

## SERVING IN MSM

# SMALL GROUP LEADER

Small Group Leaders invest in the lives of a few to encourage authentic faith. The content and all materials are provided by the MSM Team. The Small Group Leader role is to facilitate discussions with the few you have been entrusted with. MSM Small Groups typically have 8 – 10 pre-teens and, when possible, are led by a team of 2 adults. **Tuesdays 6:45 – 8:15 pm**



## WINS

You win when pre-teens have meaningful interactions during the group that influence their faith in Jesus and deepen their relationships with others.

## CHARACTERISTICS

### Facilitator

Small Groups Leaders facilitate discussion among their few so that they are able to wrestle with life's big questions in a faith-based environment. In order to lead their few, Small Group Leaders are open to continually growing in knowledge of our faith, their personal prayer life and tools to help them connect with their few. Small Group Leaders model active listening skills and create an environment where pre-teens are free to be the unique person God has created them to be.

### Disciple

Small Group Leaders are able to lead their few to be a in a growing relationship with Jesus because they are consistently growing in their own. As appropriate, they share what their own faith journey is like with their few as example of what a life of discipleship looks like. Small Group Leaders are encouraged to be a part of an Adult Small Group for their own accountability.

### Partner

Small Group Leaders partner with the parents of their few. Pre-teens have the best chance of life-long authentic faith when the Church and Home work together. Small Group Leaders support parents in their role as primary educators in faith for their pre-teens.

## QUALIFICATIONS

You love God and are actively practicing your faith at SPX.

You care about pre-teens.

You're committed to consistently investing in and caring for your few over a period of time.

You believe that pre-teens grow in authentic faith best when we partner with parents.

You are VIRTUS certified or are willing to become certified at Church expense.

## **EXPECTATIONS**

Lead Small.

**BE PRESENT:** Connect their faith to a community by showing up predictably, mentally, and randomly.

**CREATE A SAFE PLACE:** Clarify their faith as they grow by leading the group, respecting the process, and guarding the heart.

**PARTNER WITH PARENTS:** Nurture an everyday faith by cueing the parent, honoring the parent, and reinforcing the family.

**MAKE IT PERSONAL:** Inspire their faith by your example by living in community, setting priorities, and being real.

**MOVE THEM OUT:** Engage their faith in a bigger story by moving them to someone else, moving them to be the church, and moving them to what's next.

Be reliable.

Commit to being present every Tuesday, when at all possible. Your few are counting on you!

Communicate with the Kids & Student Coordinator in advance if your plans change.

Give your all.

Show up on time.

Check your email weekly to look over information provided by the Kids & Students Coordinator.

Come prepared to lead the group having looked at the material ahead of time and clarifying any questions you have in advance.

Attend the appropriate training events and meetings.

Wear the t-shirt provided for you.

Come well rested. We need your best energy.

## **ORIENTATION & TRAINING**

Small Group Leaders will participate in multi-part training before starting each year.

## **EQUIPPING & ENCOURAGEMENT**

The MSM Team will provide opportunities for growing in your role through sharing articles, blogs, and in person events on a regular basis. The MSM Team is always available to provide support.

## **ATTIRE**

T-shirts are provided so that the Team is clearly identified for anyone entering the space. We ask that t-shirts are worn every Tuesday with whatever other modest clothes you like.

## **VOLUNTEER IDENTIFICATION AND APPLICATION**

Current Small Group Leaders are the best way that we find new volunteers! We encourage you to share your experience with others and encourage them to invest with you in the lives of pre-teens here at SPX. We also recruit for new leaders each summer.

Those who are interested can contact our Kids & Students Coordinator, Jen Buter, at [youth@spxbowie.org](mailto:youth@spxbowie.org). We'll schedule a time to meet up and learn more about this ministry.