



VICTORY VILLAGE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Victory Village Christian Academy

Heart Ministries, Inc. - Since 1970, For Jesus Christ and His Kingdom

School Calendar for 2009-2010

Fall Semester Begins - Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Kansas State Fair - Friday, September 11 - Sunday, September 20 (our 38th annual display will be located along the south corridor of the Meadowlark Building)

Autumn Term - September 8 - October 23 (seven weeks)

Christmas Term - October 26 - December 16 (eight weeks)

Thanksgiving Holiday - November 25 (noon) - November 29 (school begins Monday, November 28, 9 a.m.)

Christmas Holiday - December 16 (noon) - January 5

Winter Term - January 6 - March 5 (nine weeks)

Spring Term - March 8 - May 21 (10 weeks)

Spring & Easter Break - March 26 (noon) - April 4 (school begins Monday, April 5, 9 a.m.)

Inter Term Break - May 21 (noon) - May 30

Summer Term - May 31 - July 16

Summer Break - July 16 (noon) - September 6

2010 - 2011 School Year Begins - September 7

Since school terms vary in length, honor roll requirements include completing two PACES of school work each week. Parents and Students are asked to please respect the School Calendar, and unless it is an emergency, and cleared with the Staff first, not to plan for late arrival and early leaving. Visits away from the Village, and having guests at the Village must also be arranged with the Staff. Students are allowed one overnight home visit each month. Parents are welcome to visit Victory Village at any time.

Travel plans should always be made according to the school calendar. Staff will be glad to pick up students at Mid-Continent Airport in Wichita (40 miles), but we cannot promise to shuttle students to and from Kansas City (200 miles). The Amtrak train arrives in Hutchinson twice daily, eastbound from Los Angeles and Albuquerque, and westbound from Chicago and Kansas City. We do not recommend students riding busses.

Contact Information

School, Office & Director's Phone - 620.463.6112

FAX - 620.463.2631

Dormitory Staff - 620.463.6102

Dorm Student Phones - 620.463.3298 & 620.463.2298

U.S. Mail - P O Box 2068, Hutchinson, KS 67504

UPS & Federal Express - 201 S Victory Road, Burrton, KS 67020

Internet - www.heartministries.org

Rev. Bill Cowell e-mail - brcowell@heartministries.org

Carole Cowell e-mail - ccowell@heartministries.org

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to Heart Ministries. We love our work. It is exciting and challenging. Young people are full of promise to accomplish great things. But, sometimes circumstances interfere, obscuring vision, diminishing goals and keeping them back from their full potential.

We are here to help youth work through obstacles and overcome barriers that bring defeat when there could be victory. This has been our joy and privilege for 38 years, ministering to nearly 1,000 youth and during which time we have also watched our own five children grow to maturity. We want to help both parents and youth toward a relationship of respect and affection.

We understand and care about how parents and teens both feel in the turbulent years of adolescence. The struggles are two-sided. Most all parents and teens are sincere in wanting to do the right things. They just have a hard time understanding each other, being a generation apart. Parents often forget that they went through similar experiences. They want to hold the reins. Teens often feel invincible. They want room to grow and yet at the same time, they want reasonable limits, lots of love, along with genuine security and identity.

Conflicts arise. Opinions differ over what constitutes an appropriate and acceptable lifestyle. Areas of disagreement may include such things as clothes, music, friends, activities, curfews and many other things. Both sides need to be heard and understood. Give and take is often needed. Extremes of permissiveness and authoritarianism need to be avoided. Skills in compromise, negotiation and conflict resolution need to be employed. Respect for each other and for differing opinions is a must.

Victory Village is a Christian Boarding School where we want so much to show the love and compassion and understanding of Jesus Christ, while we help both students and parents work through these conflicts. The mediation of a third party can be helpful in bringing about understanding and finding common ground. Many have come poles apart and have left feeling close together once again. We try to approach situations from God's perspective as revealed in the Bible. The Christianity we seek to practice and model is not a legalistic system of rules and regulations that are so easily shunned and rejected by normal growing youth. It is rather a dynamic faith and personal relationship with Jesus Christ. From the Bible we learn that Jesus was not a kill-joy or a boring person as some mistakenly believe. He attended weddings and parties and must have laughed and enjoyed Himself with His friends. He would have us all to experience abundant life, or life in its fullest dimension. (John 10:10)

A vital and integral part of our Victory Village program is our church, The Village Chapel, located right on the campus. Everyone is expected to take part in the services and activities and keep an open mind about what is taught and preached. No one will be forced to believe any certain doctrine, join the church, or make any spiritual decision against their will. Religious experiences and conversion are very personal matters that everyone must consider for themselves. Many have come to know Jesus Christ personally while at Victory Village, but it has to be their own voluntary commitment.

