

Welcome!



Thank you for expressing interest in Overflow Student Ministry!

We are excited about the potential of you joining our team!

There are many stereotypes about youth workers... young, energetic, dress cool, always say the right thing, speak their language, listen to their music and watch their movies. But in a recent survey, students were asked what they want in a youth leader. The responses were surprising! They want leaders who are friendly, personally devoted to Christ, transparent and take an interest in their lives. For most teenagers, being real and authentic with them is the most important thing.

So you may not feel like the “stereotypical” youth worker, but you are walking down a faith journey just like them. You have had doubts, just like them. You have had fears, just like them. You have sinned, just like them. If you love Christ and you love teenagers, there is great potential for you in student ministry.

The quality of our leadership team is very important. We are looking for men and women who have a commitment to Christ and a desire to care for students. With the aid of prayer and consideration, read the enclosed material. We also encourage you to observe a Sunday morning and Wednesday night program before you fill out an application.

Once we have received your application, we will schedule a time to meet with you. This will give us a chance to learn more about you and answer any questions you may have. We do offer various levels of involvement so don't be intimidated by this packet!

Again, thank you for taking the time to consider this opportunity to make disciples. The time you spend with us and with the students will be a growing experience for everyone involved! At any point, please feel free to call us at the numbers below.

Praying for you!

Tim Cartwright
Junior High Pastor
254.760.5893

Dave Tate
High School Pastor
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APPLICATION PACKET

What students need from their leaders

Changing youth culture 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 with them
- Pray for them
- Be real
- Say encouraging words
- Believe in them
- Laugh
- Remember their names
- Share your own personal experiences
- Be consistent
- 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 leadership team. For effective ministry with students, you need to:

1. Understand how your role will help fulfill the purpose and vision of making disciples.
2. Commit to a program. Consider the role for which God has shaped you in order to build relationships with the students.
3. Grow as a minister. Develop your personal ministry, which will ultimately influence students.

Understand the purpose and vision of our ministry

PURPOSE

Our ministry exists to fulfill the Great Commission stated in Matthew 28:19, to make disciples. We aren't just out to "get kids saved" but to engage them in a discipleship process that continues throughout their life.

VISION

What is a disciple? As we study Scripture we've identified three ideas pertinent to discipleship.

- **Surrender-Being a disciple starts with surrendering to Jesus initially, but also continually throughout one's life.**
- **Community-Being a disciple continues with a pursuit of relationships that lead to spiritual growth.**
- **Mission-Being a disciple continues with using one's gifts in the body while also living on mission in one's personal life.**

These are not steps to be completed, but areas in which we should always be growing.

How to become a youth worker: the application process

1. Express Interest

You may have an interest in serving God by loving students but are unsure where you can help. We will help you with this. Some of the most "unlikely people" make the greatest youth workers, so take the next step as you prayerfully consider this ministry.

2. Initial Contact by Church Staff

This is an opportunity for us to briefly connect and hear your desire to be involved in ministry. We will also give you a general overview of the ministry and arrange for you to visit and observe our programs.

3. Observe Programs

Before you fill out the application, we encourage you to observe a program. This is a good opportunity to get a better feel for the ministry without having expectations or responsibilities placed on you. It will be natural for you to feel a little uncomfortable while observing a program (students won't typically go out of their way to make you feel welcome until you get to know them).

4. Receive Youth Ministry Material

This packet gives you the basic information that will help you make decisions about our ministry. We have tried to explain as much as we can, but you'll see more once you come visit.

5. Complete Application

This application packet was developed to obtain information for our screening process. We request two references. You can choose a pastor, close friend, and/or employer within the past year.

6. Check References

After you fill out the application and turn it in, we'll check the two references you provided.

7. Background Check

We use Ministry Safe for all background checks. We use your name, cell number, e-mail to do your background check. We will also have you watch a one hour long sexual abuse awareness training video through Ministry Safe. They will also have you take a short quiz afterward.

8. Interview with Youth Pastor

This is an opportunity for you to ask questions, describe when and how you came to follow Christ, and discuss your gifts and where you think you would best fit.

9. Sign Commitment Sheet for School Year

After you have decided you want to make a commitment, sign the commitment sheet and return it to us.

10. Begin Ministry

We will discuss the beginning date when you turn in the commitment sheet.

LIVING ABOVE REPROACH

"HERE IS A TRUSTWORTHY SAYING: IF ANYONE SETS HIS HEART ON BEING AN OVERSEER, HE DESIRES A NOBLE TASK. NOW THE OVERSEER MUST BE ABOVE REPROACH..."

1 Timothy 3:12

- If someone on the team sins against you, please live out what Matthew 18:15-16 says.
- If you are not married, we ask all on our team to live in keeping with 1 Timothy 5, treating each other as brothers and sisters, in all purity.
- Please guard what you watch through digital media, TV, movies, understanding that no one is above temptation. If you are struggling in these ways please confess to someone and take steps towards repentance.
- If over age 21, please do not drink alcohol to get drunk and please use wisdom. Since you are working with students, please do not post pictures of drinking on social media as sometimes students may have to interpret what they are seeing.
- We ask our male leaders to focus on male students and our female leaders to focus on female students as it pertains to discipleship.
- There should be no contact through texting or social media with a student of the opposite sex. If the student initiates contact, please direct him/her to their interns/volunteers. This would not include sending mass group messages concerning ministry events.
- There should never be a time when a leader is alone with a student of the opposite sex. This includes events, car rides, in homes, and at the Outback.
- If you hear a student say anything about abuse please report to Tim, Dave or Meagan.