

You Can Make a Difference...



Become An Adult Sponsor!

Bible Fellowship Church
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In This Packet....

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Process of Becoming an Adult Sponsor:

(Pray and seek God's will throughout the entire process)

1. **Communicate interest**
 - a. You may have an interest in helping, but are unsure as to where or exactly how, that's no problem just contact Pastor Kyle. Remember, some of the most unlikely people make the greatest leaders; so take the next step as you prayerfully consider this ministry.
2. **Receive a volunteer packet** (this packet)
 - a. Take a close look at who we are and why we do what we do as a ministry.
3. **Fill out the Child & Youth Worker Application** (received after you've looked over this packet)
 - a. Read through the child and youth worker's handbook
 - b. A complete CORI background check will be done
4. **Observe Our Ministries** (for a minimum of two weeks)
 - a. While you are still in the process of completing the volunteer packet, you are encouraged to observe our ministries. This is an important opportunity to get a feel for the ministry without having expectations or responsibilities placed on you. You will have a chance to meet students, other staff, and gather questions and thoughts for the upcoming meeting.
5. **Interview with Pastor Kyle**
 - a. This is an opportunity for you to share thoughts from your observations, describe your spiritual journey, and discuss in more detail your gifts and desires for working in youth ministry.
6. **Permanent ministry placement** (for a one year term, with unlimited number of terms available)
 - a. Upon signature and approval of the adult sponsor covenant agreement... WELCOME!

Note: Not every applicant will be placed in our youth ministries. Part of this process is to help determine where you will be most fruitful in ministry.

Dear Prospective Volunteer and Fellow Servant of the Lord,

Thank you for requesting a volunteer packet from Turning The Tide Youth Ministries, the youth ministry of Bible Fellowship Church in Rapid City, SD. In the following pages you will learn about who we are, what God has called us to do, and how you can be a part of this vibrant and exciting youth ministry.

God has entrusted us with over 50 students who attend our ministries. We are always looking for people who are interested in coming alongside and joining us on this great journey. I'm thankful you are willing to explore opportunities to serve God within our exciting ministry.

We are looking for individuals who have a deep commitment to Christ and a desire to care and minister to youth. Please take time to read the following material and also complete the Child and Youth Worker's Application.

Once I receive your application, we will set up an appointment. Please know that information will remain confidential. If you don't already worship with us, we invite and encourage you to attend our weekend worship service. We are so glad that you expressed a desire to invest in the lives of youth.

As you know, Bible Fellowship Church is a wonderful church. Turning The Tide Youth Ministry is the fulfillment of BFC's vision of presenting Christ to younger generations. Volunteers have the opportunity to serve and make eternal investments in individual youth's lives. I'm looking forward to meeting with you and talking about your hopes and desires for ministry. If you have any questions, please contact me at 605-343-3604 or email at controlled.chaosx2@gmail.com.

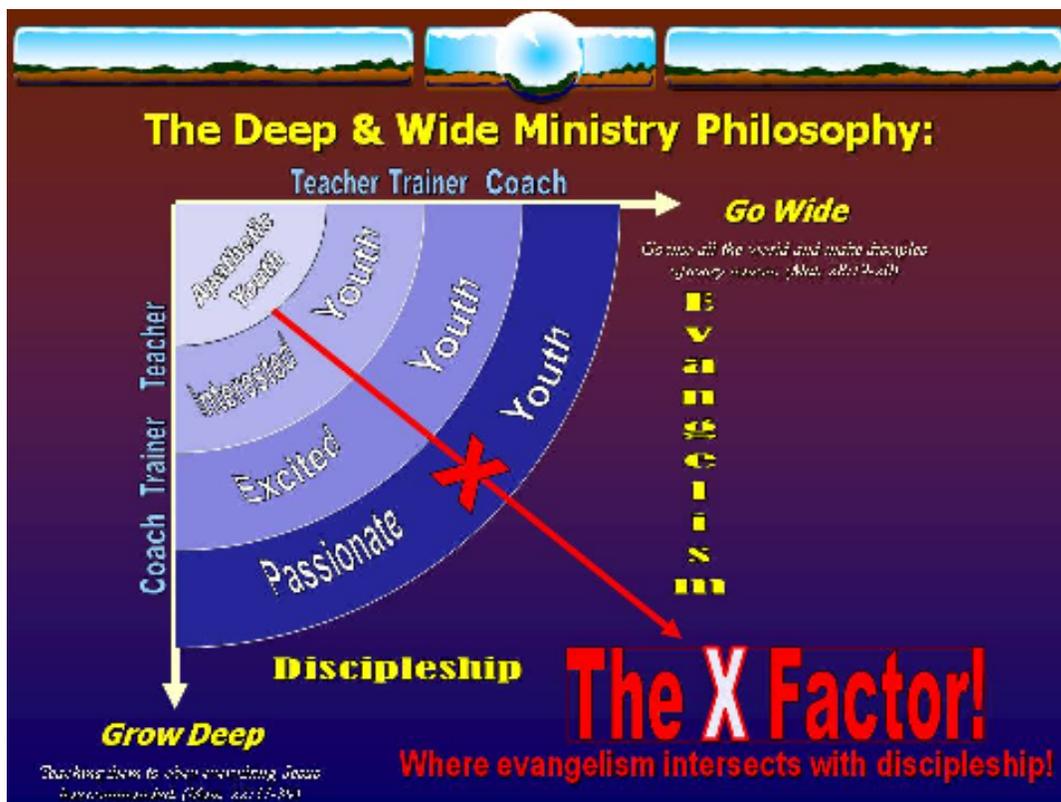
Kyle Goings
Youth Pastor
Bible Fellowship Church

