

In Student Ministries we are empowered by God to reach others for Christ by helping students become lifelong followers of Jesus Christ. We do this best by focusing on two wins:

- Creating engaging experiences
- Building transformational relationships

The Small Group Leader team connects relationally with a small group of students to create an environment of spiritual growth through the pursuit of the five Essentials.

Here's how we do it:

Fill Up First

- Prioritize your personal relationship with Jesus, keeping him at the center of everything you do, and be equipped to lead students to do the same
- Intentionally pray for the students in your group and their families throughout the week.

Spend Time on Their Turf

- Know your students' stories, including their school, parents, and where they live.
- Partner with parents by introducing yourself and engaging in an ongoing conversation with them.
- Show up on their "turf" – any environment personal to a student, for example games, recitals, birthday parties or grad parties.
- Follow up with students that were absent from small group.
- Regularly reach out to your students outside of Wednesday nights with emails, texts, social media contacts, or outside activities.

Get in the Game

- Commit to serving consistently and being present both mentally and physically. Showing up predictably each week creates trust, accelerates community, and builds common ground.
- With the impact of your role in mind, communicate scheduling conflicts with your team leads and manage your schedule on [My.eaglebrookchurch.com](https://my.eaglebrookchurch.com).
- Read weekly communications from your leader prior to student services.
- Look through and study discussion guides prior to small group time.
- Check in, wear your nametag, attend huddles, and ongoing training meetings so you are prepared to serve each week.
- Connect with other leaders to seek out new ideas, brainstorm, troubleshoot issues, share prayer requests, and become more equipped to do ministry.

Enjoy the Journey

- When it comes to relationships, expect messiness and understand it takes time, flexibility and patients.
- Facilitate, guide, and encourage group members in participation and building positive relationships with one another.

- As you build relationships with your group and see transformation, don't forget to take time to celebrate and have a ton of fun!

Be Authentic

- Simply being who you are is important to a group's success.
- You don't have to know all the answers, but help students find the answers by looking it up, asking a team lead, or your Pastor of Student Ministries.
- Be willing to share your own struggles and stories as you encourage the students to share their own.