials. Towels or any other items are not to be hung on the bed. Shoes must be in the closet or under the bed. Dressers, night stand tops, and baths should be neat and organized. Where possible, store items away. Pictures must be kept in a drawer.
4. NOTIFY STAFF: When you see someone feeling extremely troubled, or about to leave, get in touch with staff. Remember, this is your home, if you do not protect it, who will? Report any drugs on the property immediately.
5. Everyone will be assigned a chore. If chores are not completed properly, you will be required to complete it properly during your own time. All cleaning solution must be mixed by staff only.
6. Personal devotions begin at 9:30 p.m. in your room. Students should be ready for bed and finished in the bathrooms by this time. Talking is allowed up to devotion time at 9:30 p.m. Lights out at 10:00 p.m.
7. Students may not share or trade clothing with other students. If you have need for clothing and cannot afford it, you will be allowed a visit to the Blessings Room upon staff approval.
8. If you are the last person leaving a room, you must turn off all lights and fans.
9. From 10:00 p.m. until 6:30 a.m. you are expected to remain in your dorm. If you are found any place other than your room or the bathroom, you will be considered off premises without permission. Showers should be taken in the evening. No talking after 9:30 p.m. Wake up time is 5:30 a.m. unless work schedule dictates earlier time.
10. No loud talking or congregating to talk in the hallway or bathroom. You are to be considerate when people are sleeping.
11. Bare feet are not permitted at all.
12. You must be fully dressed before leaving your room (shirt, pants, belt, socks, and shoes).
13. Windows and blinds are to remain closed at all times unless approved by staff. You are NOT permitted to walk around in your underwear.

## Fire Alarm Procedure

1. Walk, don't run, to the nearest exit.
2. Close all (doors and windows) and turn off lights in your location.
3. Remain outside at the flag pole until instructed to return.

**NOTE: NOTIFY A STAFF MEMBER IMMEDIATELY – IN CASE OF A FIRE.**

# Laundry

Laundry will be done on Saturdays if the schedule permits at a time designated by staff. Items should be moved to dryer and then removed promptly.

## Telephone and Mail Policies

1. You may call collect to your family after two weeks. Special consideration will be given to those who do not have family. Calls are limited to one 15-minute call per week.
2. The names, addresses, and phone numbers of your family members or other approved correspondents must be recorded for your file. Mail received from persons not on your approved list except for pastors and lawyers will be returned to sender. Mail is given out Monday – Friday at 5:00pm.
3. Outgoing mail will be reviewed & mailed at the staffs' earliest convenience.
4. Calls may be dialed by staff or student at the discretion of the staff member and logged. No third party calls allowed. Phone cards are allowed.
5. All calls are made on Saturday or Sunday as our schedule permits. Calls will be made on a first come first serve basis. Calls are monitored and can be made to immediate family only.
6. It is your responsibility to hang up the phone at the end of the 15 minutes.
7. All incoming and outgoing mail must have a return name & address and will be monitored (opened and inspected by staff).
8. Incoming mail will be monitored and all students' personal money will be deposited in the students account and kept in the administrative office. If your intake fee is not paid, you may be required to make payments until it is paid in full.
9. Girlfriends and Fiancées are not permitted on phone, mail, or visitation lists without prior approval while you are a student at Life Challenge.
10. Extended phone time may be given to out of state children/spouses when they aren't able to visit if request is approved.

## Family Day

1. Family Day is the last Saturday of the month from 1:00pm – 4:00pm with approved family after 1 month as a resident in Life Challenge. Only approved family may visit with a maximum of six per visitation.
2. Visitors are expected to check in at the Administration Office upon arrival; check in any money, personal property, and gifts to the students through the staff person on duty. All money will be kept in the administrative office.
3. Visitors are expected to follow the general rules. Family members are prohibited from using e-cigarettes, tobacco and cigarettes must not be displayed in view of public (dashboards, etc.). No animals, musical instruments or barbeques are permitted.
4. Visitors must stay in the visiting area on the campus. No visitors are allowed in the dorms or students room. It is the student's responsibility to inform family of the visitation boundaries.
5. Cell phones are not to be used during your visit with family.

