

# students

## **Jr High Pastor Purpose:**

To develop and oversee an effective ministry to Jr High students and their families. The RCC Junior High Student Pastor will work as a part of the larger RCC Ministry Team to carry out the vision, mission, and strategy of River Christian Church.

## **Jr High Pastor Goals:**

- **Pursue Innovation** - Keep current with the latest trends and research relating to Jr High students and their families in order to develop and maintain creative ways to reach students and families in our community with the gospel of Jesus.
- **Own the Environment** - Intentionally craft your ministry environment in a way that is open, safe & welcoming to students & families from our community and is most conducive to sharing the Gospel. Environment includes the physical space, welcoming relationships, approachable language & varied programming.
- **Show Up Where They Are** - Develop strategies to connect with students who are in varying places along their faith journey. This will include students in our neighboring communities who have no interest in faith, students in our church community who are struggling with their faith, students in our church who are strong in their faith, and every student in between.
- **Create Transformative Experiences** - Design experiences for students that will transform their faith into a strong, passionate, lifelong relationship with Christ. These include large group experiences, small group experiences, mission trips, social events, etc
- **Grow a Missional Lifestyle** - Mobilize Jr High students to a life on mission for Christ through service and evangelism in their homes, neighborhoods, and the world around them. Develop a global awareness of God's Kingdom and a desire to partner with Him in the mission He is completing both at home and abroad.
- **Promote a Healthy Leadership Community** - Recruit, equip and develop an expanding team of volunteer leaders who use their gifts, skills, and passions to lovingly serve Jr High students. Foster a culture where leaders enjoy being with one another, are celebrated

and valued, are united in vision and mission, and are catching the interest of others to join them.

- **Partner with Parents** - Equip parents to lead and disciple their children through effective communication, genuine relationships, resourcing and purposeful events and teaching opportunities. Build genuine relationships with parents in order to align and multiply efforts.
- **Integrate Ministry** - Consistently look for ways for your ministry to participate in and support church wide initiatives, programs, and activities. This includes working closely with all Family Ministry staff to integrate Family Ministry philosophy throughout all ministries.

### **RCC Student Ministry Team Collaboration**

- Oversees - Jr High Volunteers and students
- Works Closely With - Student Ministry Team
- Reports to - Student Pastor

### **Jr High Pastor Roles**

- Oversee the development of a strategic and integrated plan for Jr High students in partnership with the Student Pastor that includes:
  - Prepare for weekly Jr High ministry meetings and small groups
  - Build relationships with students, parents, small group leaders and staff throughout the week
  - Recruit, develop and train Jr High Ministry Volunteers
  - Outreach - Model, equip and provide opportunities for Jr High Students and families to reach their community and world with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
  - Missions - Provide opportunities for students to participate in God's mission in their community and world
  - Service and Mercy - Partner with God and RCC to instill a heart of service and mercy in every Jr High student
  - Events, Camps and Retreats - Provide unique and high quality experiences for students to deepen their relationships with God and one another
  - Attend and invest in worship services and church-wide events
  - Promote student ministry enthusiastically and creatively throughout the church

- Make budget recommendations to the Student Pastor and be responsible for the Jr High Ministry budget
- Receive feedback on ministries and continually strive to improve their quality
- Maintain current outreach relationships with local Jr High schools, and develop relationships with other area schools, churches, and other organizations that support our efforts to reach students in the church and community.
- Assist in the leadership and growth of RCC's Five6 ministry (5th and 6th grade students).
  - This new pre-teen program launched in the beginning of '22, and is growing quickly. Five6 ministry is housed in our Kids Ministry, but Sunday morning programming is led by our Student Ministry team. High School students serve weekly as primary small group leaders, and Five6 students are given the opportunity to grow in more age appropriate ways, and also acclimate to the rhythms of student ministry before entering into 7th Grade.
- Job responsibilities will change over time based on the needs of River Christian Church.

### **Gifts, Abilities and Skills:**

- Growing disciple of Jesus with daily rhythms of prayer, reading, spiritual disciplines
- Bachelor's Degree with some formal Bible training at an institution of higher learning preferred. Candidates without formal Bible training should be willing to start a degree or certificate program agreed upon with the Student Pastor within 6 months of their start date.
- Previous experience in Student Ministry is preferred; including previous ministry employment, internships, apprenticeships, and/or years of high level volunteer experience.
- The candidate should agree with RCC's beliefs and values.
- Ability to teach, lead high-level volunteers, develop strategy, solve problems
- Collaborative, trainable servant leader with a pioneering mindset

**To apply for the Student Pastor position at RCC:**

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and typed responses to the questions below to Travis Eslinger (travise@riverchristian.church)

Why are you looking for a new job?

How would your closest friends describe you?

What are your two greatest weaknesses?

How do you manage and cope with stress?

How do you rest?

What two books have you read in the past 3 years that have greatly influenced and impacted you?

What are your goals?

What is your preferred work environment?

How do you handle conflict?

How do you stay organized?

When have you gone the extra mile?

How do you develop team members and volunteers?

How would you describe your personal theology?

How would you describe your ministry philosophy and approach to ministry?