We will do our best to model the Christian life and show the spirit of Jesus Christ. We hope every student will do their best to cooperate with our program and guidelines and not find them difficult. As you read what these are in the following pages, along with the reason for and basic philosophy of Heart Ministries, we believe you will find our requirements to be reasonable and easy with which to comply. There are schools that are much more confining and restrictive, but we don't see any reason to make Christianity look unattractive. We respect the fact that teens are growing quickly toward adulthood and cannot be forced to change their minds against their will. Of course there must be reasonable rules, administered and enforced lovingly, but at the same time there must be ample opportunities given for teens to learn how to make intelligent decisions for themselves. Only when a delicate balance is maintained between the two--the security of limits and the freedom of choice--will we see the desired results as our teens grow up and go out on their own.

Along with our staff, we will do our best to help each student develop intellectually, physically, spiritually, and socially, just as the Bible says Jesus grew in wisdom, stature, in favor with God and in favor with man (Luke 2:52). We look forward to getting better acquainted, helping resolve conflicts and problems and seeing every student start on the road to realizing their full potential.

Yours for changed lives,
Bill and Carole Cowell

ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Rev. Bill Cowell, President, Hutchinson, KS; Carole Cowell, Secretary, Hutchinson, KS; Roger Stauter, Realtor, Madison, WI; Lyndal Penner, Psychologist, Hutchinson, KS; Larry Chapman, Retail Business, Seattle, WA; Rev. John Williams, Executive Minister, American Baptist Churches of Central Region, Topeka, KS; Becky Goering, Wachovia Financial, Hutchinson, KS; Gordon Goering, Retired Judge, Vassar, KS; Rev. Todd Britt, Pastor, Madura Congregational Church, Wakefield, KS.

VICTORY VILLAGE DIRECTOR: Rev. Bill Cowell, B.S., Kansas State University, Manhattan, 1961; Manhattan Bible College, MDiv, Wheaton College Graduate School of Theology, Wheaton, IL, 1965; Graduate work in Counseling, Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA, Ordained North American Baptist Minister, 1966.

SCHOOL SUPERVISOR: Carole Cowell, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago; Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL; BS Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA.

LEARNING CENTER TEACHER: Allen Hurley, B. A., Business Education & Math, St. Mary's of the Plains College, Dodge City, KS; Certified by Kansas State Department of Education; High School Teacher at Ford, Holyrood and Deerfield, Kansas.

DORMITORY STAFF: Charlotte Ratzlaff, Dorm Mother; Dorm assistants: Barbara Hoskinson, Fannie Yoder; Katie Hougham, Kim Yingling, Michelle Green, Chelsie Reich, Autumn Gray, Nikki Thompson

OFFICE SECRETARY: Barbara Hedges; **MAINTENANCE:** Ray Yingling

COOPERATIVE AFFILIATIONS: Victory Village Christian Academy is registered as a private school with the Kansas State Department of Education, and is a member of the Association of Christian Schools, International. A cooperative and working relationship is maintained with state and local regulatory agencies. Heart Ministries received a charter from the Secretary of State in 1971 as a non-profit organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of Kansas. Heart Ministries is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, serving students of a number of different religious backgrounds. Our church is The Village Chapel located on the campus. We cooperate and fellowship with American Baptist Churches of the Central Region, ABC/USA, Baptist World Alliance, and in an inter-denominational link with Christians worldwide.

LOCATION AND ACCESS

Victory Village is located seven miles east of Hutchinson, one mile east of the Buhler-Haven Road, at the corner of Avenue G and Victory Road at 201 S. Victory Road. When driving from Wichita, take K-96 to Haven, then go north on the Haven-Buhler Road to Ave. G (10 miles) then turn east one mile and north 1/2 mile on Victory Road. From Newton, take U. S. 50 west and go two miles past Burrton. Turn north at the Reno County sign and go one mile north and 3 miles west to Victory Road. Turn north for 1/2 mile to the entrance. From McPherson, take K-61 to Inman. Go south on Main Street to Buhler (6 miles). Go another 6 miles to Avenue G, east one mile to Victory Road, then north 1/2 mile to the entrance.

Though in a typical Kansas rural setting of fields, woods and rolling meadows, we are only a few minutes away from a modern mall, hospital, library, Space Center with Omnimax Theater and museum, restaurants, motels, and other necessary and convenient facilities in the city of Hutchinson. Larger shopping areas and other facilities are to be found in Wichita, 35 miles away. We will be happy to furnish you with a map of the area.

Amtrak, eastbound to Chicago and westbound to Los Angeles, stops in Hutchinson every night (at 2 a.m.) Wichita Mid Continent Airport is 45 miles away and is served by a number of major airlines.

Mailing address for all letters and parcel post is PO Box 2068, Hutchinson, KS 67504. Federal Express and UPS shipping address is 201 S. Victory Rd., Burrton, KS 67020.