6. Inappropriate dress or physical contact between a student and his wife or any visitor is prohibited. Dress code must be modest. No revealing neck line, bare midriff, or tight-fitting clothes. A tight garment is not modest no matter how much it covers.
7. Students that do not have visitors are not permitted to visit with other families.
8. Children must be supervised at all times and rocks are not to be thrown in the pond.

NOTE: Any violation of these guidelines or any other student rules may result in termination of visiting privileges. We have the right to refuse visits if a visitor is under the influence.

## Relationships

1. Students are not allowed to develop romances or special relationships while in the program.
2. There will be no paring off with a member of the opposite sex. You must stay with the group. Speaking with the opposite sex is NOT allowed.
3. Telephone numbers and addresses are not to be exchanged with anyone as you are not allowed to have any contact with them.
4. Students are not allowed to invite members of the opposite sex as special guests, except for immediate family. You will not have ANY communication (visits or mail) with girlfriends or fiancés. With PRIOR approval from the Director, the mother/father of your children MAY be allowed.

## Off Campus Activities

1. All students must assemble in the designated area 5 minutes prior to announced departure time for all off-campus activities. **Please use the restroom before departure time.**
2. Everyone must stay together as a group. All students sit together. Special permission must be obtained from the staff on duty to leave the group at any time (to use the restroom, etc.). 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> month students must be partnered with 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> month students. You must always be with a partner. You must never be alone.
3. At all services you are expected to focus your attention on those conducting the service. You are not to stare at the people around you.
4. Talking during the church services is not permitted. The 15 minutes prior to services is to be used to pray and prepare to seek God.
5. Students are encouraged to respond to altar calls. When responding to go forward, tell the staff and they will provide permission. Testimonies are not to be given without approval from the staff. Questions about service text should be directed to staff once we return home.
6. Students are not permitted to speak with the opposite sex, visit with, give or receive phone numbers or addresses from anyone they meet during any type of service. To help churches be good stewards of resources, we request that you do not fill out visitor cards, take church pens, bulletins, candy, or raise your hand indicating that you are a visitor.
7. The dress code for Sunday's includes wearing a button-down dress shirt, neck tie, khaki dress pants, and dress shoes. All other services you are to wear a polo shirt, khaki dress pants, and dress shoes (or nice casual shoes, no tennis shoes).

8. While traveling in the van, there is to be no spitting out the window, staring at women, or touching the radio or heat & air controls

## Work Ethic Training

1. Everyone is expected to be on time for work and put tools away when the job is completed.
2. Complete your chores or work assignments to the best of your ability 3 times a day.
3. After completing your chore, you are expected to report to your supervisor for another assignment.
4. Your work will be evaluated in two areas: Performance and Attitude.

## Recreation

1. Recreation is an important part of the program and is scheduled for your physical, emotional, and spiritual health. No recreation on Sundays.
2. You are required to be on time, to wear tennis shoes and be dressed appropriately.
3. You may be eligible to use the weights after 2 weeks during recreation/ free time. Weights may be used a maximum of 3 times a week.
4. All weights and equipment must be returned to its proper place at the end of recreation time.
5. Students are not permitted in the weight room alone.

