



potential  
leaders  
packet



Dear Potential **leader**...

We are **thrilled** that you're taking the time to look into the student ministry here at OCC! We believe with all of our heart that the teenage years are the most influential and crucial time in a person's life - it's the time where we decide who we will be for the rest of our life! So fighting for young people is epic in proportion... and it's actually fun! We hope this packet gives you a clear picture of what we're all about.

First, our team is truly a **family**. We believe a healthy ministry is built on healthy relationships between adults and students. Relationships are the avenue by which students can truly understand the love that Christ has for them. So everything we do is highly relational.

That's where people like **you** come in. You may not picture yourself as the *youth leader* type- most people don't- but *most* people never even try. Students seem intimidating, but all they're looking for is love, hope and truth. So whether you're "cool" or not, if you have a deep commitment to Christ and a strong desire to care for students, you'll thrive on this team.

We've honestly been hoping for someone like you! No matter your age, style of clothes, music preference, or cola choice... You have something to offer in ministry. "God doesn't call the equipped... he equips those he calls," as the old saying goes.

So please take time to **prayerfully** read through this here packet. It's an outline of our ministry. If God leads... fill out the *contact form* and turn it into Jake, Bob, or Rory. We'll give you a call to get together and chat about life and the possibilities of great ministry!

In the meantime... we're pumped about what God's doing in your life, and we look forward to meeting you!

Whelp... See ya later...

Jake, Bob, & Rory  
Student Ministry Pastors

## what students need

For most sane adults, investing into teenagers can be a little intimidating. But trust me... it's not as hard as you might think! We've heard the same old misconceptions time and time again that unfortunately prevent adults from getting started in ministry and making a difference in the life of a student.

### **MISCONCEPTIONS:**

- I must be young and hip
- I must have adequate Bible training
- I must be a perfect example of a Christian
- I must feel secure
- I must be able to act like one of the students
- I must have plenty of free time
- I must know everything about the latest youth culture
- I must be wild, crazy, and dynamic
- I must be liked by all students

Let's be honest... this isn't the most comfortable ministry in the church. So it's completely normal for you to feel inadequate about your skills and ability to relate. But know this... your confidence will grow the more you're around students and you'll see how God can use inadequate people (*like you and me*) to do great things. Here's the truth about what students need.

### **ADULTS WHO WILL...**

- remember their name
- show interest in their world
- pray for them
- laugh with them and at themselves
- take initiative to spend a little time with them
- believe in them
- love Jesus authentically in front of them

A student is looking for someone to care... it's that simple!

## getting involved

We'll get to the application process, but first it's important to understand what we ask of our adult leaders. As an adult leader we'll need you to...

### **UNDERSTAND OUR MINISTRY**

*Look at the purpose and values that we all strive to embody.*

### **COMMIT TO A ROLE**

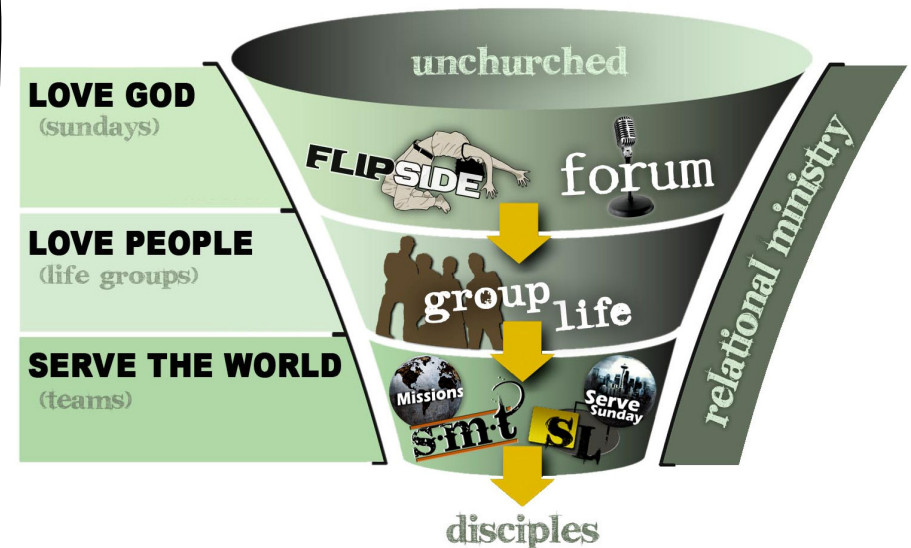
*Consider the role the God has best shaped you for.*

### **GROW AS A MINISTER**

*Continually developing your personal ministry is a must.*

## purpose & programs

Our **student ministry** exists to help students...  
Love God, Love People, & Serve the World.



Our goal is to reach **unchurched** students & walk along side them as they become fully devoted **disciples** of Christ who **love God, love people, & serve the world**. Our programs are a tool and a process to help this sanctification happen. **Relational ministry**, a healthy relationship between an adult leader & a student, is the pillar that hold this this process up & makes it actually work.

## our relational values

These are the **TEN VALUES** that we live by. They're the relational characteristics every leader should hold as important and strive to embody. As relational leaders we value...

