

## **An Open Letter to Potential Youth Leadership Team Members:**

God's plan in building His Kingdom requires fully developed student leaders ready to assume real leadership roles right now. Students are not merely the "leaders of tomorrow." God wants to use student leaders like you today. God uses leaders to change the world, and students can have a measurable impact on the Kingdom wherever you are.

The pursuit of leadership is a lifelong endeavor. Each day new opportunities will arise for you to exercise leadership skills. As you gain knowledge and experience you will learn more about what it means to be a leader. Remember, the best leaders are learners.

Jesus warned us to count the cost before we begin anything. So, remember:

**Leadership is about tough decisions.** It's about making the best use of people and resources, setting good goals and evaluating the progress. The success of a leader can be measured by the decisions that he or she makes. These decisions are never easy, but always significant. Learning leadership principles, combined with real-life leadership experience, will help you make better leadership decisions.

**Leadership requires you to act.** When the chance comes to stand for the truth no matter the cost, true leaders are the first to rise to the challenge. True leaders are defined by Godly character that allows them to meet whatever challenges they face.

**Leadership means sacrifice.** It is a sacrifice to take up the mantle of leadership. It is hard work. Leaders are exposed to criticism and rejection. It is much safer to remain on the sidelines, away from the scrutiny that leadership brings. Leadership may not make you popular, but it will make you strong.

**Leadership requires taking risks.** Some student leaders are worried about making mistakes. They are so focused on doing things right that they are unwilling to take a risk. To be a leader is to be a risk-taker with big dreams.

**Leadership depends on goals.** To be a big dreamer you need to set goals. Goals are a map to the life that God has always wanted you to have. Too many people go through life simply allowing things to happen to them and never fulfilling any of their dreams.

Our hope for you is that Leadership 365 will be a year you never forget in your pursuit of what it means to be a leader. By applying the principles you will learn this year, you can impact your world for God's Kingdom-now! Be prepared for difficult challenges and tough times, but know that the sacrifice is worth it. God has big plans for you. You need to be ready to lead.

*LeaderTrek ©*

# Youth Leadership Team Application

## Expectations for Student Leaders

- Active pursuit of the life Jesus Christ calls us to live.
- Desire to impact the lives of others for Christ.
- Willingness to learn from students and staff who have gone before you.
- Full commitment and regular attendance at student leader meetings
- Love and care for other members of the team.
- Enthusiasm in pursuit of leadership in the church.

## Important Dates:

- October 7<sup>th</sup> Youth Leadership Team Informational meeting
- October 21<sup>st</sup> Applications Due
- October 28<sup>th</sup> Face to Face Interviews
- December 2<sup>nd</sup> YLT meeting after church with lunch
- January 6<sup>th</sup> YLT meeting after church with lunch
- February 24<sup>th</sup> YLT meeting after church with lunch
- April 28<sup>th</sup> YLT meeting after church with lunch
- May 18<sup>th</sup> YLT leading Youth Sunday Rehearsal 9am-Noon
- May 19<sup>th</sup> Youth Sunday-all 3 services lead by youth

## ***Youth Leadership Team Application***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade/School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Other commitments during the school year:

Describe your relationship with Jesus Christ. (250 words)

What is one thing that God has taught you recently?

How long have you been involved with SWAT? How are you involved?

Do you attend Sunday morning worship services at the church?

What makes someone a leader?

What one thing would you like to tackle as a leader in the youth ministry?

What one thing are you passionate about?

## References:

Two references are required. These can be from someone at Church, a parent, an employer, coach, teacher, or another adult.

Reference Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

How Long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

The student who has asked you to complete this reference is applying for a student leadership team at the church. As a member of the team they will be challenged emotionally, relationally, and in leadership. They will be called upon to be a role model in all aspects of their life as well as influence other students. Do you believe this applicant is up to the task?

Yes or No?

Why?

On a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest, how does the applicant:

- Live a Christian life?.....1 2 3 4 5
- Work on a team?.....1 2 3 4 5
- Take initiative?.....1 2 3 4 5
- Respect authority?.....1 2 3 4 5
- Communicate with others?.....1 2 3 4 5
- Listen to others?.....1 2 3 4 5
- Lead by example?.....1 2 3 4 5
- Has a positive attitude?.....1 2 3 4 5
- Handle conflict and crisis?.....1 2 3 4 5
- Follow through on commitments?....1 2 3 4 5
- Serve others?.....1 2 3 4 5

Why should this student be chosen to serve on the youth leadership team?

## Youth Leadership Team Covenant

Being a student leader is a serious responsibility. It requires being a leader worth following. You cannot expect anyone to respect you as a leader unless you are willing to live as a leader should. As a part of the responsibility of being a student leader you are asked to agree to each of the statements below:

- **Relationship with God:** I will make my personal relationship with God the number one priority in my life. I will seek to grow by spending time daily with God, finding a spiritual mentor, and surrounding myself with Christians who will challenge me in my faith.
- **Godly Lifestyle:** As a student leader I understand how I lead my personal life will greatly affect my ability to lead. I will be refrain from alcohol, drugs, and pornography.
- **Attend All Leadership Team Meetings:** I am committing to attend all Youth Leadership Team meetings. If I have a conflict that is unavoidable I will contact Pastor Dave at least one week before the meeting. I understand that if I miss meetings without talking to Pastor Dave I may be asked to resign from the team.
- **Regular involvement in worship and youth programs:** I understand that as a student leader I need to regularly attend Sunday morning worship and youth programs and events.
- **Personal Development:** I realize that the Youth Leadership Team is focused on developing me as a leader. I commit to doing all the work necessary to be become a better leader.
- **Sacrifice for Others:** I understand that I will be asked to sacrifice for others as a leader. I will make that sacrifice willingly.
- **Defend the Team:** I will never talk bad about any other student or adult who are members of the Youth Leadership Team. I will keep all problems within the confines of the team and commit to working them out.
- **Pursuit of Excellence:** I am willing to pursue excellence in all I do as a student leader.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_