

Student Ministries is passionate about preparing students to be lifelong followers of Jesus through relevant environments where students feel welcome and safe, have fun, feel known and loved by others, and grow in their relationship with Jesus. As the key contact person for the retail operations, you will develop a team of leaders that are empowered, equipped, and inspired to lead others in this mission.

The Small Group Leader team connects relationally with a small group of students to create an environment of spiritual growth through the pursuit of the five Essentials. Here's how we do it:

Fill Up First

- Prioritize growth in a personal relationship with Jesus, keeping Him at the center of everything we do and being equipped to lead others to do the same.
- Intentionally pray for the students in your group and their families throughout the week.

Spend Time on Their Turf

- Know the heart and story of the students in your group, including their school, parents, where they live.
- Partner with parents by introducing yourself and engaging in an ongoing conversation with them.
- Take time to learn the struggles and successes of the students.
- Show up on their "turf" – any environment personal to a student.
- Connect with your small group and their families throughout the week. Follow up with group members that were absent.
- Regularly reach out to your students outside of Wednesday nights with emails, texts, social media contacts, or outside activities – showing ways that you care.

Get in the Game

- Commit to serving consistently and being present both mentally and physically. Showing up predictably each week creates trust, accelerates community, and builds common ground.
- Be committed to the mission of Student Ministries and consistent in your serving time. With the impact of your role in mind, communicate any changes with your team lead.
- Read communication updates from your leader prior to your serving time to stay informed.
- Look through and study curriculum prior to small group time.
- Check in with your team lead at scheduled time to participate in huddle, receive instructions, connect with your team, and prepare to serve.
- Use group conversations after volunteer leader huddle to seek out new ideas, brainstorm, troubleshoot issues, share prayer requests, and become more equipped to do ministry.

Enjoy the Journey

- Be patient, allowing time and flexibility to develop relationships.
- Facilitate, guide, and encourage group members in participation and building positive relationships with one another.

- As you build relationships with your group and see transformation, don't forget to take time to celebrate and have a ton of fun!

Be Authentic

- Simply being who you are is important to a group's success.
- You don't have to know all the answers.
- Be willing to share your own struggles and stories as you encourage the students to share their own.