THE REASON FOR HEART MINISTRIES

Many American teenagers are in serious trouble. According to National Justice Department statistics, 1,471,200 delinquency cases were filed in juvenile courts in 1992. Half a million teens run away from home each year and several thousand commit suicide. The Alabama Department of Human Resources reports that every day nationally 1,295 babies are born to teenage mothers, 135,000 children bring guns to school, 160,000 stay home from school because of fear or intimidation, 211 children are arrested for drug abuse, 1,629 children are in adult jails, 7,742 teenagers become sexually active, 2,295 teenagers become pregnant, 1,196 teenagers have abortions and 1,512 teenagers drop out of school. Our local Reno County office of the Kansas State Social and Rehabilitation Services reports that from two to five American children die daily from child abuse, and that every two minutes a child is attacked by one or both parents. It has also been estimated that one in four children is sexually abused.

In addition to all of this, there are hundreds of teens from good homes that get involved in harmful behavior through peer pressure and exposure to negative forces they are not yet prepared to handle. It is no wonder the American Academy of Pediatric says, "Teenage America is struggling against booming rates of suicide, venereal disease, alcohol and drug abuse making healthy adulthood an unrealistic goal for many." The lives of our youth, which should be full of promise for the future, are actually in serious jeopardy and we need to help them.

We must not point fingers at youth and blame them for the mess many of them are in. Instead, with genuine Christlike compassion, Christians and Churches should reach out a loving and helping hand and minister to those who are hurting and disillusioned. Youth do not need to be condemned or criticized. They need to be loved and helped to find genuine fulfillment in their lives. This is the work of Heart Ministries.

THE HISTORY OF HEART MINISTRIES

Similar sobering facts to those above caused Bill and Carole Cowell to become concerned for the plight of America's youth 38 years ago. While pastoring churches in Central Kansas they opened their own family home as a place of refuge for troubled teens, the kind many criticized and shunned but few were ready to help. Thirty seven years ago they found a 14 year old boy in the Marion County Jail and took him into their own home. A year later, two girls came for help and in two months there were three more. These were all cared for without charge to them or to their parents. They were also offered a living hope and a better way of life through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Other families joined the Cowells in their efforts and Heart Ministries was organized in 1971 for the purpose of providing a loving and compassionate Christian ministry to troubled youth. In 1971 Heart Ministries was incorporated, and in 1972 they purchased 117 acres of land for a home and school seven miles east of Hutchinson, Kansas and named it Victory Village. Victory Village Christian Academy was established the same year to meet the educational needs of those in Heart Ministries care.

Staff and students at Victory Village were first housed in mobile homes, and school was conducted in the family room of a home in Buhler. The present school building was completed in 1974. A dormitory for girls was completed in 1978. All are still in use. Nearly 1,000 youth have been in Heart Ministries' care in residence and school. Without Christian love, guidance, and appropriate, character-building discipline, these same youth might have destroyed themselves or becomes a threat and liability to society. Still they comprise such a small fraction of those who desperately need help. Though there are many calls for help, Heart Ministries is presently set up to take care of 14 girls in residence in the dormitory at once, with room for another ten or twelve who live in the area to attend school. Since the need for the kind of help being offered seems to increase every year, there could be hundreds in residence, if staff and facilities were adequate.

Calls come regularly from parents as well as from treatment centers, hospitals and schools across the nation. The Mennenger Foundation and Teen Rescue are examples of places that have referred students to Victory Villages. Some calls received are in desperation to find a place of refuge for teens that are out of control or seriously confused and are in need of understanding and redirection. At least half are victims of serious turmoil at home, created by divorce, abuse and domestic violence. Many have run away from home at least once. Drugs, alcohol and premarital sexual experiences have many times become cheap substitutes for loving and meaningful relationships. Some are expelled from schools, others drop out because of poor academic performance and more serious problems like conflicts with step parents, involvement

with gangs and drugs and various behavior disorders. Heart Ministries is very much needed to help heal the deep emotional scars already inflicted and to prevent more trauma from coming into tender young lives.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF HEART MINISTRIES

From very simple and modest beginnings have come some unique features, or operational assumptions of the Heart Ministries program. These include:

A. UNCONDITIONAL LOVE. At Victory Village students are not only given a second chance, but many times a third and fourth and fifth. The staff seeks to show unconditional love and to develop a personal relationship with each young person in the program. Victory Village provides a secure, loving Christian refuge and shelter from domestic violence, trauma, peer pressure and involvement with illegal substances, until more resistance is acquired to successfully stand the rigors and pressures of the everyday world. There is freedom to make appropriate choices, but also a reminder that a greater degree of freedom and trust increases one's responsibility to accept the consequences of these choices.

