



STUDENT LEADER APPLICATION

Dear HSM Student,

Thank you for considering serving on a High School Ministry (HSM) Leadership team. I pray that as you read through and fill out this application, that God gives you direction and discernment. Because we want to give The Lord and His Church our very best, we want these teams to be the very best that they can be. For that reason, we ask that you:

- 1.) Approach this application seriously
- 2.) Give thought to your answers
- 3.) Honestly look at all your commitments before you choose to apply to be on an HSM Leadership Team.
- 4.) Prayerfully ask God if this is where He is directing you.
- 5.) Apply out of a desire to serve the Lord and make HSM better.

Our goal is that the following information gives you a better understanding of the purpose and requirements of the teams that lead this ministry.

In His Service,

-Pastor Stephen



HSM STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM PURPOSE & GOALS

The purpose of HSM Student Leadership Teams is to:

1. Inspire Christlikeness by empowering High School Students to be influencers in the ministry and the culture around them.
2. Create a system within the High School Ministry that most effectively allows us to reach out, raise up and reverence Christ together.
3. Train students in leadership by giving them authority and opportunity to lead.
4. Use the passion, wisdom, gifts and abilities of students to better lead the High School Ministry.

The Biblical model of leadership has two essential qualities:

- 1.) That leaders share the ministry of the church by training and equipping more leaders and then turning responsibilities over to them. The work of ministry is not hoarded by a few but wisely shared with many. ¹

¹ Examples of this delegation in scripture

- 1 Timothy 3 - Paul explains the qualifications for the different positions within the church leadership, in this case, elders and deacons. Thereby showing the delegation of different tasks to different people.
- Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12 - Paul lays out the different gifts that God gives us and how they are designed to work in a way that serves the church community.
- Acts 6 - The church leaders realized that the needs of the church family were too great for them to carry alone so they recruited qualified, quality leaders to help with specific tasks.
- Exodus 18 - Moses was rebuked by his father in law, Jethro because he was attempting to care for the needs of the community by himself. He wisely told Moses that that kind of attempt is not good.
- Matthew 16:18 - Jesus tells Peter that He is going to build His church. Amazingly He tells him that He is going to build His church starting with Peter. Even Jesus chooses to train and equip leaders to carry on the specific tasks instead of doing it all himself.

2.) That leaders are servants. We follow Jesus' model of leadership. Therefore, the leader is the servant of everyone else.² As leaders in HSM, we exist to serve the ministry; it doesn't exist to serve us.

God's word is clear that every believer has spirit – filled abilities designed to grow the Kingdom³. Our goal of HSM Student Leadership is to harness the unique gifts of individual students and form teams that can create significant change and influence in the High School Ministry.

Specific Leadership Teams and their Purpose

A variety of leadership teams exist within HSM so that each team can focus on accomplishing one main thing and doing that thing very well. The purpose statement of our church is to *INSPIRE CHRISTLIKENESS BY REACHING OUT* (evangelism), *RAISING UP* (discipleship) *AND REVERENCING CHRIST TOGETHER* (worship.) Therefore, our three leadership teams are each tasked with developing one of these three, "R's" in the HSM.

Think of it this way:

A Swiss Army Knife is designed to be one tool that contains multiple tools within it. It's fine for the most basic functions, however a professional would never turn to a Swiss Army Knife if they had an important project to tackle. It can do many things decently, but it cannot do any one thing well. We don't want one, "Swiss Army Knife" leadership team that tries to lead and direct on a variety of levels. We would rather have a variety of leadership teams that can focus on doing one task very well.

Please read the purpose, goals and expectations of the specific team you are applying for.

² Matthew 20:16, Matthew 5: 38 – 48, John 13: 1 - 20

³ 1 Corinthians 12:7

HSM MINISTRY TEAMS

DESCRIPTION & SPECIFIC PURPOSE

EVENTS TEAM

REACHING OUT

Purpose: Events are an important part of the High School Ministry. They create a sense of team, family, and excitement among the students. Furthermore, they create opportunities for new people to get connected to the youth group. It is the primary way that we, as a youth group **REACH OUT** to non – believers and connect believers who may or may not feel particularly connected to the youth group.

The purpose of this team is to utilize the talents, time, insight and resources of a group of students and adults to plan the various students to plan organized, exciting and quality events.

Adult Volunteer Overseers: Wava Clark and Camris Glick

Job Description: This team will schedule, plan and organize the monthly fellowships of HSM. They will also advise and assist with the organization and planning of other regular events (Swim N Study, Overtime, BBQ's, etc.) They will assess how the youth group can most effectively reach non-believers with the gospel.

Tasks to Oversee:

- Plan, organize and facilitate the monthly fellowships.
- Assist with, advise and be mindful of all other events occurring in HSM. These include: Overtime, Swim n Study, Summer BBQ's (GROW Group, 8th Grade Luau, End of the Summer)
- Communicate the details of all these events to those who oversee promotion and communication.
- Stay aware of other community, school and sports events and how they might conflict with HSM events.

