

THE R.E.A.L.I.T.Y. OF LEADERSHIP

Relationships

God, Family, Church, School and Community

Jesus replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" **Matthew 22:37-39**

Student Leaders are expected to actively pursue the building of quality relationships with the Lord, their family, other students, in school and the community.

Example

Speech, Life, Love, Faith, and Purity

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life in love, in faith, and in purity. **1 Timothy 4:12**

Speech = WHAT YOU SAY AND HOW YOU SAY IT

There should be no gossip, slander, backbiting, negative speech, course joking, or foul language, but rather encouragement, edification, and positive language.

Life = LIFESTYLE, CONDUCT, & BEHAVIOR

Your lifestyle should reflect Christ by the way you live. Living a life above reproach and safeguarding against any accusations is of utmost importance. Drugs, alcohol, smoking, tobacco, and other related addictions will not be tolerated.

Love= YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS

Your relationships with others should exemplify purity, Christ love, and a caring attitude.

Faith= YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Growing in your relationship with the Lord is your highest calling.

Purity= STANDARDS, MORALS, AND CONVICTIONS

As a leader, it is imperative that you live with purity and holiness. In addition, there must be a commitment to purity in regard to entertainment, the internet, books, magazines, videos, and music.

Attitude

Servanthood, Optimism, and Teamwork Mindset

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in the very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant being made in human likeness. **Philippians 2:5-7**

Your attitude is your greatest asset. Developing a positive attitude accompanied by obedience, humility, selflessness, and servanthood is a priority.

Loyalty

United with the leadership in Word, Action, and Priority

I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.

1 Corinthians 1:10

There must be loyalty to the pastoral staff and their families, the church leadership, and the student ministry. "Disloyalty in the leadership will result in disunity in the ranks."

Involved

Using Your Gifts in Ministry & Being Faithful to Services & Meetings

Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you. **1 Timothy 4:14**

There must be a commitment to be involved in a ministry team serving with faithfulness.

Total Commitment

Faithfulness, Time, Availability, and High Standards

But your hearts must be fully committed to the Lord our God, to live by His decrees and obey His commands, as at this time. **1 Kings 8:61**

Commitment must be consistent showing evidence of faithfulness, promptness, high standards, and availability. This means you are committed to that which you agree in advance to be involved in.

Yield Fruit

Longevity, Change in the Lives of Teens, & Responsibilities Done Well

I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing...This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. **John 15:5, 8**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. **Galatians 5:22-26**

Jesus measures success often by the fruit that was brought forth. Fruit should be developed in your life spiritually, socially, in conduct and lifestyle, in leadership, in your attitude, and in ministry.

Student Leadership Team

Our student leadership team is composed of middle school and high school students who have a sincere desire to serve Jesus Christ and develop their leadership skills. This is not a program for every student but rather a ministry opportunity that is accompanied by high standards, high commitment, and high expectations. Skill level is not the basic requirement of this leadership level. As you review the requirements for student leadership you will notice that there are four key facets of the commitment to this leadership team that are expected:

- 1. Personal growth, character, and maturity on spiritual, emotional, and social levels**
- 2. Ministry involvement and commitment**
- 3. Responsibility**
- 4. Personal leadership development**

As you read through the requirements and covenant please understand that we are not looking for perfection, but that, scripturally, leadership does require a high standard. Our desire is to help you grow into the leader God wants you to be.

Student Leadership Requirements

- **Student must be saved**
- **Mature and Trustworthy**
- **Prayerful and spiritually minded.**
- **Be willing to work**
- **Be a faithful attendee of our church**
- **Be available to meet on a regular basis to be determined according to all schedules.**
This is not optional.
- **Commit to a personal growth plan as will be discussed in student leadership orientation.**
- **Live according to the standards set forth in the student leadership covenant.**
- **Be actively involved in a ministry team, decided by the student pastor as to better meet the needs of the group and our church.**
- **Commit to attend youth services and all youth gatherings and functions when possible.**
- **Be able to serve throughout the summer and into school year.**
- **Keep a prayer journal.**
- **Be involved in additional leadership training as made available.**
- **Be prepared for an interview w/ any pastoral staff or KARDIA leadership.**
- **Be able to work with Pastor Justin and other adult leaders.**
- **MUST BE HUNGRY TO SEE GOD MOVE IN THIS GENERATION**

The Advantages of Student Leadership

1. Personal Growth

A strong component of student leadership is the personal development of the student in their relationship with Christ, leadership development, character development, and attitude development. This is a key advantage. You will definitely grow.

2. Leadership Development

There will be extensive development of leadership knowledge and skills through leadership training and ministry involvement.

3. Servanthood

Serving others and developing servanthood qualities in your life will be a great advantage. Jesus exemplified servant leadership. His model will be the model we emphasize.