B. DISCIPLINE. A unique progressive philosophy and style of ministry, based on traditional Christian values, has been developed to help youth grow toward maturity and independence. Rules and guidelines are based on Biblical absolutes such as the Ten Commandments, standards of general decency and common sense. These are not unreasonably rigid or legalistic in nature. A great deal of flexibility, allowing for differences in background, personality and basic nature of each individual, is incorporated into the program. Discipline is for the purpose of correction and not for punishment. Staff members are aware that rules and regulations minus relationships often equal more resentment and rebellion. In keeping with the name Heart Ministries, it is recognized that genuine change in behavior must come from within, and that undue force from without will not result in permanent changes in character and lifestyle.

C. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT. Victory Christian Academy is designed to meet the student's academic and emotional needs by offering individual learning opportunities using the curriculum Accelerated Christian Education. Our student /teacher ratio is 1/5. Many have been able to catch up in their school work and have been able to transfer back to their schools at home. Others have been able to graduate and attend college, enter the military, get married, raise families and take their places in society.

D. CHURCH ATTENDANCE. Being a Christian organization, regular church attendance has always been a part of the total program at Victory Village. We meet here on campus in what we call The Village Chapel. Basic Christian principles are taught, practiced and modeled, but no one is forced to become a Christian, join a church, or believe any certain doctrine. There are opportunities to make such commitments, and many do, but the decision must clearly be left to each individual.

E. FINANCIAL INTEGRITY. The administration of Heart Ministries is committed to the highest degree of financial integrity, being accountable to the State of Kansas, the Internal Revenue Service and to our private donors. Being a Christian mission work, no young person is ever turned away because a family is unable or unwilling to pay expenses. It is believed that all should have an equal opportunity to receive a right start in life. Parents are made aware of the costs and are encouraged to help as much as possible. Government funds are not used for

support. Instead, contributions are solicited from churches, organizations, corporations and individuals who are interested in the moral and spiritual welfare of youth. Heart Ministries is a 501-(c)-(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Rules and regulations can be very stifling and discouraging, so we try not to have more than necessary. Everyone knows, however, that a school worth anything must have reasonable guidelines to follow. We emphasize relationships a great deal and want students and staff to form lasting friendships and genuine relationships together. Being a Christian school, we are also anxious for each one to have a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. We try not to be unreasonable strict in our requirements, believing that true Christianity is not following a list of dos and don'ts, but rather of having a personal relationship with Jesus.

Based on what the Bible teaches, we are for Godliness, love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, humility, self-control, moral purity, obedience, faithfulness in marriage, Bible reading and study, prayer, sincerity, honesty, integrity, worship of God, good citizenship, friendliness and trust. Also, according to the Bible, we oppose drunkenness, lawlessness, sexual perversions, adultery, marital infidelity, premarital sexual intercourse, jealousy, envy greed, hatred, fighting, gossip, stealing, lying, idolatry, covetousness, murder, deceit, rebellion and disobedience. The Bible also tells us to be gracious and kind toward others, including those who may do things different from us. We are not to judge them (Matt. 7:1) and Christian love must always characterize our relationship with others (Rom. 14:13). We must avoid a critical and unchristian attitude toward other Christians and ministries who may differ with us in standards and practices.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL

The spirit of Heart Ministries is the spirit of Jesus Christ. We seek to follow God's will and methods, with due respect for the Bible and for the civil laws that govern our society. Jesus was compassionate, understanding and without condemnation toward others. Likewise it is our desire for unconditional love to be shown to all. With students coming from a variety of cultural and family backgrounds, each person should learn to be tolerant of different ideas and show respect and a non-judgmental and non-condemning spirit.

We desire a relationship of mutual respect between staff and students at Victory Village. Wholesome speech, kindness and gentleness make it more pleasant for all, and we ask everyone please avoid arguments, profanity, criticism, sarcasm, cynicism and all inappropriate speech. Honesty, trust and dependability are expected. Students are not to bring alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs on campus. By law, smoking is not allowed for anyone under 18. In a positive way we encourage a healthy lifestyle, including proper diet and exercise, along with freedom from addictions to drugs, alcohol, and tobacco (see "Our Goal for Every Student" at the end of this handbook). Music, books, posters and games related to the occult, gangs, illegal drugs or immorality should not be brought to Victory Village.

Psalm 19:14 and Colossians 3:17 is our guide; "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer."
"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

6

GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL

1. Plan to arrive at least 5 minutes early so we may start promptly.
2. Do not go outside at break time unless you are 18 or over.
3. The amount of work required for a week is the completion of two PACES and this includes passing the tests. Those finished with their work are able to watch a movie on Friday afternoon. Completing two Paces is also necessary for the special weekend activities and for the use of e-mail the following week. Students may not do more than five Paces per week.
4. Students may listen to music with earphones at a level not to disturb others.
5. The Learning Center is to be kept quiet during school time so everyone can concentrate.
6. Most of the curriculum comes from Accelerated Christian Education. This is an ideal program for working individually. The basic unit of study is called a Pace. Each Pace is worth 1/12 of a credit. Students check their own work in their pace and when finished they take the final test. They must score at least 80% in order to pass the test.
7. Score keys must never leave the Learning Center and may not be taken to a student's office. All score keys should be used at the checking table. Please do not copy answers from the score keys. This will only hurt yourself as you will probably flunk the test.
8. Final tests must be taken at the testing table where there is to be no conversation. No tests are given during breaks or after school.
9. Dress for school may be casual and in style, following principles of general decency and common sense. Students are expected to appear neat, clean, and well groomed.

