



As a steward of the ministry to which God has entrusted, an individual in ministry leadership must closely guard his actions to avoid bringing reproach upon himself, the ministry, the church, or God Himself. The extent to which McLean Bible Church can fulfill its vision to impact secular Washington with the message of Jesus Christ rests in part on our integrity. Because individuals approved into leadership carry the integrity of McLean Bible Church into the secular community, leaders must strive to be above reproach in every way. See 1 Timothy 3:2-15, 6:3-14; Titus 1:7-9.

The following behaviors are prohibited in Scripture and will interfere with a leader's ability to lead:

- Sexual immorality, including infidelity and premarital sex.
- Substance abuse, including drunkenness and illegal drug use.

Even though some actions may not be sinful in fact, they may nevertheless bring reproach by a third-person observer, thus weakening the ability of the church to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. See 1 Corinthians 9:22-23; 1 Peter 2:12. Where the Word is silent on a particular action or behavior, a Christ follower must, through prayer, seek God's direction and wisdom and live according to the principles of Romans 14:13-23. Leaders must use discretion in the following areas:

- Manner of dress.
- Alcohol use.
- Behavior in public places, such as bars, concerts, sporting events, etc.
- Relationships with the opposite sex.

### **Galatians 5:24 (NIV)**

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.

### **1 Corinthians 10:31 (NIV)**

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

### **1 Corinthians 9:22-23 (NIV)**

To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel that I may share in its blessings.

### **1 Peter 2:12 (NIV)**

Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.