

Dear Parents,

We are excited to host our Tri-State Teen Prom in the greater Houston area! The heart of the night will be to honor God as we partake in feasting, fun and fellowship. We pray that all who attend will be one in heart and mind (Acts 4:32) about this event and its purpose. The following guidelines and answers to frequently asked questions will help us set our teens up for victory in having a fun and safe night at these events. This event is for 9th-12th grade students only. Due to its nature, we need to trust that any attending teen will be responsible and is able to follow guidelines.

Please work with your local Youth and Family Minister and Church Leader to determine if this event is best for your teen or if you have additional questions.

Teens going on Dates:

If teens choose to ask someone to the prom, we encourage them to receive approval from both parties' parents FIRST. What a great opportunity to have a healthy discussion about having a date. Communicate to them the guidelines and heart behind what prom is all about (encouragement, pure fun, giving...etc.). To be clear, whether or not teens have a date is up to you as the parent.

While some teens wish to go with a date, having a date is not required for this event. Please communicate that they do not have to ask anyone to the dance or say yes if they are asked. They can feel free to go in a group or with a friend(s).

Dress Code: Please review the guidelines and help our teens see that the heart of the dress code is submitting ourselves to the Lordship of Jesus, as well as loving and respecting our neighbor as ourselves (Matthew 22:35-40). It is also how we honor our personal values while protecting the dignity of our bodies, not covering something shameful. It is just as much about the posture of our heart as it is an appearance (Romans 12:3). Our bodies are valuable and cherished and should be taken care of (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

While you as parents have a say in what you think is appropriate for your child, we also ask of everyone that there be:

- No casual clothing as the dance dress code is formal/semi-formal (e.g., jeans, t-shirts).
- Dresses should have appropriate coverage, with no plunging necklines or inappropriately low backs, nor excessively tight or short fits.
- Suits should be modest and respectable.
- After-prom casual clothing should be appropriate as if you were at a teen event (e.g., shorts and t-shirts of appropriate length, sweatpants, jeans).

Let us help our young men and women choose outfits that allow them to enjoy a pure evening of Godly fun.

Behavior: While we understand that the personal convictions of your teen may vary, we ask that they respect each other, respect the directions given by the leadership/chaperones, and treat each other with absolute purity (Romans 12:9-10, 1 Timothy 5:1-2). We will contact a parent if any teens repeatedly show harmful or disrespectful behavior at this event. We understand that while not all teens may be in a place where they have chosen to follow or honor God, we ask that they please show respect to their surroundings, each other, and the adults at this event. We believe this event will be a special and memorable night (John 10:10) for our tri-state family of churches.

In Christ.

GHC Leadership Team & Texas Youth & Family Ministers