TEACHING TEAM

RAISING UP

Purpose: The teaching and study of God's word is an essential part of the High School Ministry and the entire Church. God's word is our source of truth. It is what points us to Jesus and shows us how we can **RAISE UP** disciples of Jesus who love and follow Him.

The purpose of this team is to increase the impact of teaching and discipleship in HSM by helping the pastor organize the teaching schedule and contribute ideas and resources that will enhance the messages.

Adult Volunteer Overseers: Rick and Karen Nordell

Job Description: This team will work with the pastor to oversee the organization, direction and development of teaching on all levels within the HSM.

Tasks to Oversee:

- Plan and organize the year's Sunday morning teaching calendar as well as other guest speakers.
- Give input on teaching for other HSM events such as: GROW Groups, Swim N' Study, M2M and BC
- Be aware of upcoming messages and series' and send the pastor illustrations, observations, ideas, etc. as you come across them.
- Communicate the details to all the other ministry teams that they need to know.
- Stay in communication with the other students to be aware of what they are interested in learning and be attentive to what they need to be learning.

WORSHIP TEAM

REVERENCING CHRIST

Purpose: Worshipping God is one of the greatest privileges that we have in Christ. We believe that worship is first and foremost the lifestyle of a person's life and not simply the songs that they sing. However, worship through music has always been an essential part of The Church's corporate gathering and it is an essential part of the High School Ministry gatherings. It focuses the mind on the Lord and tunes the heart to hear Him speak through His word.

The purpose of this team is to use the musical abilities of students to lead the rest of the High School Ministry in **REVERENCING CHRIST** through worship music.

Adult Volunteer Overseers: Paul Garcia and Jeremy Glick

Job Description: Students will be broken down to different teams and assigned certain Sundays where they will oversee leading worship. They may be asked to lead worship at other times in other places such as Beach Camp, Mission to Mexico, special worship nights, etc.

Tasks to Oversee:

- Help plan and organize the Sunday morning worship set.
- Attend and be prepared for worship rehearsals.
- Lead worship on your team's designated Sunday.
- Assist in the set up and tear down of music equipment.

EXPECTATIONS & COMMITMENTS

The expectations of the GCCHSM Student Leadership Teams are intentionally set high. We believe that if the expectations of the leadership team are high, the right students will rise to meet those expectations. As leaders, we are held to a higher standard because we are placed into a position of greater influence. We don't expect perfection, but we expect that our lives are marked by consistent movement in the right direction. Therefore, acceptance onto an HSM Leadership team is not a small thing. We expect a lot from you and ask a lot out of you. There is a significant time commitment throughout the year. You will get very little recognition from the other students, because most of what we do is unseen. These teams don't exist to build your ego, they exist so that more of us can work for Jesus to get the praise and admiration.

The following retreats and meetings are mandatory to be on an HSM Leadership Team. We understand that there are exceptions to these and will make these exceptions on a case by case basis. If there is a conflict in your schedule with anything listed below, it is your responsibility to communicate that as soon as possible to your adult leader so that you two can work through it together.

Requirements:

- You must regularly attend GCC HSM
- You must be a Sophomore, Junior or Senior in the 2020 / 2021 school year if you're applying for the Events or Teaching team, Freshmen can serve on a Worship Team.
- You must complete and return the HSM Leadership Team Application by Sunday, May 17th.
- You must complete an interview (audition for worship teams). The dates for these interviews will be announced later.

Commitments:

Fall Retreat: August 7 – 9, 2020

Read: *Embracing Obscurity* (173 pages. Book will be provided)

Meet three times during the year with an adult leader you respect to discuss the attached leadership questions

Consistent Church attendance and involvement *

Each team will also schedule regular meetings or rehearsals throughout the year to plan, organize and rehearse for their upcoming responsibilities.

*We expect that we will all be a part of Grace Community Church as a whole. We are expected to regularly attend youth group, GROW Groups and the main worship service. Church Membership is a decision you and your parents need to make; however, we strongly encourage anyone in leadership who is 16 or older to join GCC as a member.

EXPECTATIONS OF CHARACTER

Internal Character Expectations

- We expect that we all strive to live out the Greatest Commandment: *Love God and Love others*. This love is expressed outwardly in actions, but it begins in our hearts.
- We expect that we all strive for a heart and an attitude of worship.
- We expect that we all continue to grow in our spiritual disciplines. That we would make God's word, prayer, giving / tithing, etc. a regular part of our lives.

