**SAM’S PERSPECTIVE ON DATING**

**North Coast Church Single Adult Ministry**

1. God is a Loving God and wants our best; his principles are for our protection not our punishment.
2. In matters of moral purity, our leaders are held to a higher standard than those who are merely attending a Growth Group or service.
3. All relationships model behavior to others, some good and some not so good. Leaving the ministry or Growth Group as soon as you find a relationship weakens and short changes everyone.
4. Dating in groups is a better and safer option until it is clear from the Lord it is time to move into an exclusive relationship.
5. We encourage the use of the *“Four Friendship Dates”, “Four Relationship Dates”* and “Four Premarital Dates” as a means to build a solid foundation for a future relationship. They provide a window into the soul and reveal important areas many couples miss in a normal dating pattern.
6. Emotional and Spiritual intimacy is available to all single adults while God’s plan for all sexual intimacy is reserved for marriage. If a leader falls into sexual sin, they will be asked to step down from their leaders or serving position for a period of time with the ultimate goal of restoration.
7. We encourage people who are dating to consider that person as a sister or brother first and foremost.
8. We encourage our leaders to follow through with their leadership commitments when entering a relationship. Dropping out of leadership prematurely is usually harmful to both the individual and the ministry.
9. Cohabitation is a bad idea, those who do not only hurt themselves but forfeit the privilege of leading or serving within our ministry.
10. Anyone who uses the Single Adult Ministry as a “*meet market*”, and demonstrates themselves as a threat, will be asked to leave.

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