

Young Adults Handbook

Mission

Our mission is parallel with Clovis Christian Church and rooted in Matthew 28:19–20: to go and make disciples of all nations by helping people know Jesus, grow in their faith, and live in obedience to His Word.

Vision Statement

We exist to stir the heart, inform the mind, and build the character of young men and women who wish to follow Jesus and be his ambassador.

Why is this important?

- Students can feel isolated and long for meaning
- College years are identity forming years
- Discipleship habits formed now (and earlier) last for decades
- The world is deceiving, relentless and seeking to destroy people

Goal

Life-change: we measure this through the profession of faith, baptisms, attendance & engagement, serving. Another way of looking at this is guiding people along in the “next step” of their Christian walk.

How We Equip for Life Change

Our goal is to equip students with the tools, habits, and understanding they need to confidently follow Jesus and live out their faith in everyday life.

- Wednesday Gatherings
 - Teaching, Discussion, Singing, Fellowship
- Sunday Gatherings
 - Integration into the broader church body
 - Encouraging ownership of church life beyond young adult ministry
- Special Gatherings: times of focus for specific purposes.
 - Prayer Nights, Worship Nights, Fellowship, Outreach Opportunities
- Spiritual Development
 - Verse memorization
 - Write and share their testimony
 - Clearly communicating the Gospel

Communication Strategy

Our communication strategy exists to support connection and clarity, using the right platforms to reach people effectively while keeping our messaging simple and intentional.

- Stage (Announcements) – Internal
- Email – Internal updates
- Instagram – External outreach
- Planning Center – Gathering logistics
- GroupMe (Teams) – Team communication
- GroupMe (Hangouts) – Community building

Outreach

We actively connect with campus and community organizations, understanding that not every partnership will be the right fit, and seeking those that best align with our values and direction.

Examples:

- Campus Ministries
 - Young Life (Fresno State, FPU)
 - InterVarsity
 - FCA
- Campuses
 - Fresno State
 - Fresno City College
 - Clovis Community
 - Fresno Pacific University
- Local Churches & Nonprofits
 - Trinity
 - Various nonprofit partners

Schedule

We aim to meet weekly to maintain a consistent rhythm, while allowing flexibility to observe holidays and participate in larger church events.

- Follow college and church calendars
- Observe major holidays
- Summer gatherings (as scheduled)
- Graduation Week
- Quarterly events

Teams

Team Member Qualifications

- Consistent in prayer and Bible reading
- Regular attendance at Young Adults Ministry
- Aligned with Clovis Christian Church beliefs
- Baptized (or actively pursuing)
- Church member (or actively pursuing)

Team Member Disqualifications

- Stirring division or discord
- Unwillingness to be corrected
- Ongoing patterns of:
 - Jealousy
 - Bitterness
 - Anger

Team Member Expectations

- Attend regularly (3-4 times a month)
- Engage relationally with the group
- Communicate clearly and promptly
- Fulfill responsibilities
- Ask questions when unsure

Hospitality, Support & Boundaries

Our Culture of Care

We are all part of the hospitality team, taking personal responsibility to create a welcoming, safe, and inviting environment where every person feels seen, valued, and known from the moment they arrive.

- Greet new people intentionally
- Help others feel seen and known

Handling Conflict

Conflict will happen in any group of people, and we should expect it. When it does, we are called to respond with maturity—approaching one another with humility, patience, and a desire to understand rather than to win. Our goal is always restoration, unity, and honoring Christ in the way we handle one another.

- Approach with humility
- Seek understanding first
- Involve leadership when needed

Serious Situations

Serious situations are not meant to be handled alone. If a student is dealing with trauma, self-harm, or any form of crisis, it is essential that you immediately notify pastors or leadership so the individual can receive proper care.

- Trauma
- Self-harm
- Crisis situations

Healthy Boundaries

Healthy boundaries are essential as we develop leaders and care for people. While we are called to invest deeply, we are not called to carry everything. Leaders should build relationships with wisdom, maintaining emotional, spiritual, and relational boundaries that protect both themselves and those they serve. This includes:

- Being wise with texting and communication
- Using caution in one-on-one settings
- Avoiding late-night or inappropriate communication
- Maintaining clear boundaries with the opposite gender

Our goal is to build trust and provide care without creating dependency, ensuring that people are ultimately pointed to Christ and supported by the broader leadership and church community—not just one individual.