### 1. **A WILLINGNESS TO ENGAGE**

It's important to overcome fear and continually approach and engage with all kinds of students in our ministry. -1 *Thessalonians 2:8*

### 2. **LAUGHTER AND FUN**

It's important to lighten up and enjoy the many blessings God has given to us. -*John 10:10*

### 3. **TRANSPARENCY & AUTHENTICITY**

It's important to be yourself, lower the masks, and be vulnerable with each other and the students we serve. -1 *Corinthians 2:3-4*

### 4. **COMMUNICATING CARE & ENCOURAGEMENT**

It's important to be positive and uplifting to everyone. A student or leader should feel better about who they are after being around you. It's not enough to just believe this... we've got to communicate it to our students and fellow leaders. -*John 13:34-35*

### 5. **THE POWER OF BEING THERE**

It's important to be present in our student's lives. We need to show up to their games, functions, and activities so they know they can count on us when things are hard. -*Hebrews 13:7*

### 6. **BEING "STUDENT" FOCUSED**

It's important to put others first. Live to give and care more for the comfort of another than for the comfort of yourself. -*Romans 12:10*

### 7. **LIVING ABOVE REPROACH**

Integrity needs to be demonstrated in all you do... especially outside the walls of church. -1 *Timothy 4:12*

### 8. **FOLLOW THROUGH**

It's important to be faithful to your commitments to students, leaders, and this ministry. -2 *Timothy 4:7*

### 9. **SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

It's important to be continually and actively growing closer to Jesus. We cannot lead a student to a place of faith if we have never been there ourselves. -*Hebrews 6:1*

### 10. **PRAYER**

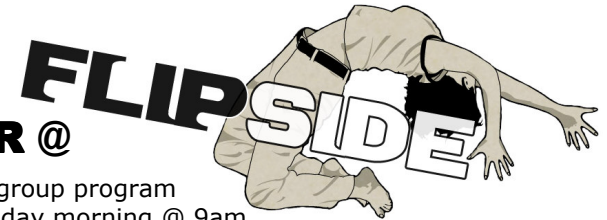
It's important to pray for our students, each other, our church, and this ministry. -*Proverbs 2:3-6*

## commit to a role

Here are the options...

(Option 1)

### UNIT LEADER @



**FLIPSIDE** is our large-group program that happens every Sunday morning @ 9am.

It's open to all students (*grades 7-12*), but the service is stylized toward younger, more **high-energy** students. The purpose is to simply introduce young people to a relationship of love with God. It's like the entry-way to a house, the place students meet Jesus for the first time and receive the invitation to "come on in." It's high energy, fast paced, loud, humorous and light-hearted. (*God isn't boring... so why should church be?*) Yet in all the craziness the service remains Biblical and Christ-centered. The success of this program relies on the adult leadership team, so leaders should expect to sit with students, chat with them, play games with them, show them you care, knowing that "There's the world's way to live... and then there's the Flipside."

#### **TIME REQUIRED:**

- 15 minutes before and after Flipside for a total of **2 hrs a week**
- An Adult leaders Meeting every other month for **2 hrs**

#### **MONTHLY TIME COMMITMENT: 9 hours**

(Option 2)

### UNIT LEADER @ forum



**FORUM** is also a large-group program but this one happens on Sundays @ 11am. All students are welcome to attend, but the Forum is designed specifically for more mature students- students who like to dialogue and interact with people and ideas. Its purpose is still to introduce students to the love of God through Jesus, but the environment is more laid back – **conversational** – and perhaps more intellectual. It's like an ancient forum where ideas and issues were discussed, but with Jesus always at the center of the exchange. Adult leaders are vital. We sit among students, foster discussion, offer insight, show that we care. There's great music, coffee-shop feel, dialogue-driven sermons, & loving adults- it's how the Forum invites students to enter this love-relationship with God that starts now & lasts for eternity.

#### **TIME REQUIRED:**

- 15 minutes before and after Forum for a total of **2 hrs a week**
- An Adult leaders Meeting every other month for **2 hrs**

#### **MONTHLY TIME COMMITMENT: 9 hours**



## commit to a role

(Option 3)

### LIFE GROUP LEADER @



**GROUP LIFE** is our small group program that happens every Wednesday at 7pm. These groups are the **backbone** of our ministry! Although connection & growth happen on Sundays, it doesn't happen in depth. There's another level of community that's needed and we do that through the avenue of these groups.

Teaming up an adult with 5-7 students creates a great little church within the church that is able to care and pray for one another— basically they “do life” together. And that's the point: People actively loving other people. Here we empower our amazing adult leaders to be the youth pastor to their group. Together they study God's Word, hold each other accountable, and discuss the tough questions in a student's world. Our goal is to take these groups beyond the superficial. We do this by creating a safe place where students feel accepted and cared for as we encourage them on to greater spiritual maturity... an Acts 2:42-47 community.

ALL students (*grades 7-12*) are welcome, but we break down the groups according to grade and gender.

