

"THE MODESTO MANIFESTO"

THE MODESTO MANIFESTO WAS THE PACT THAT SET THE STANDARD FOR BILLY GRAHAM'S SCANDAL-FREE MINISTRY. STUDY THIS MANIFESTO AND KEEP IT AS A GUARDIAN AGAINST ANY SCANDALS IN YOUR MINISTRY. FEEL FREE TO PRINT THIS OUT, FRAME IT AND KEEP IT BY YOUR DESK.



"See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise." — Ephesians 5:15



IN YOUR LIFE AND MINISTRY, RESOLVE TO:

1. GUARD AGAINST FINANCIAL ABUSE



ACTION STEP:

Never handle church money without appropriate accountability.



SCRIPTURE:

"Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, 'I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.'"
— Hebrews 13:5 . (NLT)



GRAHAM QUOTE:

"In Modesto we determined to do all we could to avoid financial abuses and to downplay the offering and depend as much as possible on money raised by the local committee in advance."

2. GUARD AGAINST SEXUAL SIN



ACTION STEP:

Never travel or dine alone with a member of the opposite sex who is outside your family.



SCRIPTURE:

"Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts." — 2 Timothy 2:22 (NLT)



GRAHAM QUOTE:

"We pledged among ourselves to avoid any situation that would have even the appearance of compromise or suspicion. From that day on, I did not travel, meet or eat alone with a woman other than my wife. We determined that the Apostle Paul's mandate to the young pastor Timothy would be ours as well."

3. GUARD AGAINST PRIDE



ACTION STEP:

Never criticize fellow members of the clergy.



SCRIPTURE:

"And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'"
— James 4:6 (NLT)



GRAHAM QUOTE:

"We determined to cooperate with all who would cooperate with us in the public proclamation of the Gospel, and to avoid an antichurch or anticlergy attitude."

4. GUARD AGAINST LYING AND DECEIT



ACTION STEP:

Never exaggerate attendance figures at your services.



SCRIPTURE:

"An honest witness tells the truth; a false witness tells lies."
— Proverbs 12:17 (NLT)



GRAHAM QUOTE:

"In Modesto we committed ourselves to integrity in our publicity and our reporting."