

Hickory Grove Youth Ministry

Youth Worker Information & Application

What Students Need From Caring Adults

Changing the youth world happens one student at a time. Students do not connect to programs; they connect to people. The most effective way to influence students is through significant relationships with key people in their lives. Our goal is to develop leaders who minister to students.

Students need adults who will...

- ✝ love God and live for Him
- ✝ be interested in their lives
- ✝ take initiative to spend time with them
- ✝ pray for them
- ✝ be real
- ✝ say encouraging words
- ✝ believe in them
- ✝ laugh
- ✝ go to “their world”
- ✝ remember their names and care for them
- ✝ share God’s love through personal experience
- ✝ be consistent to the youth programs/events
- ✝ be patient
- ✝ enjoy life

How To Be Involved in Students' Lives

We will later explain the application process, but first it is important for you to understand what commitment we ask from our staff. For effective ministry with students, you need to:

1. *Understand the Purpose and Planned Values of our Ministry.* Take a look at the values and goals that make our youth ministry effective in reaching and caring for students.
2. *Commit to the Program(s).* Consider the role(s) for which God has shaped you in order to build relationships with students.
3. *Grow as a Leader.* Commitment to following Christ daily is essential. Rely on the work of the Holy Spirit in and through your life. Develop your personal ministry, which will ultimately influence students.

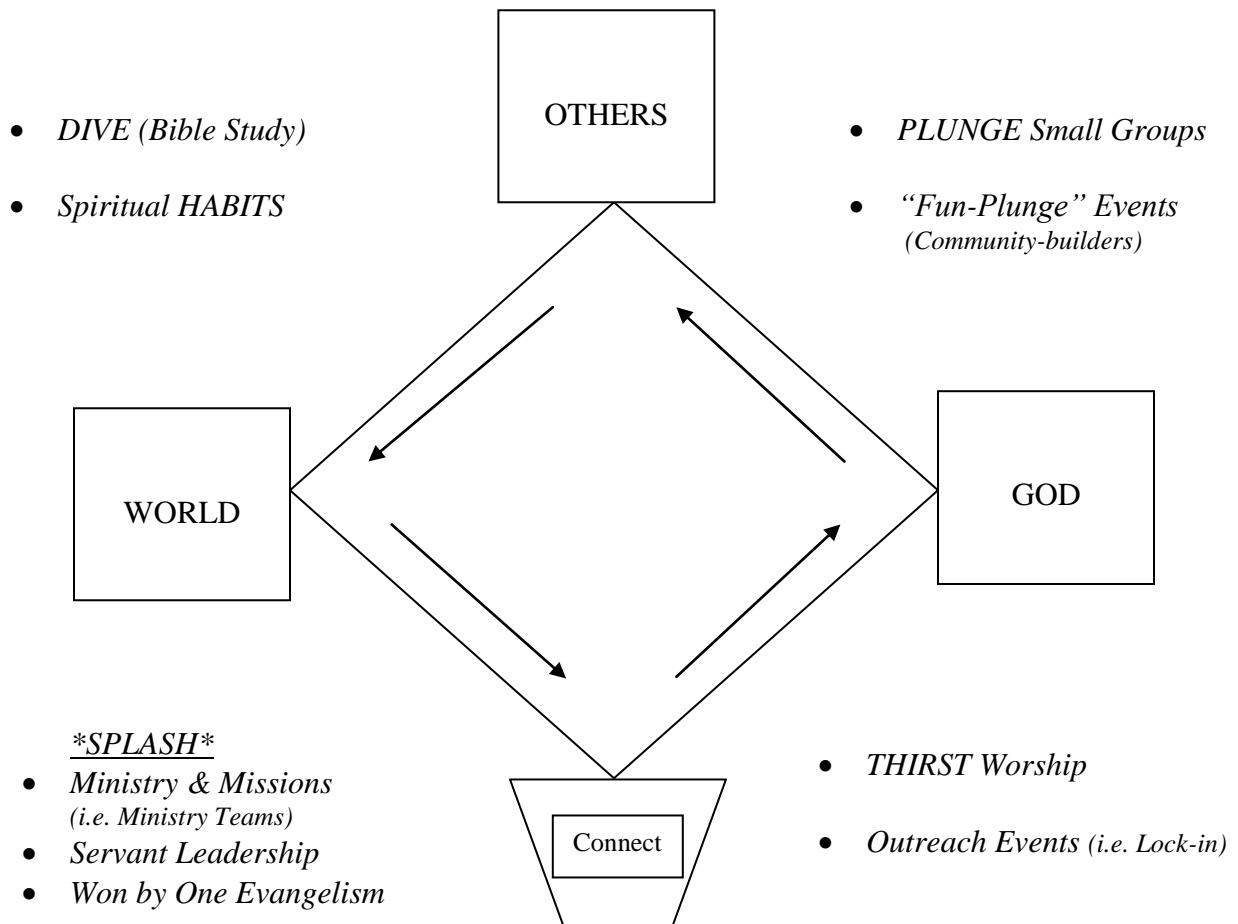


COMMIT TO OUR PURPOSE & PROCESS OF MAKING DISCIPLES

Purpose Statement

The Hickory Grove Youth Ministry exists to help teens build life-changing connections with God, others, and their world. We do this with a *Thirst, Plunge, Dive, and Splash!*

Process of Making Disciples



Commit to the Program(s)

“THIRST” Worship Services –Sundays (Middle School 9:30 am; High School 11:00 am)

The purpose of THIRST is to connect students with God. This is our large-group meeting (crowd program) that is designed to have a friendly, fun, challenging, and exciting atmosphere. This program shatters the “church is boring” stereotype and helps students celebrate God’s gift of life and love. It consists of singing, praise music, games, videos, student testimonies, and a message to introduce students to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and challenge believers to daily worship and a committed walk with the Savior.