Serving Team Structure

Teams & Roles

- Ministry Leaders
- Group Mentors
- Table Hosts
- Operations Team
- Fellowship Team
- Outreach Team
- Tech Team
- Prayer Team
- Worship Team
- Speakers

Ministry Leaders

Current: Gordon & Brittany

Core Responsibilities:

- Provide spiritual oversight
- Set vision and direction
- Define success
- Equip and develop leaders
- Primary focus is Wednesday gatherings

Group Mentors (27+)

Current: Rick & Amber

Core Responsibilities:

- Attend Wednesday nights
- Provide spiritual care (prayer, Scripture, presence)
- Follow up throughout the week
- Lead tables when needed

Teams & Responsibilities

Table Hosts

The **Table host** helps guide meaningful conversation during group time. They lead discussions through the provided questions, keep conversations on topic, and make sure everyone has a chance to share. Their goal is to create a space where real connection and growth can happen.

Table Responsibilities

- Be aware of the time and manage your table accordingly.
- Ensure that the overall experience at the table is enjoyable for everyone.
- Ensure that new attendees register their name and contact information (please connect with Brittany on this)
- Tables should aim for around 6 people to maximize meaningful conversation and ensure each person has the opportunity to engage

Table Tactics

Help the People to Engage

- Ask others to read; do not read the questions yourself.
- Ask those who read well to read the lengthy Scriptures and those who don't read well to read questions.
- Call on people by name.
- Give people time to invest. Don't be afraid of silence. Count to 10 before speaking to give them time to reread the questions themselves and to think about their answers before you ask the question again.
- Rephrase the question if necessary if no one is responding.

Don't Kill the Conversation

- Rephrase the question before you volunteer the answer.
- It's not necessary for the table host to comment on what each person has said.
- Dominating the conversation shuts down sharing. Have the talkers read Scripture and the quiet people read questions to draw them into the conversation.

Direct the Table - Land the Plane

- Deliberately reread questions when someone shares something that doesn't pertain to what the question was or when no one is answering the specific question.
- Conversation can easily rabbit trail, before moving on, make sure that the question is understood and discussed by at least one person.
- If someone tells a story they thought of because of the question, that's fine, but it must come full circle back to the point of the question and the answering of it.
- Gently guide long responses back on topic—affirm what was shared, then redirect the conversation so the group stays focused and everyone has a chance to participate

Operations Team

Creates a welcoming and distraction-free atmosphere.

Responsibilities may include:

- Room setup and teardown
- Cleanliness and organization
- Creating a space that feels intentional and inviting
- Counting attendance
- Set up sheet is in Planning Center

Fellowship Team

Plans events that build community.

Responsibilities:

- Organize game nights and gatherings both on Wednesdays and during the week
- Create fun, meaningful connection points
- Foster Christ-centered relationships

Outreach Team

Focuses on inviting and connecting new students.

Responsibilities:

- Campus engagement
- Event promotion
- Building bridges with ministries and organizations
- Identify & welcome newcomers
- Follow up with people who haven't come often

Tech Team

Ensures everything runs smoothly behind the scenes.

Responsibilities:

- Slides, audio, and lighting
- Coordinate with speakers and worship leaders
- Prepare or confirm all needed materials before gatherings

Prayer Team

Covers the ministry in prayer.

Responsibilities:

- Initiates team prayer throughout the week
- Pray for students and leaders
- Be available for prayer moments

Worship Team

The Worship Team helps create an environment where people can focus on God and respond to Him through music. Their goal is not performance, but to lead others in genuine, distraction-free worship.

Worship Leader

- Prayerfully select songs
- Aim to align with the message when possible, but not required
- Plan sets in Planning Center
 - By Sunday evening (for full band)
 - By Tuesday evening (if leading solo)
- Provide lyrics to the Tech Team by Wednesday at 5:00 PM
- Keep transitions brief—this is not a time for teaching, but for simple, meaningful direction
- Lead with humility and clarity

Worship Team Members

- Come prepared and practiced
- Support the worship leader
- Help create a distraction-free environment

Speakers

Communicate God's Word clearly and faithfully.

Responsibilities:

- Prepare teaching in advance
- Have a rough theme and/or key Scriptures by Saturday evening
- Create notes, slides, and any necessary materials
- Provide finished materials to the Tech Team by Wednesday at 6:00 PM if needed
- Print copies if needed

Quarterly Commitments

To maintain consistency, health, and alignment as a team, we operate with clear quarterly commitments. These help set expectations, create natural rhythms, and provide opportunities to evaluate and reset.

Leaders are asked to commit to serving for a full quarter at a time. This includes regular attendance, active participation, and fulfilling the responsibilities of your role. At the end of each quarter, there is space to reflect, rest if needed, or recommit for the next season.

This rhythm allows us to stay faithful in the short term while building something meaningful over time, without leading to burnout or unclear expectations.