10. General School Schedule

9:00 a.m. - Bible and Philosophy Class

9:30 - Study time

10:00 - Break

10:10 - Study time

11:00 - Break

12:00 - Lunch at Dormitory

1:00 p.m. - Bible and Philosophy Class

1:30 - Study time

1:50 - Break

2:00 - Study time

2:50 - Break

3:00 - Study time

4:00 - School dismissed

12. Academic Requirements: For High School Graduation 24 credits are required. A diploma from Victory Village Christian Academy represents completed work and not just time spent in school. Credits earned in previous schools are accepted when provided as official transcripts. The following are required for graduation:

English - 4 credits
Social Studies - 3 credits
Science - 2 credits
Math - 2 credits
Physical Education - 1 credit
Electives - 12

13. Courses available through Victory Village Christian Academy:

Math : General Math, Algebra, Algebra II, Geometry.

Language Arts: Etymology, English I, II, III, IV, Speech, Spanish, Keyboard.

Science: General Science, Biology, Physical Science, Chemistry, Physics.

Social Studies: World History, US History, Government, Geography, Economics

Bible: New Testament Survey, Old Testament Survey, Proverbs, Bible and Philosophy

Electives: Choir, Drama, Art, Physical Education, Home Economics, Horticulture

To maintain a high standard of performance, befitting a private Christian School, we must require regular School attendance and satisfactory academic performance.

Report cards are issued each nine weeks, when awards are also presented for highest Pace Average, most number of Paces completed and the Special Achievement Award.

GUIDELINES FOR THE DORMITORY

For boarding students the dormitory is your home away from home. We will try to maintain it as much as possible like a family residence. In order for this to work, everyone must be willing to cooperate and to do their part. The Dorm Mother and other staff want to get to know you personally and help all they can. Please respect and join their efforts to make the Victory Village Dorm a safe, clean and happy place to live.

THINGS TO BRING TO THE DORM

1. Two sets of bedding for a twin size bed plus a mattress pad and pillow
2. Blankets and/or quilt or bedspread
3. A small bedside lamp if desired
4. Towels and wash cloths, not to exceed 4 sets
5. Laundry basket
6. Make up and hair care products
7. Personal hygiene products
8. Jeans and shorts
9. Shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters
10. Pajamas or other acceptable nightwear, robe or sweatpants
11. Good clothes for church or dress up occasions
12. Underwear and socks
13. Shoes, including tennis shoes and dress shoes (not more than 5 pair total)
14. Swimsuit

Do not over pack, as you will be sharing a closet with a room mate. Also keep in mind that temperatures in Kansas may range from below zero in winter to over 100 in summer!

Optional items:

1. Pictures to fit on one large bulletin board
2. One large poster or picture for wall (must be approved by staff)
3. Radio, CD player, iPod, DVD player
4. CD's (No music with parental advisory labels please)
5. Photo album
6. Jewelry
7. Foot locker, with an extra key for staff
8. Cell phone--may not be used in school or overnight

2. Please have all items marked with your name. Items will be checked and inventoried upon admission and thereafter as necessary. Items in excess or that are unacceptable will be sent home with parents or stored until student goes home. We are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items.

3. Things NOT to bring to Victory Village:

1. Items related to illegal substances and gangs
2. Music or games with satanic or occult connections
3. Glue scissors or knives
4. Weapons of any sort
5. Posters, music or anything with objectionable content

4. Please make sure you go over this list before a student comes to live in the dormitory. Though we respect a student's privacy, the staff must also reserve the right to search without notice for any prohibited items and remove anything they feel may be harmful or inappropriate for dormitory life. The school is under no obligation to return prohibited items to the student and may destroy same or even turn over to law enforcement officials anything evidencing criminal activity.

5. Student Discipline

Students are encouraged to participate wholeheartedly in the available activities at Victory Village. This is not a lock up facility. When students demonstrate responsibility and grow in maturity, it is our desire to grant them added freedoms. When they demonstrate irresponsibility and immaturity, it is our responsibility to provide outside controls until such time as they can develop inner self controls.

Not all discipline works equally well for all persons. Some forms of discipline may bring about good outcomes with some students; other forms work better for other students. Staff will remain alert for "re-enforcers" which will enable students to change negative behavior to positive behavior over time without overt external control. Our goal is always correction and not punishment. Practices which will NOT be used here include corporal punishment, derogatory remarks about a student or their family, confinement in a locked room, withholding food, water, sleep or health needs and isolation.

We will use methods such as loss of privileges, i.e. phone, e-mail, outings, or extra chores.