#### TIME REQUIRED:

- Meet with 5-7 students once a week for **2 hrs**
- Call or write to life group students once a week for **15 minutes**
- Connect with your group outside of church every other month **2 hrs**
- An Adult leaders Meeting every other month for **2 hrs**

**MONTHLY TIME COMMITMENT: 11 hours**

## grow as a minister

### DEVELOPING IN MINISTRY...

The third “ask” of our adult leaders is that you would be continually growing as a minister and a follower of Jesus. You may feel a little unsettled and unprepared at this point, or you just might feel confident and ready to roll! Whatever the case may be, know this... when you commit to the ministry... we commit to you! We want to empower you to impact students with integrity and success. We'll teach you what we've learned over the years on how to best connect with students. Our goal is for you to be the best relational minister you can be. And if you're looking to... we know you'll grow in the process. You'll begin to develop a strong sense of purpose and fulfillment. And it's from that personal growth that our students will grow as well.

### KEYS TO DEVELOPING AS A MINISTER...

- **TIME:** Be Patient! Becoming an effective leader takes time.
- **PARTICIPATION:** “Being There” with students is the biggest thing you can do.
- **INITIATIVE:** If you are willing to engage and dive into their lives... students will respond to you.

### WHAT TO EXPECT FROM US...

- Structure, leadership, vision, and direction
- Training and growth opportunities
- Challenges to develop as a person and leader
- Prayer, support, encouragement, and friendship

Please let me express one more thing as well. *This experience is what you make it...* the quality is really determined by you. It could be a rock in your boot or a vacation to Disneyworld. What you put into the ministry determines what you give and get out of it. Very seldom does a leader find themselves disappointed with their experience on this team. Almost every leader who has jumped into this journey has found a great source of joy, purpose, and fruitfulness. We are truly a family!

## joining the team

### THE STEPS...

Thanks for reading this far!  
If you want to join the family,  
these are the **NEXT STEPS**:



#### 1. PRAY...

Quite frankly... if God doesn't want you here, we don't either! We don't take lightly the importance of God's timing and choice in matters of leadership and ministry. Please pursue God and ask for His direction. We'll do the same. And God will be honored!

#### 2. OBSERVE PROGRAM...

The very first thing you should do is visit the program you're interested in. Come in on a Sunday morning or for a midweek service. No pressure, just dip your toe in the water before you dive in. You can hang with another leader, play some pool, get introduced... This step can often be overwhelming or uncomfortable (*students don't typically go out of their way to make you feel welcome...until you get to know them*) but it's a natural feeling, and we encourage you to push through it!

#### 3. TURN IN A CONTACT FORM...

Simply fill out the CONTACT FORM inserted in this packet. When you've filled it out please give it to one of the pastors- Jake, Rory, or Bob. They'll say something clever, like: "Thank you" or "Awesome."

## joining the team

#### 4. INTERVIEW...

May sound intimidating, but it's super laid back... no pressure! This is an opportunity for you to tell us your story and get to know us. We'll ask questions about your passions, gifts, and experiences. We'll run a background check (*with your permission*) to make sure everything's clear. We'll talk through a commitment form—duration, expectations, etc.— and if everything looks good we'll get you rollin'!

#### 5. BEGIN MINISTRY...

This date will vary from person to person depending on their desires and schedule. Typically we plug new leaders in three times per year: January, June and September. But if you're itching to get going... we just might make an exception!

It's important for you to know that many people come once or twice, they feel sort of out of place, and begin to think things like "this just isn't for me..." EXPECT THIS FEELING, but don't accept it in any way. It isn't Jesus telling you that; it's the one who knows what you have to offer and doesn't want you to succeed. You'll do great just hang in there!

#### 6. FEEDBACK...

We really want this to be a *great* experience for you... So please give us lots of feedback! Good or bad, let us know. Whatever it is- we'll do whatever it takes to help you thrive and find joy in this season of life.



thank you

Thank you for coming **this far!** I know it can seem like an overload of information, but be encouraged my friend... God has great things in store! I'm pleased as punch that you've read this packet and desire to serve in an environment that most human beings are afraid to even *think* about... Student Ministry! It's such a great place to be and grow. The students truly are the coolest people on the planet!

I truly hope this **works out** for your benefit, for the benefit of our students, and most of all... for the glory and honor of Jesus!

Chow for Now...



Pastor Jake  
*Team Lead*



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**CONTACT FORM**  
*on the*  
**NEXT PAGE**

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425-702-0303

# POTENTIAL LEADER

## "contact form"

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

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

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

Washington State Driver's License #: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Status:  part time  full time  student

Marital Status:  single  married  divorced

### **EDUCATION**

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

College/Trade School: \_\_\_\_\_ Year graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Education: \_\_\_\_\_ Year graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

### **INTEREST**

- Flipside (Sunday Leader)  Group Life (Life Group Leader)  
 Forum (Sunday Leader)  Other \_\_\_\_\_

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Please write a brief testimony about how you became a Christian.

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2. Why do you want to work with students here at Overlake? What do you feel you have to offer the ministry?

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*Thank you for taking the time to share about yourself. We want you to know that the following information will be held confidential and shared only with appropriate pastoral staff.*