

## **The Whole Team**

Grove Students models the church's mission, which is to transform our world....

And we define a disciple as a follower of Jesus who helps others follow Jesus.

The youth group's main objectives are

1. Connect to God and Grow in that relationship: To help students understand what it means to follow Jesus and be in relationship with him.
2. Connect to each other and grow in those relationships. As a group we desire to build relationships and an identity together that allows cross pollination and focus on mission together. But the primary win is to help students build relationships with peers and mentor leaders in their small groups that foster vulnerability and encouragement and belonging - ultimately displaying the gospel on a small scale.
3. Go. To be followers of Jesus who help others follow Jesus, we have to go! We want to help students be the hands and feet of Jesus, and know what it looks like to serve others for His sake. We also want to help students be confident in actually sharing the message of hope and to do it. We eagerly expect and hope to see new students come to youth group who don't know Jesus, who are just a little interested, who are new believers, or even far from Him; that other students invited (meaning friends who go to another church, know Jesus are more than welcome to visit us and we are pumped to get to know them, but the win here is people who need Jesus and don't already have a place to connect and grow). This is not because we need more people, but it's a sign that the students are becoming followers of Jesus who help others follow Jesus.

The SLT is tasked with helping the MS&HS pastors and the adult leaders and the students live into this. Everyone on the team is expected to live into this whole mission and encourage the same in others, but we are broken up into 4 sub teams that specialize in certain aspects in accomplishing the goal. They are the Connect Team, the Grow Team, the Go Team, and the Know Team. And each team is explained further below.

### **Connect Team**

The Connect Team exists to solve for two main questions:

1. Do people want to be here?
2. Do people feel wanted here?

From the moment someone pulls into the parking lot to a Wednesday night or other event, till they leave, how can we create an environment where that person feels welcomed, has fun, and can connect to God and others? If someone is new or not very involved, how do we help them learn the ropes and get connected? The connect team essentially leads the charge as the "Thermostat" for the group.

Key responsibilities:

- Planning Connect Nights: these are meant to be fun ways for new people or inconsistent people to get connected to the group and feel more comfortable coming to normal Wednesdays - metric is increased commitment to small groups
- Facilitate effective use of the hang out time. (Snack bar, games, school work, ext)
- Check students in, welcome them
- Large group time (announcements and games)
- Help small groups be less intimidating for new people.

## **Grow Team**

The Grow Team is focused on helping students who are connected get deep, both in their relationships with each other and with God. The team is all about helping the message of the Bible be accessible and relatable to their peers, helping others have a daily relationship with Jesus, and championing the health of small groups to be a place for students to know others and be known.

Key responsibilities:

- Helping small groups win at building relationships.
- Promoting/creating reading plans/devos. Getting the students invested in daily disciplines (it could be the devo videos we made before as an example).
- Writing message recaps for social media for both Wednesdays and Sundays
- Assisting youth pastor(s) in lesson/series planning and evaluating taught messages.
- Helping teach lessons (Could be you going live on stage, getting other students who have relative stuff to share on different topics, sharing testimonies, etc.)
- Leading guy/girl studies
- Praying for students' needs on a prayer team

## **Go Team**

The Go Team seeks to answer the question: how do we go to students who are far from Jesus? These students could be already in the youth group, or not. Either way this team is all about actively reaching lost people. This team is also leading the charge in helping students be people who serve in general.

Key responsibilities:

- Planning serve opportunities for the group. (City clean ups, water stations at parades, FMSC, be creative!)
- Reaching out to students on the roster who are inconsistent or have stopped coming and learning how to encourage them to get involved (Texting, calls, snail mail letters)
- Developing incentives for inviting new people to things
- Planning ways for us to go to the students (Could be school/community events, could be going to normal hang out spots, could be one-off events that are easy for people to come to... be creative!)

## **Know Team**

The Know Team is all about helping everyone know what they need to know. What events are happening? How can I get involved? How can I register? Why should I do this? Why was this good? What are people learning? What happened at that event? This team supports the other teams in helping communicate their different things. They control the social media posts, and their ultimate goal is to tell a story.

Key responsibilities:

- Creating promo media for events
- Crafting a social media plan and keeping needed contributors on schedule.
- Documenting youth group and events
- Helping tell the story of what is happening at youth group and why others would want to be part of it (think testimony videos, action clips, etc.)
- This year's focus: creating material about why being in a small group is so valuable.