



# 3) Student leadership information

## **Understanding Biblical Leadership**

Jesus expected leaders to serve.

Jesus gave His disciples an image of leadership that we use as our standard for Student Leadership with our Student Ministry.

“But Jesus called them [the disciples] to Himself and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to be great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.’” --Matthew 20:25-28

Jesus shattered what most people think leadership style is all about: being in charge. He goes even further to define true leadership as serving others. “Serving others” is how we define ministry. This type of servant-leadership is not attractive to most people. It goes in direct opposition to the attitude of running to the car to ride in the front seat of being first in line to eat or telling everyone what to do.

We’re not looking to fill our leadership team with the cute, fun, and popular. We’re looking for people who love Jesus and are willing to make ‘servant-leadership’ the standard their lives reflect.

**“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.” -Ephesians 4:1**

## **What to Expect From Our Leaders**

We have HIGH EXPECTATIONS for our leadership and don't apologize for them because we know some are ready for the challenge.

### **profile of a student leader: the "no doubt" life style**

"Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity." -1 Timothy 4:12

- A role model of what it means to be a Christian
- Accountable to another Christian
- Authentic and transparent
- Consistently chooses God's way over the world's way
- Encouraging
- Faithful with the small things
- Genuinely friendly
- Growing spiritually
- Has a love for life
- Has a positive attitude
- Helpful and serving
- Humble
- Proud to be a devoted follower of Christ
- Commits to the unity of our youth ministry and our church
- Displays a jump-in attitude to help with the youth ministry
- Feels a sense of ownership in the ministry, looking for areas to serve
- Follows up on visitors to the youth services and events
- Greets at THIRST Worship and other programs
- Participates in all of our major events
- Looks out for loners and visitors
- Meets with other student leaders to pray for their campus
- Solves youth ministry problems without complaining
- Speaks highly about staff and other student leaders
- Understands the purposes of why we do what we do

### **the 3D student leadership commitment**

In addition to the profile described above, a student leader also makes the following specific commitments:

Committed to a relationship with Christ

Committed to Growing in Christ (church attendance, spiritual HABITS)

Committed to serving because of Christ (Getting in SHAPE)

Committed to living a "No Doubt" Lifestyle

Committed to "Won by One" relational evangelism

Committed to consistent involvement with the student ministry:

THIRST worship, PLUNGE small groups, DIVE Bible study, student leadership meetings, understanding biblical purposes and our process for making disciples, greeting at our programs

## What You Can Expect From the Student Ministry

*High requirements*

*Have high rewards*

We're asking a lot from our student leaders, and because of this, we realize leadership isn't for everyone. Many people won't want to rise to the high level of commitment we are expecting. Others might not have enough time to commit to the various requirements. If student leadership isn't for you, don't worry about it. Not being involved in student leadership isn't necessarily a measure of your spiritual maturity. We are committed to you and want to help you continue to grow spiritually regardless of your involvement with our leadership program. (We know you can be a leader without our help!)

Although we're asking for a considerable commitment from our student leaders, there are also benefits. Student Leadership has high requirements, but it also has high rewards. Part of the high reward student leaders receive is more intense personal time with the student ministry staff. We want to invest in the lives of our leaders. You'll be held accountable to biblical standards for leadership.

In addition to this, you'll have opportunities for training and service in the student ministry that will only be available to student leaders. You'll have access to Bible studies, articles, etc. that focus on leadership so you'll have the resources and training you need for more effective ministry.

Finally, as a member of the student leadership team, you'll be connected to an outstanding community of believers who strive to put God first and serve in the student ministry. This community can be a powerful resource for laughter, encouragement, support, and being challenged in your faith.

### **the 3D student leadership "program"**

We know you're busy, and our goal is to maximize your leadership and ministry in the most effective way possible. Student Leadership consists of the following:

<<1>>

Leadership is PRIMARILY a lifestyle commitment, so we've defined that commitment and will do our best to hold you accountable to that commitment and spiritual growth.

<<2>>

Our student leaders will meet every other month (or as needed) for prayer, training, and encouragement

<<3>>

Finally, our student leaders will be our "GO TO" people when we really need to make something happen in our ministry.

## How To Become A Student Leader

1. Prayerfully consider this commitment, talk about it with some close friends and your parents. Please not that this application should take you some time. Don't rush through it.
2. Complete the application (below), type your answers and e-mail them to Jon Burdette at [jon@hickorygrove.net](mailto:jon@hickorygrove.net).
3. Following a brief meeting with Jon, we will discuss the next step if we conclude that you're ready to make this commitment. There will be a 3D leadership commitment sheet (for you to sign) and some more detailed information about what it takes to be a student leader.

### Parents:

We are especially concerned about the family life of our student leaders. We don't want to create a ton of programs to keep students out every night of the week. Spiritual growth does not necessarily require sacrificing family time and commitments.

As far as time commitment, we're asking our leadership students to be faithful to THIRST worship services, PLUNGE small groups and DIVE Bible study, be devoted to "making a SPLASH" as part of a ministry or ministry team (each requires different amounts of time), attend a bi-monthly leadership meeting (two hours), and committed to campus outreach and care for the Grove students at their schools. There are some special events we expect our leaders to attend and help plan, but they vary from month to month.

**Student Leadership Application** Please answer all of the following questions and email to Jon Burdette ([jon@hickorygrove.net](mailto:jon@hickorygrove.net)) or give them to one of the Plunge small group leaders.

1. Please provide the following information: Name, address, phone number, email, school, grade, and how long you've attended the Grove.
2. Provide the name, address, email, and phone number of two references. One should be an adult (youth worker, coach, mentor, etc.); the other should be a close Christian friend.
3. Why do you want to be in Student Leadership? What assets or gifts do you feel you would "bring to the table" as a leader in this ministry?
4. How would your non-Christian friends describe your relationship with God?
5. How would your Christian friends describe your relationship with God?
6. What does your family life look like? Please describe in detail.
7. How is your "Won by One" Evangelism going?
8. Explain your spiritual growth and comment on your commitment to the following:  
*Quiet time (prayer, the Word), prayer partner, THIRST Worship, PLUNGE groups, DIVE Bible study, SPLASH ministry teams/projects.*
9. What ministry are you serving in and how is it going? If you currently aren't in a ministry, where would you like to serve?
10. Provide a current update on the status of your faith. How has your spiritual walk been for the last 6 weeks?