Role: Greeter/Counselor/Chaperone—We need adults to greet, learn names, encourage students to attend other programs, help create an accepting atmosphere, be available to students for prayer and counseling, and pursue opportunities to share the gospel with lost students.

“PLUNGE” Small Groups—Wednesdays at 7pm

The purpose of PLUNGE is to connect with each other. The program consists of building relationships and learning Biblical truth. Students will be challenged to be open and honest in sharing, be accountable to one another, and develop a strong relationship with their small group leader.

Role: Small Group Leader/Host home

“DIVE” Bible Study—Sundays (High School at 9:30 am; Middle School at 11am)

The purpose of DIVE is to spiritual growth through the study of God’s Word. This program also focuses on connecting with each other but also is preparation for connecting with their world by being grounded in the Truth, and ready to share it and defend it. The primary curriculum used in Bible study is *KNOWN*, and is geared for students to “KNOW God, OWN their faith, and make their faith KNOWN.

Role: Teacher/Asst. Teacher/Administrator— it is important to be deeply rooted in God’s Word in order to teach in our Sunday school program. To be a teacher of God’s Word, we must first be a committed student of God’s Word.

“SPLASH” (Ministry; Ministry Teams)

The ultimate goal of our youth ministry is to develop students who not only connect with their world, but are used by God to change the world. We are called by God to make a difference—to make a “splash.” This is through serving others, and being involved in various areas of ministry. This involves personal evangelism, being a servant-leader, and consistently serving through the body of Christ.

Role: Ministry Team Coach/Ministry Mentor—an adult leading or walking along side for coaching, mentoring, and encouragement. This role may include organizing, scheduling practices, keeping attendance, assisting the coach/leader or sharing small Bible devotions to help students keep their focus.

Special Events—Meeting times vary

Special events basically include anything we do outside of regularly scheduled service and class times. These events are strategically planned fulfill our youth ministry’s purpose (connecting with God, others, the world). They range from big outreach events to small group fellowship outings or service projects.

What Am I Committing To?

- ✚ Consistent attendance at a program (We ask that you arrive at least 15 minutes early and stay at least 15 minutes late. These extra minutes become key relational times with students.
- ✚ Relational ministry with students during the week (additional time commitment for follow-up with students through notes, phone calls, meetings, etc...)
- ✚ Attendance at a monthly staff meeting.
- ✚ Growing as a servant/leader.

Our goal is to help volunteer leaders move from program-directed ministry (dependant upon a program/event) to a people-directed ministry (focus on the individual relationship with students). A few key ways to help you develop this type of ministry are:

1. Time: Be patient; feeling comfortable and connecting with students takes time.
2. Participation: Going to special events and camps with students will help you develop and strengthen relationships with students.
3. Initiative: The more you invest, the more you will get out of it. Your relationships will grow deeper as you invest your time.

How To Become a Student Ministry Volunteer: The Application Process

- 1. Express Interest/Observe Program**
- 2. Receive Material**
- 3. Complete Application**
- 4. Interview with Youth Pastor**
- 5. Prayerfully Consider the Commitment**
- 6. Return Signed Commitment Sheet & Begin Ministry!**

Congratulations! You have almost made it through this packet. I know it is a lot of material, but through this process you learn valuable information to make your transition into our youth ministry much easier. Now, please complete the application form (next page). If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Student Ministry Volunteer Application

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name:	DOB:
Address:	
Phone:	Email:
Occupation:	

Work Status

- Part time
- Full time
- Student

Marital Status

- Single
- Married
- Divorced

PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL HISTORY

Write a brief testimony about how you became a Christian.

Write briefly about significant events in your life that have impacted you spiritually.

Describe three major ways in which you have grown in your spiritual journey since you became a Christian.

How would you describe your spiritual journey now? What accountability do you have in your spiritual journey?

What do you do when you have a conflict with someone? How do you handle confrontation?

Are there any special issues or concerns happening in your life right now that would have an impact on your commitment and involvement in the youth ministry? (relationships, other commitments, etc.)

How long have you attended Hickory Grove Baptist Church? _____

Are you a member? _____

List the date and activities of other ministry experiences here at the Grove, and the reasons for ending that ministry.

<u>DATE STARTED</u>	<u>MINISTRY/ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DATE ENDED</u>	<u>REASON</u>
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Describe any other ministry/church experience you have been involved with.

What spiritual gifts do you feel you have, and how would you like to use them in youth ministry?

Why do you want to do youth ministry?

Please sign and turn in upon completion:

signature

date