What is Turning The Tide Youth Ministries?

As a sponsor for Turning The Tide, it is essential that you know and understand the definition of our mission statement, and why our youth ministry exists.

“GUIDING OUR YOUTH TO GROW DEEPER IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND TO GO WIDER IN THEIR INFLUENCE”

Our mission statement is from the **Great Commission** (Matthew 28:16-20) and the **Great Commandment** (Matthew 22:36-40). Jesus called for the leaders to make disciples of all nations. To bring, heal, train, and to send is a step by step process of Spiritual maturity. We **bring** youth in through a welcoming, relevant atmosphere to share the Gospel with them. We connect with them and do our best to bring the **healing** power of God physically and emotionally into their lives. We **train** them to be Christ-like leaders at school, at work, and at home. And last of all we **send** them out into ministry opportunities as missionaries, evangelists, and servants of Christ.



Our Goal: The X Factor!

This is where evangelism meets discipleship. It is where youth are both growing deep in their faith ON THEIR OWN, and they have a lifestyle of evangelism. They are not simply inviting their friends to youth events but witnessing to them out in the world. The X Factor is where disciples are making more disciples.

Turning The Tide Youth Ministries' Quick Facts:

Our Vision (What we want to see):

To reach and disciple the youth of Rapid City so they can impact the world for Jesus Christ.

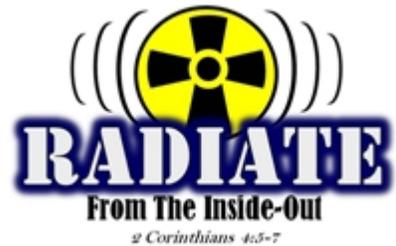
Our Ministries (How we will accomplish the vision):



7th-8th grades
6-8pm
Wednesdays



Our small group ministry
9th-12th grades
6-8pm
Week Nights



9th-12th grades
6-8pm
Sundays

Special Events Throughout The Year:

- Teddy Bowl (where we play football with a teddy bear)
- Duct Tape Banquet (our "prom" using duct tape costumes)
- Backwards Halloween (where we give candy back to the neighborhood)
- New Year's Lock-In
- CDYC (Central District Youth Conference)
- Others Include: service projects, missions trips, camp outs, etc.

Our Values (Why we do what we do):

Family
Communication
Authentic Relationships
Respect
Laughter
Excellence
Character
Creativity
Empowerment
Teamwork
Purpose



Philosophy of Ministry

1. Youth Matter to God *(John 3:16; Romans 5:8)*

In today's society, youth are looking for three things a *purpose*, an *identity*, and *answers* to their many questions. They have a void in their lives that can only be filled with Jesus Christ. Youth need to know that God loves them unconditionally and through Him they will be able to have a purpose, find an identity, and find the many answers they seek.

2. God Will be Our Lord *(Psalm 127:1)*

God will be the Lord of our lives, and we will strive to keep Him our highest priority in our lives. In every decision that comes our way in our lives or with the youth ministry we will strive to follow God's will and not our own. This is done through constant prayer and a continuing growing relationship with Jesus Christ. In everything we do we must worship the Lord.

