



# How To Become A Student Ministry Volunteer:

## THE APPLICATION PROCESS

### 1. EXPRESS INTEREST

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

### 2. INITIAL CONTACT BY ANOTHER VOLUNTEER or 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. RECEIVE STUDENT MINISTRY MATERIAL

This packet give you the basic information that will help you make decisions about our ministry. We have tried to explain as much as we can, but the clear picture happens when you observe a program.

### 4. OBSERVE PROGRAMS (optional)

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. You will have a chance to meet students, other volunteers, and write questions for our future meeting. It will be natural for you to feel 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.)

### 5. COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKET

This application packet was developed to obtain appropriate information for our screening process. We request two references. You can choose a (1) pastor, (2) close friend, and/or (3) an employer within the past year. We will also need you to complete a criminal record check for us to ensure that our "PLAN TO PROTECT" policy is up to date.

### 6. INTERVIEW WITH YOUTH PASTOR

This is an opportunity for you to share thoughts from your observations, describe your spiritual journey, and communicate your gifts and desires for working in student ministry. We will discuss a more specific ministry description that fits your SHAPE.

### 7. PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER YOUR COMMITMENT

We want you to take time to pray and think through this commitment. We also encourage you to seek the counsel of family and/or friends regarding your commitment.

### 8. RETURN THE SIGNED COMMITMENT SHEET

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

### 9. BEGIN MINISTRY

We will discuss the beginning date when you turn in the commitment sheet. This date may vary depending on your intended involvement.

### 10. EVALUATION MEETING

At your one-month mark, we will meet to evaluate your feelings and perceptions regarding your involvement. We will continue to evaluate throughout the year and adjust your role to better fit your style, personality, and strengths.

Excited to serve along side of you!

Brad Whitelaw  
Pastor Of Student Ministry

E-mail: [brad.whitelaw@westpark.on.ca](mailto:brad.whitelaw@westpark.on.ca)  
Phone: 519-471-7460  
Fax: 519-471-7435  
[www.westpark.on.ca](http://www.westpark.on.ca)

# West Park Student Ministry

## VOLUNTEER PACKAGE



West Park Student Ministry exist:

To **IGNITE** a passionate love in our students for God, to **EXPERIENCE** His love, and to **MATURE** into leaders who are committed to **IMPACTING** our world.

955 Gainsborough Rd  
London, Ontario  
N6g 5C9  
Phone: 519-471-7460  
Fax: 519-471-7435  
[www.westpark.on.ca](http://www.westpark.on.ca)



### WHAT STUDENTS NEED FROM A CARING ADULT:

- Love God and live for Him
- Be interested in their lives.
- Take initiative to spend time with them.
- Pray for them.
- Be REAL.
- Say encouraging things.
- Believe in them.
- Laugh and have a good time.
- Go to "their world".
- Remember their names.
- Share God's love through personal experience.
- Be consistent in their lives.
- Be patient.

# I'm glad you're interested in working with our student ministry!

Our church is always looking for volunteer leaders to serve on our team in the student ministry. We believe that solid ministry is built on relationship between adult staff and students. Relationships are key to students feeling loved and understanding God's love in practical ways. This is when real spiritual growth takes place in a student's life.

The quality of our staff 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, I ask that you read the following material. I encourage you to observe one of our programs before making your decision. Then fill out the application found at the back of this booklet. Because we place great value on this ministry, we place great value on our staff.

Once I have received your application, I will call you to schedule an appointment. All information will be kept strictly confidential. In the meantime, please feel free to observe one of our programs.

Student Ministry is a great way to invest your time and serve the Lord! I'm looking forward to meeting with you and spending some time talking about your hopes and desires for ministry. If you have any need to reach me, please feel free to call.

Blessings,

Brad Whitelaw  
Pastor Of Student Ministry



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.

### West Park Student Ministry Program Options:

#### ROOTS J.H.:

Wednesday Nights from 7:00pm – 8:30pm

#### ROOTS S.H.:

Wednesday Nights from 7:00pm – 9:00pm

#### THE ANNEX:

Friday Nights from 7:00pm – 10:00pm

(We try to staff this night so that you are there every other Friday.)

#### TRANSIT: (Jr. High)

Sunday Mornings from 10:45am – 12:15pm

#### W.P.S.M. BAND:

Wednesday Nights 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Sunday Mornings 10:45 – 12:15pm

#### CAFÉ:

Wednesday Nights 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Sunday Mornings 10:15am – 10:30am

#### TECH TEAM: (Sound, Media, Lights)

Wednesday Nights 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Sunday Mornings 9:30am – 12:15pm

#### ADMINISTRATION:

Various times throughout the week

### WHAT AM I COMMITTING TO?

- Consistent attendance at program (We ask that you arrive at least 15 minutes early and stay at least 15 minutes late. These minutes become KEY relational times with students.)



- Relational ministry with students during the week (follow-up with students through notes, phone calls, meetings, e-mails, Facebook messages, text messages, watching them play sports, etc...)

- Attendance at a monthly volunteer staff meeting.

- Growing in your relationship with God.

Our goal is to help volunteer leaders move from **PROGRAM-DIRECTED** ministry (dependant on programs) to **SELF-DIRECTED** ministry (mentorship).

A few keys to help you develop as a mentor:

- **TIME:** Be patient; feeling comfortable and connecting with students takes time.
- **PARTICIPATION:** Going on special events and camps will help intensify and solidify your relationships with students.
- **INITIATIVE:** The more you invest, the more you will get out of it. Your relationships will grow deeper as you invest your time.

### HOW TO BE INVOLVED IN STUDENTS' LIVES

It's important for you to understand what commitment we as from our staff. For effective ministry with students, you need to:

1. Understand the **PURPOSE** and **PLANNED VALUES** of our Ministry. Take a look at the values and goals that make your youth ministry effective in reaching and caring for students.
2. Commit to a **PROGRAM**. Consider the role for which God has SHAPED you in order to build relationships with students.
3. **GROW** as a minister. Develop your personal ministry, which will ultimately influence students.

### WEST PARK STUDENT MINISTRY EXISTS:

To **IGNITE** a passionate love in our students for God, to **EXPERIENCE** His love, and to **MATURE** into leaders who are committed to **IMPACTING** our world.

### PLANNED VALUES:

Planned values are descriptive words that reflect our values, attitudes, styles, and beliefs that "influence" our purpose. We try to incorporate these key elements into our programs and our lives. It is all build on **RELATIONSHIPS**.

R elational approach  
E ncouragement  
L aughter & celebration  
A cceptance  
T ransparency  
I nvolvement of students  
O utreach oriented  
N umerical growth  
S piritual growth  
H ome-like  
I ntimacy  
P rofessionalism  
S trategic follow-up