External Character Expectations

- We expect that we all would display a lifestyle of worship; that our lives and actions would honor, glorify and please God.
- We are leaders in HSM, therefore the example that we set in every area of our lives needs to be one that the other students in HSM can follow. Your conduct at school, sports, church, home, with friends and by yourself needs to honor the Lord.
- We expect that you would live a life of sexual integrity. This includes how you act at school dances, your physical conduct in a dating relationship, abstaining from pornography and anything else that is sexually explicit.
 - **Examples of actions that should not be characteristic of someone in HSM Leadership:** Dating non – Christians, partying / drinking, smoking / vaping, drug use, trouble with the law, ongoing disobedience to parents, inappropriate usage of social media, etc.

Please understand that we do not expect perfection. We are all in the ongoing struggle with sin. We show grace for sins but we don't give permission to sin freely. We will address conduct that doesn't match the listed expectations, with the desire to see change. We operate by the motto: "we show grace until grace stops teaching." Therefore, if we don't see change, we will discuss different options, but the last option would be your removal from the leadership team.

APPLICATION

Name: _____ Date: _____

DOB: _____

Grade entering this fall: _____ School: _____

Email: _____

Cell: _____

Home Address: _____

Parent Name 1. _____

2. _____

Parent Cell 1. _____

2. _____

Please list extracurricular activities that you are involved in:

Team (s) applying for:

Worship Team

Events Team

Teaching Team

Instrument(s) you play: _____ ?

Vocal?

(Please note, you cannot apply for both the events team and teaching team. You can serve on one of these as well as a worship team, but please be mindful of the time commitment that you're making)

Having read the above time commitments and expectations, are you able to commit yourself to all of these?

YES NO

We understand that situations sometimes come up which are beyond your control. Are there any personal conflicts to any of the above schedule commitments that you are aware of right now?

YES NO

If yes, please list the event and conflict

Are you willing to commit to the moral expectations, understanding that your actions speak louder than your words and you lead first and foremost through the way you live?

YES NO

Are you willing to commit to involvement within the church, understanding that we can't lead if we're not present?

YES NO

Do you understand that if you fail to follow through on these commitments, that will begin a process of conversations with you, your adult leader and Pastor Stephen? We are not legalistic, and our hope is always to keep you on the leadership team. However, if change doesn't happen, you may be asked to step down your leadership team.

YES NO

It's important to remember that a leader never "arrives." A leader must always be learning and growing as a leader and the only way we do this is by learning from others. For that reason, you will be given and required to read the book, *Embracing Obscurity* (173 pages) over the course of this year. You will also be required to pick an adult to interview that you consider to be a leader, and you must have at least three meetings with them.

Do you agree to read the assigned book, *Embracing Obscurity* over the course of this year?

YES NO

Do you agree to find and interview an adult leader in person at least 3 times? (see the attached list of questions)

YES NO

Please type your response to the following questions, print and attach to this application

1. How did you come to know Jesus as your Lord and Savior?

2. How have you grown in your relationship with Jesus since you began to follow Him?

3. How have you most recently been growing in your walk with Christ? (How has the Lord been making you more like Jesus?)

4. Reflect on the expectations and commitments required. Do you believe it's important that student leaders are held to these commitments and expectations? Please share why

5. Where do you feel you are gifted and equipped for serving the Kingdom? How do you feel your gifts will contribute to making the team and the High School Ministry better?

6. Why do you want to serve in High School Ministry Student Leadership?

7. Are you nervous or apprehensive about serving in High School Ministry Student Leadership for any reason? If so, why?

8. Pick one section of scripture and please share what it has taught you about leadership.

Passage:

What this teaches me about leadership:

References Name and contact information:

These references must be adults. They cannot be family. At least one must be from some place outside of Grace Community Church.

1. _____ Phone # _____
2. _____ Phone # _____
3. _____ Phone # _____

I have contacted these references and let them know that they may be contacted about this application.

AGREEMENT OF TERMS

I understand that applying for this team, it does not mean that I am automatically accepted.

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

RECOMMENDED QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO ASK AN ADULT MENTOR

DON'T FORGET

- Communicate to them that you would like to meet at least three times during the year.
- Send them these, or other questions in advance.
- Write down or type their responses.
- Explain the place(s) that you serve as a leader to give them context to your questions.
- Follow up by expressing your appreciation to them for taking the time to meet with you.

QUESTIONS

1. In what ways and places would you consider yourself a leader?
2. What do you wish you would have been taught about leadership when you were my age?
3. How have you dealt with failure and trials in your life?
4. What did you learn from your failures and has it made you a better leader? How?
5. What have been some of your greatest challenges as a leader?
6. Who are a few people you admire as great leaders? Why?
7. Is there a book that has impacted you as a leader? Why?
8. Where do you feel like you are gifted as a leader?
9. Where do you feel like you struggle as a leader?
10. How can I grow and improve as a leader?
11. In my youth group, I serve with a team of other students. What is your advice for serving among a team of leaders?
12. How have you grown to become a better leader?
13. Is there a short phrase or statement that has helped guide and direct you over the years?