3. Being Culturally Relevant is Crucial Ministry *(1 Corinthians 9:19-23)*

The youth culture continually changes with new themes, ideas, and beliefs. If we are not aware of these changes our message will not have as much effect on the youth as it could have. Our topics and methods need to be relevant to the ever-changing youth culture.

4. Team Ministry is the Key to Success *(Philippians 2:2; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)*

Just like it says in Ecclesiastes two men can accomplish more than one. We need to work as a team in order to fully succeed to increase the youth ministry in effectiveness and size. And we must realize that each team member has the potential to be the most influential person in a youth's life.

5. Prayer is Not Helpful but Vital *(Philippians 4:6)*

Everyone involved in the youth ministry must strive for excellence in everything they do. They must realize that the youth watch them all the time and they could be the most influential person in a youth's life. We must strive to go above and beyond our duty and not just the status quo.

6. Discipleship is Ministering Holistically *(1 Corinthians 3:5-8)*

Discipleship ministry serves all individuals at their level of interests, beliefs, and development. Therefore, we must strive for ministering holistically and disciple them so that we meet their level of interest and development.

7. Witnessing is a Process *(Matthew 4:10)*

God is the only one who can change lives. The process of bringing a youth to Christ involves time, a relationship, love in action, and committed leaders with the vision of bringing the whole world to Jesus Christ.



What Students Need

Our plan is to change the world one youth at a time. The most effective way to reach the youth is through a personal relationship. Some of the roadblocks for new adult sponsors in youth ministry are the misconceptions regarding what it takes to be a youth worker.

Common Misconceptions Are:

- ✚ You must be young
- ✚ You must have outstanding Bible training
- ✚ You must be a perfect example of a Christian
- ✚ You must be a captivating communicator
- ✚ You must know all the answers
- ✚ You must be able to act like one of the students
- ✚ You must have plenty of free time
- ✚ You must play guitar
- ✚ You must know everything about youth culture
- ✚ You must be wild, crazy, and dynamic
- ✚ You must have plenty of free time
- ✚ You are a baby-sitter

Youth ministry is not the easiest ministry in which to serve, but it can be one of the most rewarding. It is okay to feel inadequate about your skills or experience. Your confidence will grow the more you are around the students and experience how God can use inadequate people (like us) to do great things. We need your participation in our planning and training meetings where we learn how to work as a team for our youth.

Here is the truth about what students do need...

Students Need Adults Who Will:

- ✚ Love God and live for Him
- ✚ Be genuinely interested in students' lives
- ✚ Take the initiative to get to know students
- ✚ Pray for them
- ✚ Be real
- ✚ Say encouraging things
- ✚ Believe in students
- ✚ Laugh and have a good time
- ✚ Remember names
- ✚ Share God's love through personal experience
- ✚ Be consistent with attendance
- ✚ Be patient
- ✚ Love unconditionally

The Roles of Our Adult Sponsors

All sponsors will be required to perform each role depending on the youth they are around...



Role: Teacher

Focus: Moving youth from **apathy** to **interested** youth

Wide Role: To teach and motivate youth on why it's vital they communicate their faith with others.

Deep Role: To help youth apply God's word to their lives by teaching core truths and answering questions.

How: Prayerfully depend on the Holy Spirit to guide you. Pray for particular youth who have not yet given their life over to God. We can't change anyone (only God can) but we can provide the best opportunities for change. Stick to just the basics and answer as many questions as you ask the youth.

- Tell stories that get to the heart of the youth.
- Talk about the rewards of growing deeper in their relationship with Jesus.
- Warn of consequences of not growing in their relationships with Jesus.
- Show tough love to apathetic Christian youth. Feel free to confront & correct with God's Word with love.



Role: Trainer

Focus: Moving youth from **interested** to **excited** youth

Wide Role: Training youth with the basics of how to share their faith by being more of a mentor than teacher.

Deep Role: Help youth identify, understand, embrace, and live out the core truths in real and powerful ways.

How: The goal is to have one great big "Yes!" and a whole bunch of smaller ones. You want youth to say "Yes!" to God; either for the first time (salvation) or youth fully surrendering to God (rededication). This is a much more hands on approach. So having a relationship with these youth is key.

