

Student Leadership

INFO PACKET & APPLICATION

WELCOME LETTER

Dear Potential Student Leader,

We are so excited that you are interested in joining the Bigtime Ministries Student Leadership team for one of our upcoming retreats. We are busy planning, and we are glad you want to be a part!

You may have heard people call high school students "the next generation" or the "future of the church," but we want you to know that you are an essential part of the body of Christ **right now**; whether you're 14 or 40, if you are a believer in Christ, you have been called to serve God and serve other people.

We believe that this life of servitude God has called all of us into is characterized by selflessness, love, and humility. Student leadership is a team through which we want to equip and empower students who feel called to lead other individuals with a Christ-like attitude.

We want your involvement in this leadership team to spring from your understanding that God loves you unconditionally and that serving Him isn't about earning your place in Heaven. Christ did that for you. As a believer in Jesus Christ, each one of you was created, saved, and gifted for ministry. God has designed a distinct calling for you. He has given you gifts, experiences, and qualities that He wants you to discover and use, not just at church, but also at home, at school, on your sports team, etc.

We are not looking for students that view Student Leadership as an extension of their social life or students who are motivated by recognition, reputation, rank or reward. Instead, we are looking for students who have a desire to care for and love others in order to glorify God. We are looking for students who are serving in all aspects of their life and who are willing to be spiritual leaders to those around them. We want students who are motivated by the fact that Christ loves us and set the ultimate example of service.

We want to train, develop, and disciple student leaders so that they are equipped to better serve their church, schools, and communities. We want to see Bigtime Student Leaders grow and discover their gifts and abilities so that they can use them to glorify God. We want Bigtime to be a place where students are encouraged to not only cast a vision, but execute it as well, knowing that they are empowered by the Holy Spirit and supported by those around them.

Please carefully read the following material with prayer and consideration to see if the Student Leadership team is something God is leading you to join. Again, we are so excited to have you consider this team. We love you!

From,

The Bigtime Team

EXPECTATIONS

We live in a world full of people who need Jesus. Our families. Our schools. Our communities. Our state. Our country. Our world. In every corner of the world, you can find places to give love, share joy, and let the light of Christ shine. We want Bigtime Student Leaders to be a group of people shining so brightly with God's love that our families, our schools, and our communities see God's love in undeniable ways.

We strongly believe that God has really big plans for your generation, and we believe that watching these plans unfold necessitates building up a team of student leaders—students who want to live for Jesus Christ. Students who, in light of the love God has shown, want to love others.

We believe that God wants to do great things through each and every one of you, and we believe that begins with having an attitude of humility before God. We are hoping that the humble mentality God gives you will lead you into a life of serving others.

We want to be a community of people who serve together, who seek God together, and who pray for God to show us what He wants to do in and through us.

We want to disciple you, and we are hoping you will allow us to do that.

IF YOU BECOME A STUDENT LEADER ON A BIGTIME RETREAT, YOUR COMMITMENTS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

- Attending all counselor meetings prior to the event weekend on which you will be serving.
- Coming to meetings having done the work required (reading the chapters of the book we assign, preparing a list of ways you will need to prepare for retreats/missions, finding and meeting with an accountability partner, etc.).
- Attending your local church on a weekly basis.
- Consistently diving into God's Word and letting the Spirit transform you.
- Committing to a lifestyle of prayer.
- Being active in a weekly discipleship group, small group, huddle group, Sunday school class, etc... (The key here is that you are meeting weekly in a small group format for fellowship, spiritual growth, and accountability.)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:1-3

ABOUT BIGTIME MINISTRIES

Mission Statement

To lead students into a growing relationship with Christ and coach them as ministers in their school.

Goals

- To disciple students through regular meetings called D-groups (Discipleship Groups) and community bible studies.
- To build men and women of God who are united for ministry on their school campus through retreats and other events.
- To help build strong families that love God and love people.
- To encourage young men and women to build their identity in God and discover their unique gifts with which to serve Him.

Core Values

1. Preach and Teach the Bible

We believe the Word of God is our guide. We proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

2. Partner with Parents & Churches

We seek to support and work alongside local churches in order to disciple and evangelize students. The church is the Bride and Body of Christ. We love her!

3. Prayer

In all, by all, for all... *“Devote yourselves to prayer.”* Colossians 4:2

4. Purposeful Relationships

We build authentic relationships with people to point them to Christ.

