

# Doubtful Practices

## ES\_SS\_CO\_58

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### Policy Statement

Various activities exist which might be considered doubtful practices. Students should make sensible spiritual decisions concerning these practices.

### Policy Procedures

When in doubt, the student should ask the following questions. [Adapted from David LeGrand's Christian Ethics Notes, pp. 29-30]

How does it affect me?

- Would it harm my body? (I Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19-20; Rom. 12:1-2)
- Would it cause me to think impure thoughts? (Matt. 5:28; Phil. 4:8)
- Will it cause me to form some undesirable habit? (I Cor. 6:12)
- Does it bind me in any way to an unbeliever? (II Cor. 6:14)
- Is the atmosphere good?
- Does it cause me to be with fellow believers or unbelievers? (James 4:4; I John 2:15-17; II Cor. 6:7)
- Does it feed my old or new nature? (Rom. 6:6; Col. 3:9-10)
- Is it something I would like to be doing when Christ returns? (Titus 2:12-14)

How does it affect others?

- Will it cause me to be a stumbling block to another Christian? (Rom. 14:13,21; I Cor. 8:9-13)
- Would it appear to others to be evil? (I Cor. 10:31; II Tim. 2:3-4)
- Is my witness enhanced or hindered by it? (Phil. 2:15)

How does it affect the cause of Christ?

- Does it please the Lord? (I Cor. 10:31; Rom. 14:12; II Tim. 2:3-4)
- Does this activity assist me in keeping Christ first in my life? (Col. 1:18)
- Can I honestly thank God for it? (Col. 3:17)
- Will it involve a waste of God's time, money, or talents invested in me? (I Cor. 3:23; 6:19-20)
- Does it violate any plain teaching of Scripture? (II Tim. 3:16-17)