



**THE MASTER'S**  
UNIVERSITY

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## **Student Life Philosophy**

**August 2020**

**Our Attitude: Serve! - If we can, we will... and, If we can't, you will know we really tried!**

**Our Mission:** To equip and train Christian disciples to be God glorifiers, Gospel ambassadors, and Kingdom influencers.

**Our Goal: HEART TRANSFORMATION and BIBLICAL SANCTIFICATION.**

To help and support young Adults in becoming dependent, loving, and thoughtful **FREE-STANDING** moral agents with established Biblical convictions that will endure after they leave campus to wherever in the world God may take them.

### **Ministry Pillars:**

1. **Divine Authority.** Jesus is Lord and the Bible is true and they have authority over you.
2. Our ministry must be **motivated and executed out of love** (1 Cor. 13) or it damages.
3. Our ministry **priority** is **intentional Discipleship**...to lead students to trust, follow, obey, become like, and enter into the mission of the Master (Mt. 28).
4. Our ministry **mentality** is **relational and life on life influence** (1 Th. 2), recognizing that the force of positional authority is NOT as impactful as relational ministry.
5. **Less is More.** Our ministry philosophy is to establish **Essential Guardrails** (to prevent catastrophic loss) and remove **Unnecessary Props** so students can learn to think and mature in the context of a truth-based **biblical community** as they learn to exercise their growing decision-making freedom.
6. **Rules should be:**
  - a. **Biblical**
  - b. **Common-sensical ("of course").**
  - c. **Practical/Doable**
  - d. **Clear**
  - e. **Enforceable**

7. **Discipline is Science and Art.** Consequences are to be remedial, consistent, and where possible personal (1 Th. 2:11).
8. **Institutional not Departmental.** Values and Expectations must be Campus Convictions not just Residence Life Convictions.

**Our Concerns:**

1. We will have **Rules without Relationship** that misrepresents Christianity.
2. There will be **Conformity without Sincerity** that promotes Hypocrisy.
3. We are concerned that we will inadvertently promote compliance and human performance instead of shepherding toward thoughtful convictions and prayerful God dependence that promotes the truth that **real change is God's work not ours.**

**Our Approach: Remedial and Biblical (1 Th. 5:14).**

1. For the "out of line" and unruly > **Face to Face conversation and exhortation.** "Noutheteo" > **admonish through instruction.** Appeal to the mind by supplying biblical, doctrinal, and spiritual substance. This is exerting positive pressure on someone's logic and reasoning urging them to choose the best path and God's best!
2. For the "faint of heart" and little of soul (weak in conviction and courage) > **Side by Side Encouragement.** "para + mutheomai" = **encouragement with words!**
3. For the "weak" and unable to stand > **Carry on your back!** "anti+echo" = **Help and Hold up spiritually.** I have you and I am with you!
4. For "all" > **Prayerful Patience! Trust God and let Him work!** Give Time and Opportunity. Transformation is not instant and Repentance Matures.

**Gal 5:25-6:1-3 – Restorative and supportive.**

1. **Live by the Spirit and Give life by the Spirit > Get "in step" with the Spirit.**
2. **Don't lift up yourself and Don't put someone else down.**
3. **Pick them up.**
4. **Fix them up.**
5. **Bear them up.**

**Our Prayer:** Students will **experience** and **express** REAL Christianity! They will know what it is and what it is not.