

## **SERVER RULES**

Gethsemane was founded late-2019 in response to abuses in other Christian communities on Discord. Some of our founding members are known as Connor, Cait, Monty, Illuminosa, Andrew, and Manifest. There are many others who deserve to be mentioned here, yet are no longer with us. We have lost people, relationships, and livelihoods over these seven years, but we have not lost our unique identity, shared values, and cherished memories of one another. We stand firm on the gospel-truth that all our anxieties, shortcomings, and sins are vanquished and overcome by Jesus Christ. We remain committed to fellowship with Christ and growth in wisdom, love, and radical holiness. We remain focused on the scriptures, the traditions, and the faith once-for-all handed down to the saints of God. Because of the roots of our community, Gethsemane takes scandal and misbehavior extremely seriously. We pray and fast, fight day and night to be people after God's own heart, and especially to build a community that is chaste, upright, decent, and family-friendly. We urge you to report misconduct, hold others accountable, and follow the rules entailed below.

1. Every kind of innuendo, vulgarity, and crude language is prohibited on this server. We don't mean 'sh-t,' 'd-mn,' or similar words that may be profane, but those words that are utterly unacceptable in every conceivable social context: words that refer to sex organs, human sexuality, sodomy, or graphic violence. This is an especially strict rule in the presence of minors, the opposite sex, and those with vulnerable consciences. You are expected to represent Christ not only in your deeds, but also in your words and the meditations of your heart.
2. Anything that can be perceived to be sexual, romantic, or flirting, memes or videos that contain innuendo, and especially pornographic or explicit content are prohibited on this server. Voice chats in which there is only one minor and one adult, being scandalous or flirtatious in the presence of minors, and Direct Messaging scandalous things to other members is all completely forbidden and violators may be banned without warning or trial. We are made in the image of God, so the human body, human sexuality, and especially the innocence of children are extremely sacred.
3. Everyone is entitled to their own opinions and convictions, faith and politics, but it is absolutely unacceptable to bully, harass, and ragebait others. Let's be clear, bullying isn't 'I disagree with you,' nor even 'I think your worldview is evil,' but

attacking, belittling, and hating the person themselves. It is acceptable, even encouraged, to respectfully argue, debate, and disagree, but we need to love one another while we're doing it. Ragebait is a common phenomena on the internet, especially in religious or political forums, so there is some leniency, however the scriptures are clear: "Like a maniac shooting flaming arrows of death is one who deceives their neighbor and says, 'I was only joking!' (Proverbs 26:18-19).

4. There is nothing more extreme than Jesus Christ, nothing more radical than biblical holiness, but political, secular extremism (Fascism, Nazism, Socialism, Communism, even Anarchism, etc.) are prohibited on this server. We don't encourage or tolerate race-based discrimination, violence, or harassment. We don't tolerate the violent overthrow of governments, lawless revolutionaries, genocide, or vigilantism. You are not called to sacrifice yourself for ideology, but for Jesus Christ. Don't let your perceived orthodoxy outweigh your need for real holiness.
5. We have specific channels and voice chats arranged according to topic, demographic, and seriousness for a reason. #memes is meant for funny pictures and images, #debate is for people to lock in and argue about important things, and #general chat is for the rest of us to talk about the weather, pasta, or Hearts of Iron. Use your head: use the correct channels, stay on topic, don't interrupt, and don't spam. Getting in trouble for spamming or using the wrong channels is silly.
6. This shouldn't have to be said, but treat images of God, the names of God, and the things of God with the utmost respect, or don't you remember the scriptures? "The LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name" (Exodus 20:7). It's literally one of the Ten Commandments. While 'Oh my g-d' is bad, there are many so-called gods. What we don't tolerate is the use of explicitly Christian, biblical, and traditional images or terminology in irreverent, unholy, or profane ways. So don't say 'J-sus!' or joke about the Trinity, it will get you in trouble with God *and* our Staff Team.
7. Speaking of our Staff Team, we expect you to read these rules, follow them in their entirety, and have the decency, humility, and maturity to respect moderators when they crack down on your misbehavior. Staff have the right to moderate on a case-by-case basis, use discernment, read between the lines, and, while we welcome your input, our word is final. We love you, cherish your time spent with us, and don't want any trouble, but these rules will not be broken and our Staff

Team will be obeyed. Any taunting, slandering, or harassment of Staff is an immediate ban from the community.