6. Dormitory Responsibilities

The dorm must be kept neat and clean at all times and students must work together with staff to accomplish this. Two types of chores are involved; personal living space and general living areas.

Each student must make her own bed daily, after rising in the morning. Sheets and pillow cases must be used. Bedding should be washed at least once a week. Rooms and bathrooms must be cleaned daily and room checks will be done before leaving for school. We want students to be proud of their rooms and look forward to showing them to family and visitors when they come. We must also be ready for unannounced visits and inspections.

Snack foods must be kept in a plastic container with a sealed lid so they will not attract bugs. There are to be no dishes, except for water glasses in student's rooms.

Students may **decorate** their rooms using the following guidelines

1. There is a bulletin board for each student to be used for pictures. Only one approved poster is allowed on the wall.
2. No extra furniture should be moved into the room without special permission
3. Student must also have staff permission to re-arrange furniture in room

Each student is also asked to perform a **general cleaning** chore within the dorm or yard, according to a posted rotating schedule of duties. Food preparation and clean-up are also included. Everyone must come to the table at meal times and eat a reasonable amount of the food that has been prepared. Students may not cook their own food, but must eat what is provided at meal times.

Each student is responsible for doing her own **laundry**. Laundry times will be posted and students must use laundry facilities during allotted times. Laundry must be removed from the laundry room as soon as it is done.

The use of the **telephone** is a privilege and it is necessary to consider fellow students so everyone will have equal opportunity to use it. Calls should be limited to 15 minutes and only 3 calls per day per student. Please respect others and do not abuse phone privileges. The student phone should be used and not the staff phone.

The **TV and VCR** are for the education and enjoyment of all, and will be monitored by the staff. All foods and drinks are to be kept in the dining area, and are not allowed in the living room area.

Meal times should be happy times together. Please use good table manners (no playing with food, loud talking, etc.) and always be considerate of others.

Shopping can be an enjoyable experience, and everyone is expected to exhibit good manners and consideration for others on shopping trips. Staff will take students to shop at specified stores, but these times must be planned so there will not be a lot of unnecessary running to the store. If you need something from the store and do not have money to pay for it, please talk to a staff member to see what can be worked out. Do not ever consider shop lifting. It is not right and will result in serious trouble with the law. It may also keep you from going on future shopping trips.

Music -- Students may listen to a wide variety of music, but there are some limits. Music must be kept at a low volume. Failure to do so may result in losing one's radio or stereo for a time. Please do not listen to music with profanity, drug, gang or satanic connections, that talks about killing, is anti-Christian or that has a parent advisory label.

All **clothing** should be decent, in good taste and appropriate to the occasion. The staff will monitor this and may ask the student to change. Make up and jewelry must be worn properly and in good taste. Night wear is not appropriate for school. All clothing should be marked with names. A footlocker, with an extra key for staff, may be used to lock up valuables.

Student rooms are equipped with **locks** and students must take care of their own key. There is a master key, carried by the staff, to open all rooms.

Body piercings and tattoos - We do not look down on anyone who has body piercings and tattoos when they come to Victory Village, although we do reserve the right to regulate how many body rings may be worn. No student must ever pierce or tattoo themselves or another student while at Victory Village. It is against the law to do it without parents' permission and by anyone unauthorized to do them.

Good Health - We want students to take care of their health and to follow good hygiene. Exercise and good eating habits will be encouraged.

Hair must not be cut or colored without permission from parents and staff.

All Medications, both prescriptions and over the counter, must be given to staff and locked in the medicine cabinet.

Leaving the property without permission or sneaking out of the dorm at night will be considered running away. Serious complications may result as officials are notified. No one is locked up at Victory Village. If you feel like leaving, please stop and think of the consequences and find a staff member to whom you can talk.

It is right and proper for Boys and Girls to be interested in each other. We encourage such normal, healthy social relationships but we want them kept on a high plane morally and spiritually. Relationships with boyfriends, whether by mail, phone, or personal visits will be supervised and monitored by staff. Girls will not be allowed to go out with boys unless they are checked out by the staff. Boys who wish to visit girls at the dorm must first meet the Director or Dorm Mother. References may be gathered to check on character and reputation. Those who are approved for visits must be willing to follow our guidelines. Boys must call the dorm and make arrangements before coming to visit. Dating is a privilege that must be earned for those 16 and over. Dates must be pre-approved by both the staff and parents. Chaperones may be required on occasion at the discretion of the staff. Those under 16 may date with both parental and staff discretion and permission. Boys visiting the dorm must stay in the living room-dining room area, or on the patio. Homosexual relationships and activities will not be allowed.

Family members may visit students at any time. Parents should call and let the staff know when they plan on coming. Non-family members must receive permission from both staff and parents. Students are allowed one week end visit away from the Village per month. Parents and staff must approve visits anywhere except to the student's own home. Church camps, retreats and holidays do not count as the weekend visit of the month.