5. Prize Excellence

Everything we do should be done with excellence. We want the best because He wants our best. He is the Best, so we will imitate Him in His excellence. (Colossians 3:23)

FIVE BIBLICAL PURPOSES OF A BIGTIME RETREAT

REACH

There are a whole lot of middle school, junior high, and high school students in our community who don't go to church anywhere. There are many others who attend church regularly but their church experience is more about tradition and obligation. We want to reach students with the good news of Jesus, and we want YOU to be the hands and feet that deliver that GOOD NEWS. That's right! We want to partner with you by providing a great retreat experience for our junior high friends.

CONNECT

Friends are so important, but we're called to something more than that. Imagine having friendships on a much deeper level than what you're probably used to - friends who know the real you: friends who care about your walk with God, friends who encourage you rather than judge you. These are Jesus-centered friendships, and at Bigtime, we make tons of opportunities with morning bible studies, D-groups, and events to forge and strengthen these deep, meaningful friendships.

GROW

A relationship with Jesus Christ should never be boring, stagnant or stale. Instead, it should be vibrant, exciting and growing! Bigtime Ministries wants to help students grow in their faith and in their understanding and commitment to Jesus.

SERVE

Take a look around. You don't have to look very hard to notice that we live in a world that is broken and in need of people who can make a difference. Bigtime Ministries is committed to providing opportunities for students to serve. Our weekend retreats are designed to empower High School students as leaders for our middle school and junior high friends. Our mission opportunities are designed so that our students can extend the love of Christ to a lost and broken world.

HONOR

One of our goals is to help students live a life that honors God. Honoring God through our choices, our attitudes, our lifestyle and the way we live day-to-day is the ultimate act of worship. Everything our ministry does is designed to help you live a life that brings honor to God.

PLEASE READ:

Please complete this application and turn into one of your Bigtime leaders.

Church Attendance

Name _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Church _____

Do you:

- Attend your church on a weekly basis _____
- 3 out of 4 weeks I'm at church _____
- 4 out of 4 weeks I'm at church _____

Small Group / Discipleship

- 1) Do you attend a weekly Bible Study (Small Group, D-Group, Huddle, Sunday School, etc.)? _____
- 2) If yes, which one? _____ Where? _____
- 3) Who is the leader of the Bible study? Please make sure you put accurate contact information below.
 - a. Name _____
 - b. Contact Phone Number _____

Student Leadership Questionnaire

1) Why do you want to serve on the Bigtime Student Leadership team?

2) Please describe your walk with Jesus right now.

3) What verse of scripture is speaking to you right now? Why is it powerful to you?

4) List some of your gifts/strengths and describe a time when you were able to use them.

5) List some of your weaknesses and describe a time when they limited you.

6) What is the Gospel of Jesus Christ? How has it impacted you personally?

7) Describe what it means to be a servant leader.

8) Who have been the three most influential people in your life and why?

9) Are you currently doing anything that would disqualify you from being a student leader?
If so, please explain.

10) On a sheet of notebook paper, write out your testimony of how you came to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and how you have grown in Him since that point in your life.

BIGTIME STUDENT LEADERSHIP REFERENCE

_____ is applying to become part of the Bigtime Ministries Student Leadership Team.

1) How long have you known this person? _____

2) Do you see this person regularly attending church? _____

3) What are this applicant's greatest strengths? Weaknesses?

4) Do you have any concerns regarding this student being on the Bigtime Ministries Student Leadership Team? If so, please explain.

How would you rate his/her ability at the following? (1-Below Average 2-Average 3-Above Average)	Score
Ability to Follow Instructions	
Spiritual Maturity	
Servant Leader Minded	
Peer Relations	
Adult Relations	
Follow Through with Commitments	
Team Player	
Teachable Spirit / Open to Correction	
Hard Worker	

Your Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Please Sign: _____ **Date** _____

If you have questions, please contact Janie Nash Roper at janegnash@gmail.com.

Parent Permission Form

Name _____ Age _____ Grade _____

School _____

Your child is seeking to become a part of the Bigtime Ministries Leadership Team for an upcoming retreat. Please sign this document that shows your consent for his/her participation. Please understand that by signing this document, we are fully expecting your son's/daughter's participation in the upcoming retreat. Bigtime Ministries considers this commitment every bit as important, as if not more than commitments to academics and sports, so please understand that the leadership team of Bigtime is counting on your son/daughter being fully committed to attending and helping lead the retreat with us. Thank you!

Parent Signature _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____