

## ***Rules for Posting Messages on Light in the Closet***

This is a moderated list. As moderators, we reserve the right to disallow posts based on our (admittedly very imperfect) judgment. Our goal is to maintain a Christian fellowship environment. To avoid having your messages censored, please read the following rules. We reserve the right to censor messages for other reasons as well to protect the integrity and focus of the group.

The overall principle of discussion is taken from Ephesians 4:31-32...

*“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”*

### **Rules for Posting**

#### **1. No trashing Christ**

This list is dedicated to Jesus Christ. Therefore, general bad-mouthing of the Bible, Jesus or of Christianity is not welcome.

#### **2. No trashing each other**

Be nice to each other. Sometimes we’re going to disagree with each other, which is fine. Just never forget that the people you’re talking to are beloved sisters and brothers in Christ, treasures in God’s eyes. Try to keep arguments brief, as well. After six or eight messages back and forth, any argument can start to feel hostile, no matter how polite you’re trying to be. “Agree to disagree.”

#### **3. “You’re not a Christian”: forbidden**

Questioning whether someone is truly a Christian (unless they’re “asking\*” for your opinion) is off-limits. For purposes of this list, we accept anyone’s confession of Christ as true. Denominational arguments are also forbidden.

#### **4. “Being transgender is bad”: forbidden**

*Light in the Closet* is meant to be a place where we can be absolutely comfortable with proclaiming our faith in Christ and being transgender. Needless to say, some list members will be wrestling with various questions, and may question the rightness or wrongness. That’s fine. But if you are looking for a place to go on a crusade and tell everybody they’re wrong, please do it somewhere else.

#### **5. Explicit stuff: handle with care**

In general, we would feel comfortable about letting a 12-year old read the posts on LITC. Occasionally, though, people have posted or tried to post material that was sexually explicit. This is not allowed.

#### **6. Keeping it relevant**

Don’t overdo off-topic discussions. It’s OK if a discussion wanders into undirected chitchat. But we definitely don’t want off-topic messages to grow to an overwhelming volume and drown out messages relevant to transgender Christians.

#### **7. Homosexuality: handle with extreme care**

Aside from transgender issues, this is one of the most divisive issues on the planet. In any group, this issue can easily turn ugly. However, there is too much overlap with transgender-related topics to disallow this topic altogether. So please be sensitive to the opinions of others.

#### **8. Political content: generally censored**

Posts with political content are very likely to be censored. Political arguments tend to trample gentler discussions underfoot. Discussions of particular relevance to transgender issues may be given some leeway.

#### **9. Nuisance mail**

Chain letters, mass mailings, urban legends, and fund raising appeals are all forbidden. It’s hard to verify the legitimacy of these things on the Internet. Also, please don’t send virus warnings.

#### **10. No non-PG rated photos allowed**

Please make sure that any photos posted are tasteful. Other members’ photos may not be copied or shared outside the group.

#### **11. Not a dating service**

If you have come to this group to hook-up with someone, or to illicit sexual activity, you are in the wrong group.

*Thank you for your considerate participation!*