

PINEWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Definitions and Guidelines Regarding a Biblical Lifestyle

As a religious organization, Pinewood holds that the Bible clearly teaches that sexual immorality (in all its manifestations) is sinful and those who consciously persist in rebellious behavior, without remorse or repentance, should be barred from the privileges and benefits of Christian fellowship (see 1 Corinthians 5:11-13). In consequence, Pinewood Church has adopted the following statements:

1. We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Genesis 2:18-25).
2. We believe that marriage between one man and one woman uniquely reflects Christ's relationship with His Church (Ephesians 5:31-33).
3. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to one another, and that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of these provisions (1 Corinthians 6:18; 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4).
4. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery; fornication; homosexual, bisexual, or transgender behavior; and/or use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matthew 5:27-28; 15:18-20; Romans 1:26, 27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10).
5. We believe that while God does not condone divorce (Malachi 2:13-16), Scripture does make provision for it (as in infidelity or abandonment) because of our sinful nature (Matthew 19:3-9).
6. We believe that divorced and/or single parents who truly desire to model a God-honoring lifestyle for their children should live in conformity with the principles outlined in 3 and 4 above, and/or remarry so as to live in conformity with the principles outlined in 1 and 2 above.

Pinewood Church believes that the primary responsibility for the education of children lies with the family (Deuteronomy 6:4-7, Psalm 78:1-8). As a ministry of Pinewood Church, Pinewood Christian Academy's (PCA) mission is to partner with Christian families in providing a strong spiritual, as well as an academic, education for their children. In order to promote and protect the beliefs stated above, the Session of Pinewood Church has determined that the Academy may deny admission to students whose primary parent's/guardian's lifestyle conflicts with Biblical teaching. This may include (but is not limited to) co-habitation, pregnancy out of wedlock, and/or homosexuality (in any of its manifestations). Moreover, students may be dismissed from PCA if the Pinewood Church Session determines that a primary parent/guardian, at any time, has adopted an immoral lifestyle.

Likewise, the Session of Pinewood Church has determined that all staff at Pinewood Christian Academy, as ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, must exemplify a lifestyle that conforms to Biblical principles for the sake of the students and families whom they serve (see 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 and Colossians 3:1-17). Therefore, PCA may deny employment to individuals who openly persist in an immoral lifestyle (e.g. co-habitation, homosexuality in any of its manifestations, etc.). Moreover, an employee may be terminated from PCA if the Pinewood Church Session determines that he/she, at any time, is persisting in an immoral lifestyle.

According to Florida state statute 761.061, as a religious school, Pinewood Christian Academy (PCA) may not be required to provide services, accommodations, facilities, goods, or privileges for the purpose of solemnizing, forming, or celebrating any marriage if such an action requires violation of a sincerely held belief. Neither can PCA be brought up for a civil or criminal case for withholding said services, accommodations, facilities, goods, or privileges; nor can PCA be penalized or denied benefits such as tax exemptions or government grants.