Dorm Schedule

Wake up call - 7 a.m. (Monday - Friday)
Clean rooms and get ready - 7 - 8 a.m. (M-F)
Breakfast - 8 a.m. (M-F)
Leave for school - 8:45 a.m. (M-F)
Lunch - 12 noon (M-F)
School out - 4 p.m.
Chores and free time - 4 - 5 p.m.
Dinner - 5 p.m.
Evening activities and free time - 6 - 9:30p.m.
In room time - 9:30 p.m.
Lights out - 10:30 p.m.
Sunday - Church at 10 a.m.

Animals & Pets - Students are not allowed to have animals or pets in the dormitory, because of health and cleanliness issues.

No writing or drawing on walls or furniture. **Window screens** must not be cut or removed. Students must pay for damage caused in this way. **Student rooms** must be unlocked at night. **Bathroom trash** must be dumped daily. **Rules are subject to change** at the discretion of the staff.

Outings and activities - To be eligible for special Friday night activities, the required school work for the week must be completed (2 paces) and students must be in good standing with the dorm. Activities are to be planned in advance and directed by staff.

Walks - Victory Village in its peaceful setting of fields, woods and meadows, offers great opportunities for walks. Students must have permission to go on walks. They are limited to Victory Village campus and a time will be set for return. Abuse of this privilege will result in being grounded to the dorm.

Mail - Students receive their mail at the school at 10 a.m. with outgoing mail leaving at 4 p.m. Postage is supplied for letters to parents. Students must pay postage for all other letters and packages.

Student Accounts - Students may carry their own money, but they are strongly advised to put it into an account at the office. It may then be withdrawn as needed and there is no danger of losing it.

All computer and e-mail activities must be monitored closely by the staff to avoid serious problems.

All students must cooperate and comply with the rules in order to have privileges such as phone and e-mail. Students must bring a form to school in the morning, signed by a dorm staff member, stating that they are in good standing and eligible for special privileges.

ADMISSION TO VICTORY VILLAGE

Admission to Victory Village is open to anyone regardless of racial, cultural, economic or religious background. Please request application forms and fill them out completely. If you have questions that are not answered in the handbook, please write, call or send e-mail. An on-line application may be found at the website, www.heartministries.org.

Heart Ministries, the non-profit corporation under which VVCA operates is a Christian mission work, supported by donations of parents, friends, churches, and others who want to help youth. Heart Ministries, Inc. was chartered by the State of Kansas as a non-profit organization in November 1971. It was then recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as non-profit, making contributions to the ministry deductible for income tax purposes. There is room for 14 girls to be accepted to live in the dormitory. Another ten or twelve can be accepted into the school who live in the local area. Daily care and education involves considerable expense. It costs \$1,500 per

month to take care of a student at the Village. Local student's expenses run between \$50 and \$100. Parents are encouraged to make a monthly contribution of as much of this amount as possible. We will not turn anyone away on the basis of whether or not parents are able or willing to help financially, but each parent is encouraged to do the best they can. This is one of the unique features of Heart Ministries, and is why we are always trying to raise money to supplement the income from parents. If you know of other interested individuals, churches, foundations, or corporations that might be interested in supporting Heart Ministries, we would appreciate you putting us in touch with them.

ENDORSEMENTS OF THE MINISTRY

"I have known Rev. Bill Cowell for most of his life, his parents and paternal grandparents for nearly seventy years. The entire family has been dedicated to Christian work for the betterment of their fellow citizens. Heart Ministries, Inc. is Bill Cowell's commitment to carry on the tradition and goals."

--William H. Avery, Former Governor of Kansas, Wakefield, KS

"During the period of time that I served in the State Senate, I observed Brother Cowell and his wife's dedication to Victory Village. This is the kind of dedication that we need to win the world to Christ."

--Lester C. Arvin, Former State Senator, Wichita, KS

"You have helped me in so many ways...You helped me to overcome my bitterness...You taught me to not depend on feelings...You taught me to always depend on the Lord...You showed me real love and that not every person will turn against me...You have never turned against me and I can't tell you how much that means to me."

--Leslie Anderson Vasquez, Wichita, KS

"We are forever thankful for the help and love you showed to our grand daughter, Staci. It is wonderful to know God has given you that special love and care for others. You have helped many teens to get through the tough years. Staci is working at a child development center for five and six year olds. May God bless you forever." --Judge Johnnie Byrd, Farmington, NM

**Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love,
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is despair, hope,
Where there is sadness, joy,
Oh, Divine Master,
Let me not seek so much
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love;
For it is in giving, that we receive;
It is in pardoning, that we are pardoned,
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
--St. Francis of Assisi**

WORTHY OF HONOR

by Rev. Bill Cowell

Shame on men! Not all, but many of them have inflicted untold misery and disgrace on the women and girls of the world. Someone has wisely said that God did not create woman from man's head so he could dominate her, nor from his feet so he could walk on her, but from his side so he could love, comfort and protect her. Unfortunately, many have not learned that truth and so keep on abusing, exploiting and misusing women.

