Adult Discipleship Ministry Volunteer Commitment

**INTRODUCTION**

Thank you for your interest to serve in Adult Discipleship! There are a few things we want you to know about being a volunteer. First, as a volunteer in this ministry, you are in a leadership position and are a representative of Forest Hill. Men and women in our church and beyond will watch what you say and do closely. We think that is great! You should be a role model and spiritual influence for all to see. As a role model, your lifestyle is important to us. We want to make sure that who you are when you volunteer is who you are the rest of the week.

The following is important to who we are as Forest Hill Church Discipleship. It is essential that we are all aligned on the following beliefs, habits and behaviors as we partner in ministry.

**WHAT WE BELIEVE**

The foundation of ministry is based on what we believe as Forest Hill Church. While this list is not comprehensive, it represents the core of the essentials.

* **The Bible is God’s Word to us.** All Scripture is self-attesting and true, so we must follow and believe it in all areas of life.
* **God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe.** He has eternally existed as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The three are coequal and are one God.
* **Jesus is the Son of God.** He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary - God who became man to die on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins. Three days later, He rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven where He is now our High Priest and Mediator.
* **The Holy Spirit lives in each Christian from the moment of salvation.** He makes us aware of our need for Christ and draws us close to Him. Living in our hearts, He gives us new life, understanding of spiritual truth and guidance as we seek to do what’s right and live under His control.
* **Salvation is God’s free gift to us, but we must accept it.**Our salvation is wholly dependent upon the work of God’s free grace. Those who put their faith alone in Christ for Salvation are children of God and heirs of eternal life.
* **The Bible, Communion, Baptism and community are integral parts of the church.**The true church finds expression in local congregations where the Word of God is preached in its purity, the sacraments -- communion and baptism -- are administered in their integrity, scriptural discipline is practiced and loving fellowship is maintained.
* **He is coming back.**Jesus Christ will come again to earth to judge the living and the dead.
* **It’s a priority to tell other people about the transforming power of Christ.**We are commanded, as believers, to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and make disciples who make disciples.

1. **HABITS FOR DYNAMIC LIFE IN CHRIST**

Our beliefs shape our habits and our habits reinforce our beliefs. A life of faith is a life that regularly practices these eight ways of experiencing the dynamic life in Christ.

* ***Jesus is the Goal (The Gospel):*** *Jesus is the driving priority of our lives, the object of our devotion and the focus of our relationships.*
* ***Worship is a Rhythm (Worship):*** *Like the beating of a drum, regular worship together helps us live, move and have our being in God, inspiring us to be more like Christ while we respond to the greatness of God.*
* ***God is in the Room (Intimacy):*** *Like a close friend, we have regular conversations with God and spend time in the Word growing in love for God and love for others.*
* ***Together is Better (Community):*** *Bridge building is a team sport, requiring faith friendships from beginning to end.*
* ***Everything is a Gift (Generosity):*** *Since everything comes from God, what a joy it is to offer it all back to Him through our time, resources, money and praise.*
* ***Everyone has a Mission (Purpose):*** *Each of us is uniquely gifted for the purpose of Kingdom impact and evangelism.*
* ***Wrongs can be Made Right (Justice/Mercy):*** *We take action to set the wrongs of the world right and care for the vulnerable and broken.*

**REGARDING SEXUAL BEHAVIOR**

Sex was created by God as an expression of intimacy between a man and a woman within the covenant of marriage. Embracing a lifestyle that contradicts this teaching will prevent you from being able to serve. We ask that you not serve for the following reasons:

* If you are involved in a sexual relationship and are not married
* If you are in a romantic relationship and currently living with someone of the opposite sex and not married
* If you are married and are currently involved in a sexual relationship outside of your marriage
* If you are pursing or currently in a romantic relationship with a person of the same sex

**REGARDING SUBSTANCE BEHAVIOR**

If you have a history of alcohol or drug abuse, this might be something God uses in a positive way to impact others. We’d love to talk with you further about your story and how it is being redeemed by God. We ask that you not serve for the following reasons:

* If you have been arrested for or convicted of an alcohol or drug-related offense, or have used any illegal substances in the past twelve months
* If you are currently being treated for alcohol or drug abuse or consume alcohol to the point of being unable to drive legally as a regular part of your lifestyle

**REGARDING SOCIAL BEHAVIOR**

The people in your group will look at your online presence. If you blog, tweet, Instagram, or Snapchat, you should expect that others will follow you through those platforms. We think social media can be a great way to connect with people! However, they will also be able to see everything you post publicly. Please leverage your social media in a positive way. Please be mindful of these guidelines. We will ask you not to serve for the following reasons:

* If you use inappropriate language on a regular basis
* If you make inappropriate posts on social media

I agree to the above terms as long as I am a volunteer leader of Forest Hill Church. If I am unable to uphold this commitment, I understand that I will need to resign from my volunteer position or that I may be asked by the leadership to resign for a certain time period. Our desire is to walk alongside of you during that time with the hope of reconciliation and restoration.

**Volunteer Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**