4. Ministry

Through ministry involvement and the development of ministry leadership, we will expose you continually to ministry and the needs to stretch you into who God wants you to be.

5. Accountability

Accountability is important if we want to maintain integrity and effectively measure growth. Through various avenues, we will include accountability in the leadership team.

As a leader, you must relinquish your rights and assume responsibilities.

He that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

Hebrews 23:11

The number one thing to remember is that the leadership that this youth group needs is servant leadership. We are not here to lord over anyone. I, as your youth pastor am not here to be your policeman, daddy, or boss. I have come to serve you. As student leaders you too should lead by serving.

Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does...

Ephesians 6:6

Leadership is a great responsibility and should not be taken lightly. There will be times that as an student leaders you will have to bring other youth members into check and you will speak for me and carryout the agenda and make sure others follow. This will require at times a stern voice and may lead to confrontation. Do not forget that servanthood is not being a doormat, but serving others with love. This also includes tough love.

But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

2 Timothy 4:5

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Colossians 3:23

Student Leadership Guidelines

1. Insubordination is defined simply as disobedience, defiance, rebelliousness, mutiny, unruliness, and noncompliance. Disagreement in private is not insubordination. Open defiance in public is. Insubordination of any type will not be tolerated at anytime from anyone. It is grounds for immediate dismissal from the student leadership team. The reasoning is this: Leadership demands that you set the example at all times. As a student leader you must understand that we will work together in harmony and mutual respect. There is no room for rebellious division and strife in the counsel. The Word is clear on this subject.

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrew 10:25

But if you do not obey the Lord, and if you rebel against His commands, His hand will be against you...

1 Samuel 12:15

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Proverbs 1:7

...not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. 1 Peter 5:3

Therefore in order to have a good working relationship there will be zero tolerance for insubordination.

2. Confidentiality is also very important. Everything discussed in each student leadership meeting must stay in that room. As a student leader you will be exposed and privy to information that the average member may not be. Many times this information is of a sensitive nature and to share it with anyone outside the meeting would be harmful. It would also be damaging to the others, therefore you must agree to keep all matters absolutely confidential. Failure to do this will be dealt with in a very serious manner. Each case will be dealt with on an individual basis. It will be left up to the youth pastor's discretion.

3. As a student leader you must remember that you are being watched. What you do and say is a reflection of not only the other student leaders and myself, but is an example of what a Christian is supposed to be. Be careful of what you say. Guard your words carefully and put your hand over your mouth if necessary. Never just say what you feel. Be careful not to be a stumbling block to others. Be careful what you wear. The reason for this is that we want to set an example. Be careful of attitudes. Always remember that you are to be an example of what a Christian is. If you act in a carnal manner you have in effect told everyone that this is appropriate behavior for a Christian. This is unacceptable. It is understood that we all make mistakes at times. What we ask of you is that you try to avoid these when possible and publicly apologize when necessary.

4. Finally, as student leaders we want you to be accountable to one another. We do not want to have you struggling with sin or any other problem or circumstance and not have the support of the other leaders. You will be there for each other in support and in prayer. The other leaders and I will help you in any way that we

can and will also minister to you and give you the support you need to overcome. We will be to each other what we want to see implemented in the youth group.

Student Leadership Application

Name _____ Birthday _____

Grade _____ School _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____ Cell Phone _____

Facebook profile name : _____

Please List some of your Hobbies: _____

Please list all other obligations you have or will have in or outside of school.
(Such as football, basketball, cheerleading, girl scouts, ensemble, job etc.)

Student Leadership Position Requested _____

Please X all that apply

Saved How Long? _____ Baptized in Water

Church Member Called to the Ministry

Please tell me why you would like to be a student leader and what you would do in the position you have selected.

What are your strengths? _____

What are your weaknesses? _____

What would you consider to be your fatal flaw(s)? In other words, what weakness in your life do you consider could be potentially destructive if it were not under control?

What gifts, talents, and abilities has God given you that can be used for ministry?

Can you commit without compromise to the student leadership covenant? _____

Student Leadership Agreement

I understand that if I am selected to serve as a student leader that I will be expected to live in accordance with the student leadership covenant, requirements, and additional responsibilities outlined in this application and in the program. I realize that this is a commitment and will require my time, gifts, abilities, and a willingness to serve and sacrifice for the work of God through this ministry. I understand what is expected and required of me and do hereby commit to this leadership, upon approval, with the highest level of excellence. I will live my life in such a manner as to honor and please my Lord Jesus Christ. I will serve my fellow peers and submit fully to the leadership of this youth ministry and church. I understand that if I fail in the above commitment that I may be removed from the leadership team, by the decision of the youth and other pastoral staff.

Signed _____ Date _____

Parent's Signature of Support _____