We saw it in Thailand, as we walked through the infamous pot-pong district of Bangkok and saw the brothels where innocent tribal girls have been lured by wicked and greedy merchants in prostitution. Such human trafficking is now happening worldwide.

Movies sometimes glamorize cheap and reckless sexual escapades, including rape, extra-marital and pre-marital episodes, making it look like women are expected to provide instantaneous gratification for men who haven't learned that women deserve tenderness, respect consideration and honor. Indecent rap music degrades and demoralizes women by calling them ugly names like bitches and whores. If that sounds a bit shocking, maybe it is time we are shocked by a decadent and very vocal minority element in our society, and then counteract it with all that is wholesome and good and right. It should stir the righteous wrath of every true man and cause them to have greater respect girls and their worth.

When a careless, thoughtless, selfish male violates the dignity and virtue of a woman or girl it is a crime of major proportion, whether the offender is a king or a pauper. How many there are who dream of the perfect relationship, only to be disillusioned by having to put up with an arrogant and insecure creep who is always looking out for himself.

Sad to say, some resign themselves to just thinking such behavior is normal and to be expected. Such reasoning, however, is nonsense. It has been my undeserved fortune to come from a long line of happily married couples, and I can only wish the same for every marriage. In my immediate family, Dad always treated Mom with great respect and went out of his way constantly to make her happy. I grew up thinking that was the only way marriage was supposed to be.

Girls and women are worthy of honor. Men can either bestow that honor or they can succeed in disillusioning the girls who longed for a Prince Charming and ended up with a selfish brute. Step forward, men. Stop acting like spoiled brats. Let God refine that ego. Stop putting yourselves first, and start thinking about how you can and should treat the fairer sex with dignity and honor.

At Victory Village and in Heart Ministries we are dedicated to doing everything possible to treat girls and women with dignity and the respect God intended for them to have. We want them to be as happy and content as possible, and to be able to look back on this time in their lives as a pleasant and profitable experience.

**OUR GOAL FOR EVERY STUDENT AT VICTORY VILLAGE:
WHOLENESS OF BODY AND SPIRIT**

To be whole is to be complete. We are all made up of two parts—body and spirit, or physical and spiritual. Recognizing the marvelous nature and complexity of both the human body and soul, it behooves us to work for wholeness, or completeness of each one, making us all that we were intended to be by our Creator God.

Extremes are to have a whole body and a dwarfed spirit, a whole spirit in a sick and weak body, or for both body and spirit to be weak and deficient. None of these are acceptable, and therefore, we must work toward wholeness in every aspect of our lives.

A relationship with Jesus Christ is the key to spiritual health, while serving Christ fully requires a strong, healthy body. Having a relationship with Jesus Christ should be manifest by the fruit of God's Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, humility and self-control.

Our bodies, being the vehicles in which our spirits live, need to be kept healthy and strong, so that we can serve God fully. For maximum health and vitality, there are several things to which we need to give our attention.

1. A good, healthy diet is essential. Well-balanced meals, containing the right combination of the different food groups, are needed to supply our bodies with essential vitamins and nutrients.

2. Regular exercise, developing and maintaining the muscular and skeletal systems of the body, is also essential.

3. Abstaining from harmful substances is very important in keeping our bodies healthy and strong. Addictions to drugs, alcohol and tobacco are all detrimental to good physical health. Both laws and common sense help in keeping us from abusing our bodies with harmful substances.

A. It is against the law for those under the age of 21 to drink alcoholic beverages.

B. It is against the law for those under the age of 18 to use tobacco products.

C. It is against the law for those of any age to use illegal drugs.

D. Following these prescribed legal and common sense guidelines has important benefits when it comes to keeping the many systems of our bodies healthy.

(1) Mental - The proper functioning of our brains with their reasoning and memory processes.

(2) Muscular - The development of a strong muscular system.

(3) Respiratory - Keeping our lungs and breathing apparatus free from infection and impairment.

(4) Circulatory - Cardio-vascular health, taking care of our hearts, certainly the most vital organ in our bodies.

(5) Nervous system - Needed for patience, endurance, perseverance and the proper function of all other bodily systems.

(6) Digestive system - The processes by which the body is nourished.

Harmful substances ingested into our bodies can cause malfunction of any and all of these important systems. Therefore, it is our desire at Victory Village to help each student embrace a healthy lifestyle, enabling them to grow to the maximum in every area of life. The Victory Village staff will provide loving, compassionate guidance to help each one to stay healthy and whole in their lives and daily living. Our goal is to educate each one on the importance of good health habits, encouraging them to adopt a healthy lifestyle that will benefit them throughout life.

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred and you are that temple. (I Corinthians 3:16, 17)