Gethsemane is a catholic and apostolic community that values the scriptures, the traditions, and the faith once-for-all handed down to the saints. Protestants, Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, we're all conservative, traditional, and confessional despite our extreme differences. Though we disagree fundamentally on the particulars, and some disagreement is encouraged, we love one another with a deep and unwavering love. Whatever the liturgy ought to be, however the sacraments ought to be administered, the words of our Lord ring true: "Everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another" (John 13:35), and again, "Love is the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:10). Because of our convictions about good theology, tradition, and loving one another, Gethsemane is extremely strict about heresy, proselytizing, and 'pop-apologetics.' We don't tolerate TikTok theologians, YouTube apologetics, and the irreverent internet culture that has developed around Christian topics.

8. There is only one Christian truth that has been handed down to us, not ten or twenty. Let's not pretend that truth is subjective, relative, or dispensable. We're always going to disagree on what precisely the truth is, but let's at least agree on the basics. We expect total assent to the Nicene Creed, Trinitarianism, and catholicity. You will not be granted the Christian role otherwise, nor will you be allowed to argue in debate chat, answer questions in discussion chats, or hangout in faith-related chats.
9. Protestants think that Roman Catholics are reprobate, Roman Catholics think that Eastern Orthodox are reprobate, and Eastern Orthodox think that Protestants are reprobate. We get it, that's a given. There is no salvation outside the catholic Church, whichever Church that may be. You're allowed and even encouraged to disagree on theology, and you can even believe that certain denominations are Hell-bound, however you are not allowed to slander. Slander is what it's called when you make claims about another group's beliefs or habits without a credible source. So, 'I think Roman Catholics are reprobate' is acceptable in certain situations (Be mindful of Rule 3), but 'Roman Catholics are cannibals' is never acceptable.
10. You aren't welcome to preach or proselytize here. This isn't that kind of server, whether you're Protestant, Roman Catholic, or Eastern Orthodox. You're welcome

to debate, argue in good faith, and grow together with us, even if that means people grow from Canterbury into Rome, or Rome into Constantinople. But please don't harass members about their denominations, Direct Message members trying to convert them, or interrupt voice chats with cross-denominational aggression, evangelism, apologetics, etc.

11. This community is not a springboard to others, there is no advertising other servers, nor is there room for drama from other servers. We don't want to talk about what is happening in this or that community, whether it's faith-based or secular. You will not advertise other servers in public text chats, private voice chats, direct messages, etc., etc. You will only be warned once. If a person gets caught up in nasty things on the internet because they were redirected to another community through Gethsemane, then that's our responsibility and their fate is our fault. We won't allow that.
12. We don't want to subscribe to your based and redpilled YouTube channel, no one wants to join your subreddit, and we have absolutely no need for whatever you're selling on Amazon. This isn't a platform for marketing your brand or selling your products. You will be asked once to stop, then you will be removed from the community.
13. Under no circumstances should you be using a voice changer on this server, nor should you be spamming soundboard (See Rule 5). Whether it's for fun or not, whether it's predatory or not, voice changers are completely prohibited on this community, and if it's discovered that you are using one then you may be banned without warning or trial. Not only is it annoying, but these can be abused to manipulate and confuse people. So don't use them at all.
14. While some of us are comfortable using our real names, talking about real life, and even meeting in person, many people aren't. You will not dox, expose, or harass people's real life identities. This includes leaking phone numbers, addresses, real names, locations, and contacting work places, family members, or friends, etc. You will be instantly and permanently removed from this community, and depending on the severity the local authorities may be involved.