



The logo features the word "DORK" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter "O" is replaced by a solid black circle. Below "DORK" is the text "STUDENT MINISTRIES" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom is the phrase "philosophy of ministry" in a black, lowercase, sans-serif font.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

philosophy of ministry

Dear Parents,

During the most influential years of their lives, marketing is directed primarily, not at 30-65 year olds, but at our kids – our preteens and teenagers, our jr. and sr. high students. Music, magazines, TV networks, all know that if they want to influence this world they must go after our kids, because they are the future. Many people claim that our kids are “the church of tomorrow.” We believe God’s Word to tell us that they are the Church today. That is why we believe that student ministry is so incredibly vital to the life of the Church and to the Gospel of Christ.

We so desire to offer a safe environment where students can find belonging with their peers (community and fellowship) and explore the claims of Christ (evangelism). We desire to point them to Christ, help them mature in their faith (worship), then equip them for ministry (discipleship). We believe that it is our responsibility, not to raise today’s jr. and sr. high students, but to come alongside you as their parents to help equip them for a life of obedience to our Savior, Jesus Christ. Above all else, we are to be making disciples.*

We believe this to be the call on our lives and we will give everything we are to help accomplish it.

Desperate for Jesus,
Dale & Josh
Jr. & Sr. High Youth Directors

* A disciple-making ministry seeks to meet students where they are spiritually and love them there, with the goal of helping them know Christ and become like Him.



OUR MISSION:

To help make disciples who love and pursue God passionately
by loving and serving the people around them.

Matthew 28:19-20; Matthew 22:37-40

A ministry that helps make disciples...

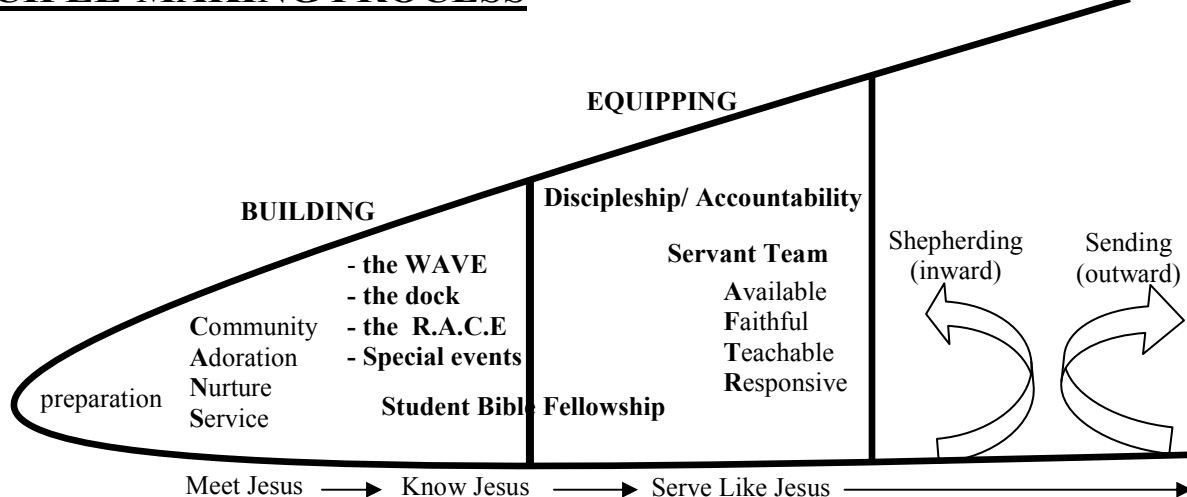
...by going after those who don't know Jesus: Creating and holding events that give students the opportunity to bring friends into a comfortable setting where they will be exposed to the person and character of Jesus Christ. (youth group, special events, etc.)

...by helping students know Jesus: Equipping them to live out an active and authentic relationship with Jesus and by encouraging and challenging them to live a life of obedience to God. (Student Bible Fellowship, discipleship/accountability)

...by helping students serve like Jesus: Equipping growing students to know how and be able to share Christ with their peers in every day situations. (servant team)

DISCIPLE-MAKING PROCESS

MULTIPLYING/ REPRODUCING





MISSION STATEMENT BREAKDOWN

To help make disciples who love and pursue God passionately by loving and serving the people around them.

Understanding the mission:

To help: We must remember that we are helpers and not initiators. God is. This is His design and His idea and He is responsible for the process and the outcome. He has invited us to join Him in His work. (Philippians 2:13)

Make disciples: This is the Great Commission - it is our life mission as Christians. (Matthew 28:19-20)

make– We are involved in a process of transformation that will take a lifetime, therefore it will take time and energy – it's a great investment. (Hebrews 10:14) We must remember that we are not creating in an instant something from nothing - only God can do that.

disciples– This is what we are called to be and what we are called to help others become. It should drive everything we do. *This* is our goal.