## Medical and Medication

1. Life Challenge is a drug-free facility. Only non-narcotic medication prescribed by a physician and over the counter medicines for minor illnesses approved by Life Challenge will be allowed. Vitamins and personal medicines are prohibited.
2. All medication will be stored in the administrative office according to state law, and will be given out 10 minutes prior to breakfast, lunch, and dinner unless otherwise prescribed. It is the responsibility of the student and/or his family to provide either the correct amount of medication for the duration of his stay at Life Challenge or to ensure that refills are obtained and sent to the student. Life Challenge cannot admit any students who currently have communicable diseases such as, but not limited to: MRSA Staph, TB, and Influenza.
3. Life Challenge is not a medical facility; therefore, any major medical problems that may arise while you are here will constitute release from the program and referral to a medical facility of your choice for treatment at your expense.
4. If you are sick:
  - You must personally tell the staff on duty to obtain permission to stay in bed.
  - You must remain in bed all day. You will be served cereal and juice for breakfast and soup and crackers for lunch and dinner in bed.

# Student Rights

You do not waive your rights as a citizen when you enter Life Challenge. The right to confidentiality is recognized by our facilities and no part of this chapter is intended to neither contravene nor violate applicable federal, state and local statutes or ordinances pertaining to a person's civil and human rights. Where a conflict exists between adopted student rights, policy procedures, and standards and applicable federal, state and local statutes or ordinances, statutes or ordinances shall prevail.

You have the right to a safe environment in which to grow and mature in Christ when you enter Life Challenge. You may file a grievance if you feel that your rights have been violated by being subjected to inappropriate behavior such as physical, verbal or sexual abused by another student, staff or volunteer. Such complaints and grievances shall be filed by using the following procedures.

Write out your grievance or complaint on paper within 24 hours of the incident indicating all the circumstances relevant to the complaint. (Students who cannot read or write are entitled to have an individual assist them in the process.) Hand the complaint to the staff in charge where they will put it in to Executive Director, Program Director or designee for review. You will be able to meet with the Director or designee at some point in the investigative process to discuss the details of the complaint or grievance. This investigative process shall take place within 24 hours on week days and within 72 hours on weekends. Any action required on the complaint or grievance will be addressed within seven days of staff notification.

## Discipline

1. All infractions of the rules will be written up.
2. Write ups will not always result in disciplinary action but may result in a written warning.
3. Minor offenses are violations of any of the policies and procedures such as leaving lights on, tardiness, talking during study hall, etc.
4. Major offenses are being out of bounds, using foul language, any verbal or physical threats, or any repeated infraction of any of the policies and procedures.

### Standard Disciplines

- Initial written warning
- Loss of recreational privileges which may include writing assignments & additional hours of work duty.
- Loss of privileges for one week, including phone calls.

### **Visitation will be denied if you are on discipline**

- **If a student receives more than three (3) infractions in a one (1) month period, it may result in losing a phone call.**
- **If a student receives more than eight (8) infractions in a one (1) month period, it may result in losing your visit.**

**Discipline Policy:** You are required to work on writing assignments during recreation until you have completed them. You should be sitting alone and there should be NO talking during this time. You must complete your discipline and be informed by staff that you are no longer on discipline.

***\*\*\*Discipline will be determined according to the attitude of each individual\*\*\****

**Without exception, disciplinary action or dismissal will be taken for infractions of the following regulations:**

1. The use of tobacco.
2. Going outside of the boundaries of the campus.
3. Taking anything that does not belong to you.
4. Verbally or physically threatening anyone or being involved in a fight.
5. Repeated infractions of any of the guidelines and expectations or use of drugs or alcohol will subject you to dismissal.
6. Disrespect to any staff member.

## Dismissal

You can be dismissed from the program for the following:

1. Using drugs or alcohol or having them in your possession.
2. Leaving the property or group without permission.
3. Continuously being uncooperative.
4. Fighting.
5. Cheating on tests/continued poor class performance.
6. Theft of any kind.
7. Students are expected to show respect and not argue or talk back to staff personnel. Foul or abusive language and threats of any kind will not be tolerated towards a student or staff person. Proper care of LC property is expected and required at all times. Violation of the above shall be cause for immediate dismissal from the program.