- Live out what it means to be a living sacrifice yourself (as an example).
- Challenge them to do smaller "yesses". (Daily devotions, changing their friends, etc.)
- Begin to share how to share your faith and testimony with others.
- Walk along side of them while they learn how to pray, read their Bible, live life for God.
 - Don't teach but SHOW the spiritual disciplines!



Role: Coach

Focus: Moving youth from **excited** to **passionate** youth

Wide Role: To help mobilize youth to become more effective and expand their sphere of influence.

Deep Role: To give youth the tools they need to purify, own, and deepen their relationship with God.

How: Equip youth to "own" their own spiritual maturity. Giving them the tools they will need to thrive in deepening their relationship with God without you or their parents. The end goal is having youth be Christ-like. At the same time you will begin train them to have a lifestyle of evangelism.

- Help them refine their spiritual disciplines, with a strong emphasis on Evangelism.
- Teach them how to properly interpret a passage in scripture without your help.
- Encourage them (both verbal and written) in their walk.
- Challenge them to share their faith (and continue to train them on how to).

More Things Are Caught Than Taught!

Adult Sponsors Responsibilities

FELLOWSHIP & WELCOME TIME

Arrive 10 minutes before a program or event to spend time with students. Make them feel comfortable and “at home” with eye contact, verbal greeting, and appropriate touch (high-five, hand shake, hug, etc.) If there are new students, bring 1-2 regular students with you and make sure you introduce yourselves. This is important in making sure we maintain a relational ministry philosophy. Hang around 10 minutes after an event or program to say goodbye, set up a meeting during the week, and thanking new people for coming.

INVOLVEMENT

Create a safe atmosphere that engages students and allows for them to interact with one another. Many times, youth will sit next to someone without saying a word until they are given an opportunity to do so. (It’s always safest to stick to oneself.) Make it your responsibility to oversee, lead, and model appropriate program behavior and participation during the game time, worship, small groups, discussions, or the message.

STUDENT SIGN-IN

The only way to make our large group small is to know who is attending and who is missing. We count youth because youth count! Our strategic follow up is one of our key values and it isn’t effective if youth don’t sign in. Please watch students as they arrive and make sure they stop in at the sign-in on the two computers in the back of the room.

CROWD CONTROL

The large number of people naturally causes noise. This will increase as growth occurs. We need to plan for and control this. Please, express leadership on this matter gracefully and firmly in order to keep your circle of influence quiet (your circle of influence will be those students who are immediately around you.) We are comfortable with students leaving the room if they feel the need to continue to talk, provided there is a leader with them.

FOLLOW-UP

We need to be in touch with students during the week!!! This might include a phone call, email, Twitter, or sitting down over a pop. Remember, we value relationships not programs! We succeed not when a student comes to a program or event, but when they are connected, growing and being transformed by their relationship with Christ. This will only happen if we are carving out sometime during the week to be with them, and pointing them towards Christ.

VARIOUS LEADER MEETINGS

Radiate, Ignite, and Clusters leaders will meet when needed (usually every other month) for prayer, information, training, and fellowship. We ask that you make these meetings a priority, as they will be critical in helping you grow as a youth worker.

Adult Sponsor Covenant Agreement

The 5 C's of being on our adult sponsor's team:

- Calling
- Character
- Competency
- Chemistry
- Commitment

After observing the ministry, spending time in prayer, and discussing with my family the 5 C's of being on the youth staff, I am willing to commit to the following, and I would appreciate consideration to serve as a youth sponsor for the next year.

- ✓ I acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus Christ and that I have personal relationship with Him.
- ✓ I am committed to growing and maturing in my relationship with God through quiet times, active attendance at church and accountability relationships.
- ✓ I am committed to making choices and living a lifestyle that is both consistent with the Word of God and "above reproach" knowing that my lifestyle is a model for students.
- ✓ I will attend all required adult sponsor meetings.
- ✓ I have read and understand the vision, mission, core values, and philosophy of ministry of the youth ministry.
- ✓ I have filled out and turned in BFC's Child and Youth Worker Application completely.
- ✓ Because I am making a significant commitment and my presence is important, I agree to be faithful and on-time to the meetings, ministries, and special events I commit myself to.
- ✓ **I am committing to the youth ministry for at least one full year. (usually Sept. 1st – Aug. 31st)**

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Youth Pastor's Signature: _____ Date: _____