

GROUP LEADER INTEREST PACKET

Group Leaders are among the most vital part of the ministry of the church. They assist the pastors and directors of West Ridge “hands on” to lead the members of their groups to become fully devoted followers of Christ. Here are a few questions for you to think over in prayer as you consider engaging the process of becoming a group leader at West Ridge Church.

**If you are interested in leading a couples group it is essential that both you and your spouse read and pray through the questions below, having unity as a couple first before proceeding.*

YOUR CALLING

All believers are instructed by God to help in the process of making disciples (Matt. 28:19-20). Group Leaders, much like pastors and directors, feel God has extended a specific invitation to engage a specific group of people to lead into fully devoted followers. (1 Peter 5:2-3)

Key Question: Do I feel called to serve as the leader of a group of disciples at West Ridge?

OUR CREED

Creed refers to our commitment to follow Christ as Savior and Lord of our daily lives. The essential calling of a group leader is to grow in their personal devotion to Jesus as Savior and to minister out of the abundance of that relationship.

With this in mind, the following are a few important criteria for group leadership at West Ridge:

- You have been a follower of Jesus for a least one year.
- You can share your experience of trusting Christ as Savior and a life of growth that follows.
- You believe and agree with the West Ridge statements of belief.
- You are able to embrace that in essentials we pursue unity, in non-essentials we embrace liberty, and in all situations we show love.
- You agree with our biblical definition of marriage - we believe the bible teaches that sex was created by God as an expression of intimacy between a man and a woman within the context of marriage.

Key Question: Have I put my faith in Christ as Savior and am I now feeling called to lead myself and others into an ever-deepening relationship with Christ?

COMPETENCY

Group leaders are never expected to be perfect people by any means. However, there are certain skills that will be valuable as you lead your group. Some of these skills would be described as the ability to continue to humbly grow as a Christ follower, to lead people toward a growing relationship with Christ, to promote participation, and to reproduce yourself as a leader.

Key Question: Do I feel I am able to both model personally and engage others effectively in a group environment?

CHARACTER

By stepping into a leadership role, you are stepping into a position of authority. Your group members will watch you closely and take what you say seriously. Leaders are not perfect but should be role models and respected.

Key Question: Are you able to humbly invite people to follow you as you follow Christ? Is there an area of compromise that you believe would disqualify you to lead others?

OUR CULTURE

We want to be sure that all our group leaders are in alignment with the leadership, beliefs, values, and direction of West Ridge church.

Key Question: Do you agree with the leadership, values, and beliefs of West Ridge?

COMMITMENTS

Group leaders have a primary commitment to Jesus and to their group. But a few other commitments are essential as well. Those include:

- Attend leadership huddles held about 2 times per semester
- Be available for one-on-one meetings with coach/pastor/director in person or over the phone. (These would be very occasional.)
- Be present for group meetings consistently.

Key Question: Do I have the bandwidth in my schedule for the commitments that a group leader has at West Ridge?

If you have questions about the above please feel free to email the groups director that fits the area of leadership you are interested in. If you have answered the questions in a way that affirms your interest in being a group leader your next step is to fill out a group leader application. Once submitted, a groups director will be in contact to set up a meeting to go over your application and share some further important information about group leadership at West Ridge.

GROUP DIRECTORS CONTACT INFO

Julie Rape - Women's Groups Director | julier@westridge.com

JP Morgan - Pastor of Care | johnm@westridge.com

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