

Home Group Leader Application Letter

Hello!

Thanks for your interest in becoming a Village Church home group leader. Group life is a vital component of helping our church live out our core values. Home group leaders are the front line of ministry and care to our members. They are called upon to love, lead, mentor, correct, and encourage others to be more like Christ. They build community where there once was none. If this sounds like what you are looking for, read on...

We are looking for a specific kind of person to become home group leaders. Most importantly, we look for those who are **faithful to God** and growing spiritually. Second, we look for people with **teachable** hearts who will receive instruction gladly and align with the ministry direction set by the church. Next, we look for **availability** to invest time and energy into this ministry. **Initiative** is also highly valued. Last, we look for people who are **transparent**, that is, people who live open and honest lives. You may think this sounds like a high standard, and it is, but we're not looking for perfection. We ARE looking for people who are committed to Christ and The Village Church.

There are a few things that I would like you to know as you embark on this adventure. There is a process to follow and people you will need to meet along the way. This will help you know where you are in becoming a leader. The following steps apply if you are currently in a group. If you are not in a group, contact a pastor in the home group ministry about how to proceed.

Step One:	Discuss apprenticeship with your current leader. If you and your leader agree to have you become an apprentice, continue with the following steps.
Step Two:	Download the Home Group Leader Application (you seem to have done this!), and begin to fill it out. Also, download the booklet <i>Home Group Basics</i> and begin to familiarize yourself with the concepts in it. http://www.thevillagechurch.net/smallGroups/leadership.html
Step Three:	Review your application with your leader once it is complete. If everything is in order, your leader will forward your application to his or her coach. A coach is someone who oversees home group leaders.
Step Four:	The coach will contact you to schedule a 90 minute interview to get to know you, review your application, discuss the material in <i>Home Group Basics</i> , and answer any questions you may have. Based on the outcome of your interview with the coach, a preliminary decision will be made about your readiness to lead.
Step Five:	The coach forwards your application to a pastor or ministry director, along with his or her recommendations. The pastor or ministry director may contact you if he has any questions.
Step Six:	A final decision is made about your application. The pastor in charge of your area will let you know the decision and next steps.

This is merely an overview. There will be other specific steps along the way that you will be guided through by the people mentioned above.

Thank you again for taking this important step. Please pray about your decision to proceed. I am eager to see you join us in seeing lives changed by the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In Christ,

Small Groups Team

Home Group Leader Application

Please fill out this form in its entirety, and write legibly. If you are married, we ask that you and your spouse both fill out separate applications.

Personal Information:

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Gender: Male Female

Marital Status: Single Married Widowed Divorced

Email: _____

Home Phone: _____

Other Phone: _____

Children still living at home (names and ages):

Are you a member of The Village Church? YES NO

If yes, for how long? _____

Are you currently in a home group? YES NO

If yes, who is your leader? _____

Ministry Information:

I am applying to lead a group in the following lifestage (circle one):

Multigenerational Adult Married/Mixed Young Married

Single Men Single Women College Men College Women

Have you ever been in a home group, or another type of small group? YES NO

If so, how would you describe that experience? _____

Have you ever led a group before? YES NO

If so, what did you learn from the experience? What did you learn about yourself? _____

Why do you want to be a group leader now? _____

What do you consider to be your personal strengths? _____

What do you consider to be your personal weaknesses? _____

What do you believe to be your spiritual gifts? _____

In what areas do you struggle in your Christian life? How will this affect your ability to shepherd others? _____

How would you explain salvation if asked? Please use Scripture to support your answer. _____

Spiritual Information:

Please recount the main events leading to your salvation. _____

What are some SPECIFIC ways Christ has changed you? _____

What is God doing to shape and mold you right now? _____

Please list your church affiliations for the past 5 years, as well as your reason for leaving.

Name of Church	Reason for Leaving
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Ministry and Leadership Experience:

What is your current involvement with The Village? Are you serving in any other ministries here or at another church? _____

What previous leadership experience have you had, either in or out of the church?

Do you agree with The Village's Statement of Faith? YES NO

If no, please explain: _____

Do you affirm the Mission Statement and Core Values of The Village, and agree to cooperate with the pastors and elders of the church? YES NO

References:

Please list the names of two people whom we can contact as references. These should be people who have done ministry with you, but are not related to you.

Name:_____	Name:_____
Phone:_____	Phone:_____
Email:_____	Email:_____
Relationship:_____	Relationship:_____

I affirm that all the information in this application is correct, to the best of my knowledge, and I give The Village Church permission to verify this information, and contact the references listed above.

Signed

Date