## Work Therapy Program

At Life Challenge, one significant means of fulfilling our mission is our Work Therapy Program, which is a series of short-term, supervised work assignments that students perform during their time at the Center. During the course of this program, Life Challenge staff members interact with students in the process of reforming and maturing livelihood. The principal benefits derived by students are not compensation, but in (1) awareness of sin and the need for regeneration, repentance, forgiveness, and working under biblical guidelines, (2)

freedom from reliance on controlled substances, (3) learning the value of and respect for authority, (4) developing habit patterns of regular schedule, work responsibility, and performance accountability that all are foundational to being a productive and responsible citizen. Although the work assignments may provide Life Challenge with some offsetting revenue, any contributions or other funds received from beneficiaries of the work assignments are used exclusively to help cover the cost of staffing and operating the Work Therapy Program and delivering other rehabilitating services to students.

### **Biblical Basis for Work Therapy Program**

Live Challenges' Work Therapy Program derives its inspiration from our belief in the Holy Scriptures, which views work as one of the central purposes for human existence. In the beginning, God worked, and placed man, who was created in His image, on the earth to "fill the earth and subdue it" (Genesis 1:28). Work was a principal means of reflecting God's image even before the Fall by applying labor, skill, and creativity to make productive and fruitful the latent resources of the earth. After the Fall, work did not become bad, only more challenging and difficult (Genesis 3:17-19). God designed work to be redemptive, allowing us to enter the joy of co-laboring with Him (1 Thessalonians 3:2). Work is the dominant enterprise of most healthy people in sound societies. Through the illumination and renewing of the mind by the Scriptures and the Holy Spirit, communion with God, the encouragement of fellow Christians, and God's grace, one may capture a vision of work as the blessing that God originally intended for man.

### **The Bible is filled with exhortations and illustrations concerning work.**

[1] Diligent, hard work is associated with prosperity (Proverbs 10:4; 14:23), serving people in high rank (Proverbs 22:29), satisfaction in life, (Ecclesiastes 2:24) and reaping eternal rewards (Colossians 3:23-24).

Hard work is the fruit of a repentant lifestyle (Ephesians 4:28) and wins the respect of the local community (1 Thessalonians 4:11-12). Where one has led a less than wholesome lifestyle involving anti-social behavior, there is further moral imperative to "make up for" the wrongs done by providing for oneself, and to have enough to give to those in need, through hard work (Ephesians 4:28).

In contrast, laziness is associated with poverty (Proverbs 10:4), destructiveness, (Proverbs 18:9), and sinfulness (2 Thessalonians 3:6-8). One is considered worse than an unbeliever if he does not work hard and provide for his dependents. (1 Timothy 3:1, 4, 5; 5:8) Christians must avoid fellowship with "one who is idle." (2 Thessalonians 3:6) If an individual "does not work, he shouldn't eat." (2 Thessalonians 3:10)

## **Practical Application and Experience**

The experience of Life Challenge confirms these Biblical pronouncements, as we have found that work assignments often help surface unbiblical attitudes towards work, authority, and God and occasionally, racism, dishonesty, and disorganization, and reveal (at least in part) why students may have misused alcohol and/or other substances to cope with their failures. In exposing and addressing sinful attitudes, work assignments also provide Life challenge staff the opportunity to teach students the benefits and blessings of mature Christian character, in making the best of the same circumstances and honoring God in the process.

Work assignments also prepare students to live a productive life after they complete the Life challenge program. Students learn specific principles regarding a healthy work ethic such as:

1. Punctuality
2. Cheerfulness and willingness regarding work
3. Submission to authority
4. Collegiality and collaboration with fellow co-workers
5. Completing tasks and experiencing the satisfaction of work well done
6. Dealing with and overcoming failure
7. Taking initiative and seeking greater responsibility
8. Understanding the correlation between job production and future wages
9. Desiring greater knowledge and skills within one's line of work

**Accomplishing Our Mission** – In summary, the Work Therapy Program permits Life Challenge staff members to discern and disciple the character and behavior of our students. The program also trains and equips our students to apply first-hand the lessons they are learning from staff members, as they seek to undertake a new drug-free, mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well, and spiritually alive lifestyle upon their graduation from Life Challenge.