Who: This reminds us that we are working with people - people whom God loves and values. While our goal is to make disciples, we must remember that we are not working with raw materials or lifeless parts, but people who have feelings and pasts and wounds and we must love them with gentleness and compassion, yet boldly in the Truth.

Love and pursue God: This is the first and greatest commandment. God must be our first priority. We will one day answer to Him. It reminds us that we are to constantly be going after Christ, pursuing Him in the context of relationship. (1 John 5:3 and 1:5; Matthew 22:37-38)

Passionately: I believe this connects what we do with how we do it. We want to be enthusiastic and passionate about our Savior.

By: This word is so important because we love God *by* obeying His commands. They are not independent of one another. If one is not happening, the other cannot happen. (1 John 5:3; Matthew 22:39)

Loving: This is through both words and actions. (1 John 3:11-20, 23-24; 4:7-21; Matthew 22:39)

And serving: We must understand that it's not all about "us" and we must put others before ourselves. Jesus has been our example. (Philippians 2:1-2; Matthew 20:26-28)

The people around them: We are called to love our neighbors, meaning anyone around us. Not only those our same age or of a particular group - any and all whom we are around. This is the second greatest commandment. (Matthew 22:39)



WHAT'S A DORK?

DICTIONARY'S DEFINITION

fool - *n.* one who subverts convention or orthodoxy or varies from social conformity to reveal spiritual or moral truth
- informal: a person with a talent or enthusiasm for a particular activity

BIBLE'S DEFINITION

1 Corinthians 1:18, 21, 27 - "For the message of the cross is *foolishness* to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God...For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the *foolishness* of what was preached to save those who believe...But God chose the *foolish* things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong..."

1 Corinthians 4:10 - "we are *fools* for Christ..."

OUR DEFINITION

dork - *n.* 1. one who is willing to appear foolish for the sake of Christ 2. a person who embraces their condition (their brokenness) so that they can love and serve God and others without reserve, free from the *fear* of being thought a dork.



AREAS of MINISTRY

The following is a list of the programs and activities that have been developed to help carry out the vision of our ministry.

1. Outreach Events
2. Wednesday Night Programs
3. Trips and Retreats
4. Student Bible Fellowship
5. Mission Trips/ Service Projects
6. Discipleship & Accountability
7. Ministry Teams
8. Parent/ Volunteer Ministry Team
9. Youth Prayer Partners

MINISTRY DESCRIPTIONS

1. **Outreach Events:**

We plan several events each year for the purpose of introducing students to our ministry. These events are designed to give our students an opportunity to invite non-Christian friends and expose them to Truth. Some are designed for the Gospel message to be shared while others are designed specifically for building relationships.

Past events include concerts, "Fest nights," Super Bowl parties and the R.A.C.E. during the summer.

2. **Wednesday Night Programs:** (7:00-8:30 pm)

Jr. High - the WAVE

Sr. High - the dock

A creative, relevant environment where the spiritually lost student can belong while encountering the truth about Christ. 'Believing students' are encouraged and enabled to build relationships and share Christ with their peers, giving them a positive look at Christianity and challenging them to meet Christ or go away curious about Christ. A typical Wednesday night would include:

Free Time

The game room is opened where food and drinks can be purchased and students can hang out together before youth group starts. Students can also play volleyball in the main room during this time.

Organized Games

These games are designed to be icebreakers and to help break down barriers between students. Many times they relate to the evening's topic.

Worship

The focus of this time is to lift up Christ through singing/ music, prayer and testimonies from students.

Family Groups

As our group continues to grow we have found it necessary to meet in smaller groups to ensure each student gets personal contact, love and attention. Each Family Group consists of 10-15 students with 2 'parents' (student leaders) and one 'grandparent' (adult leader). The groups meet each week to discuss their lives, pray together and follow up on the evening topic.

3. **Trips and Retreats:**

Our trips and retreats are a highlight of our youth ministry. They give students the opportunity to grow spiritually and to connect deeply with one another. Watch calendars for details of upcoming trips and retreats.

Note: Scholarships/ work programs are available for those who need it. (see youth pastor)

Trip deposits will be refunded when possible. However, many times deposits are used for advance reservations and cannot be refunded.

4. **Student Bible Fellowship:** (Sunday mornings)

A regular gathering of 'believing students' for teaching, fellowship, worship and prayer with the goal of helping these students know Jesus, resulting in a radical commitment of loving and serving Jesus with their lives.

Jr. High meets in the Education Building and Sr. High meets in the Family Life Center. Both meet during 2nd hour (10:45-12:00). All students are strongly encouraged to join their families for worship during the 1st hour service (9:15-10:30 am).

Hebrews 10: 24-25

5. **Mission Trips/ Service Projects:**

Opportunities for local service projects are provided during the fall and spring semesters. Typical service projects include:

- * Working with migrant workers' children in Wimauma.
- * Serving a meal at a local homeless shelter.
- * Helping sort and distribute Christmas food baskets.
- * Serving at D&D Missionary Homes, Everybody's Tabernacle and Metropolitan Ministries

Our sr. high students are eligible for an overseas mission trip every other summer (must have completed 9th grade).