## **Acknowledgement Regarding Work Assignments in Work Therapy Program**

Statement of Student Applicant:

\_\_\_ I understand that if I am admitted as a student, that I will be required to participate in the Life Challenge Work Therapy Program.

\_\_\_ I acknowledge that I have read and fully agree with the Work Therapy Program in the LC Handbook, which addresses the importance of my work assignments in helping to build in me the Biblical values of a good work ethic and the character of a responsible, upright individual.

\_\_\_ I understand that if I am admitted, I will be performing my work assignments not as an employee of Life Challenge, but solely for my benefit, to further my spiritual growth and maturity, character development, recovery from controlled substances, and readiness to go back into the work place.

\_\_\_ Accordingly, by submitting this Application, I am not applying for a position of employment, and if admitted, I understand I will not be receiving any compensation of in-kind benefits in exchange for the performance of any work assignments.

\_\_\_ I further understand that if I fail to perform my work assignments, Life Challenge may revoke my status and privileges as a student, not because of performance of work assignments are the consideration for the receipt of such status and benefits, but because of each student's participation in the Work Therapy Program is a necessary and vital part of the recovery process.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Applicant*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant: (print)\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Witness*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: (print)\_\_\_\_\_



## Agreements

I understand & agree to the following...

1. I will not use any form of drugs.
2. I will not use any form of tobacco.
3. I will not use any form of alcohol.
4. I will not use profane or loose language.
5. I will not brag about my past life.
6. I will not go off the property without permission from the staff.
7. I will not be involved with cliques.
8. I will not listen to secular music.
9. I will participate in all scheduled activities including class, chapel, work, recreation, and church services.
10. I understand that Life Challenge is a minimum 12-14-month residential program and I am willing to commit myself to the program for this specified amount of time.
11. If I leave the program without taking my clothes or personal belongings, I understand that Life Challenge is not responsible for any loss at any time. My clothes and my belongings (left longer than 7 days) will become the property of Life Challenge.
12. If I do not have a high school diploma, I understand that I will be required to work towards obtaining my GED before I graduate.
13. I have read, understood, and agree to live by all rules in the Life Challenge Student Handbook and those learned from staff/interns. I agree to live by these according to Romans 13:1-6 and 1 Peter 2:13-25.
14. Furthermore, I understand that at times rules may be updated or changed for the benefit, safety & well-being of staff and students at Life Challenge.

My signature below indicates that I understand this contract and that I agree to the conditions of this contract.

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date



Phone & address approval list  
Immediate family only

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

❖ STAFF - Mark if added to mail list. Strike through if not approved.

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ _____ <b>Relationship:</b> _____ <b>Phone #:</b> _____ <b>Add to Mail List: yes          no</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ _____ <b>Relationship:</b> _____ <b>Phone #:</b> _____ <b>Add to Mail List: yes          no</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ _____ <b>Relationship:</b> _____ <b>Phone #:</b> _____ <b>Add to Mail List: yes          no</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ _____ <b>Relationship:</b> _____ <b>Phone #:</b> _____ <b>Add to Mail List: yes          no</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ _____ <b>Relationship:</b> _____ <b>Phone #:</b> _____ <b>Add to Mail List: yes          no</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ _____ <b>Relationship:</b> _____ <b>Phone #:</b> _____ <b>Add to Mail List: yes          no</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ _____ <b>Relationship:</b> _____ <b>Phone #:</b> _____ <b>Add to Mail List: yes          no</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Name:</b> _____ <b>Address:</b> _____ _____ <b>Relationship:</b> _____ <b>Phone #:</b> _____ <b>Add to Mail List: yes          no</b>