6. **Discipleship (sr. high)/ Accountability (jr. high):**

Discipleship and Accountability are at the core of our youth ministry philosophy. These programs are for those students who desire small group accountability for personal devotions and Bible study.

The yearly schedule is as follows:

- * (2) 10 -12 week sessions per year (Fall & Spring)
- * Students commit to 10 -12 weeks per semester
- * Students meet each Sunday from 6:30-8:30 pm
- * Each group consists of 1 or 2 adult leaders and 5-7 students

7. **Ministry Teams:**

A team of students and adults that meet regularly for the purpose of equipping and challenging them to actively share Christ with and serve their peers. These teams encourage students to use their gifts and abilities to serve the entire group.

Ministry teams include:

- * Praise band
- * Greeting
- * Follow-up
- * Servant team (sr. high)

**Servant Team is open to anyone who would like to be involved. However members are chosen based on the following characteristics, at the discretion of the youth pastor:

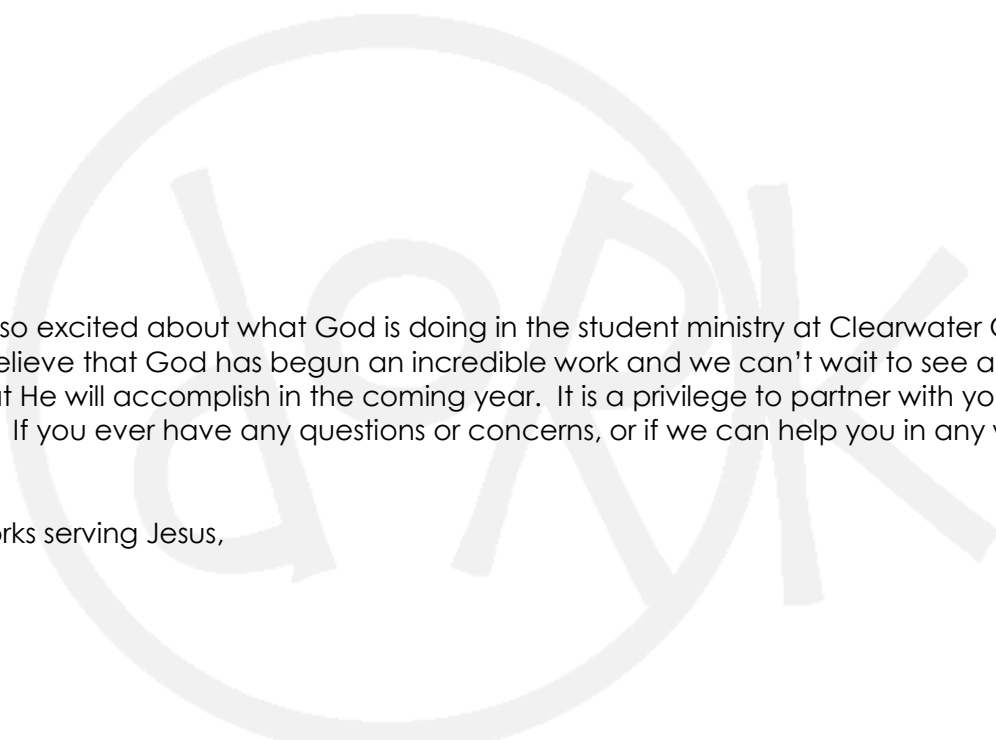
Available
Faithful
Teachable
Responsive

8. **Parent/ Volunteer Ministry Team:**

We are praying for God to raise up parents/ adults to work with the growing number of students attending our youth functions. Please contact the youth pastor if you sense God is leading you to get involved. All we ask is that you have a growing faith in Christ, a love for students and a desire to serve the Lord by ministering to students. Opportunities range from teaching in Student Bible Fellowship or leading a discipleship group to serving pizza on a Wednesday night before youth group. Would you please pray with us about your involvement?

9. **Youth Prayer Partners:**

Every Fall, each student is assigned to one (or more) prayer partners for the enter school year. We give the prayer partner a current profile of their student along with specific prayer requests. The prayer partner commits to pray for the student daily throughout the school year. It is also recommended that the partner contact the student for updated prayer requests, birthdays, etc. We believe this ministry is the foundation for the spiritual growth we see in the lives of students throughout the year. Please consider becoming a partner for the current school year.



We are so excited about what God is doing in the student ministry at Clearwater Community Church. We believe that God has begun an incredible work and we can't wait to see and experience with you all that He will accomplish in the coming year. It is a privilege to partner with you in the ministry to your kids. If you ever have any questions or concerns, or if we can help you in any way, please let us know!

A couple of dorks serving Jesus,

Dale and Josh

STUDENT MINISTRIES

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