

St Jude's Discipleship Year Description

Learning to Serve & Lead

Much of the significance of a discipleship year lies in the opportunity it offers for you to develop your faith through engaging with ministry in a team. Jesus developed his disciples into the leaders of his new church by bringing them together into a ministry team where they learned:-

- **Through teaching:** Jesus taught them, and they taught others. A Discipleship Year student continues to learn much about God, themselves and the world through others – but most of all by doing the teaching themselves!
- **Through serving:** Jesus astonished his disciples by serving them – but then he charged them to follow his example in serving others. Much of what we learn as Christians comes from joining Jesus in serving. Others will be serving the Discipleship Year student, but their chief aim is to find ways of serving the church and the world.
- **Through modelling:** More important to Jesus than what his disciples knew, and what they could do – was how they treated each other and how they followed him. Jesus looked for Heroic Followers whom he could turn into Great Leaders. As you learn to imitate Jesus' character in the struggles of ministry and team life, you become the kind of people Jesus chooses to use to demonstrate his character to his people.

All these kinds of learning happen most intensely in the discipleship year through the many opportunities to serve which will be presented to them as part of a ministry team. The experiences you face will allow you not only to grow in character and confidence in your faith, but also in taking risks and stepping into leadership responsibility

Equipped to Serve & Lead

Backing up this practical opportunity for growth in faith are various opportunities to reflect and learn. Our Discipleship Year students are members of a young adults' home group, in which you will have the chance to enjoy fellowship with your peers. There may also be the opportunity to take part in a training programme within the diocese. There will also be the opportunity to attend training days specifically laid on for team(s) you will be part of.

Developing a range of skills

This placement gives the opportunity to develop your skills in different areas of service at St Jude's. We are looking for enthusiastic team member to join our children's team, and this will be combined with serving on the youth team. Other possible placements will be discussed during the course of the year as apt for the individual strengths and desires of the student.

We are not looking for someone to do everything perfectly from the start! But if you have skills and talents and are looking for the opportunity to explore leadership, this could be the placement for you!

Below you will find the main role description and person profile together with extra information for each area of ministry that will give you a flavour of what we would expect from you in your placement.

What do we expect from you?

- To be committed to walking with God and to serving Him in your daily life.
- To embrace the vision of St Jude's and to serve the church and local community.
- To be committed to personal growth in fellowship with the staff team.
- To be actively involved in the life of the church.
- To undertake appropriate training throughout the year.
- To be willing to agree to the placement agreement (see appendix).

In Children & Youth Ministry:

- To have a heart for reaching children and young people with the love of God.
- To work alongside the Children, Youth and Family Ministries Co-ordinator in the delivery of the ministry programme.
- To be involved in planning and leading groups.
- To be involved in the ministry of the church to local primary and secondary schools under direction from other members of staff.
- To be a positive role model and example to the children and young people of the church.
- To be committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people including following the child protection policy of the church.

Personal Profile

We are seeking someone who wishes to give a year to God, perhaps for a new experience or to test a call to full time ministry, to join our church. We don't wish to be prescriptive, but some qualities that we seek include:

- A young person aged 18-25, with a passionate and dynamic faith, who is confident in their faith and wants to share it with others
- Willing to learn
- Open to new experiences
- Able to take initiatives
- Relates well to other people
- Keen to be stretched and challenged
- Can take on responsibility

Expectations and Values

Your placement at St Jude's is a great opportunity to test whether or not you are called into vocational ministry; however, you also have an important call to minister

here at St Jude's during your time with us. Because you are an example to everyone who sees you at the church, particularly young people and children, it is essential that you are above reproach in your conduct, 'shining like stars in the universe'.

That being said, the ultimate reality of the Christian walk is that it is a time of constant sanctification – or we are continually being conformed into the image of Jesus. In other words, we are not expecting you to be perfect all the time and there are people around you that you will be able to talk with and who will pray for you and hold you up when you struggle. We ask that you make every effort to walk in these values:

Your Walk –

- **The Word** – 2 Timothy 3:16 – As ministers of the gospel you must stay rooted in the Word of God to have any hope of being effective, and obedient to it.
- **The Spirit** – 1 Corinthians 2 – It is expected that you are open to the moving of the Holy Spirit and actively seeking God's direction day by day.
- **Mentoring** – Proverbs 27:17 – You will have someone who is older than you to meet and talk with about once every 2 weeks.
- **Fellowship** – Hebrews 10:24-25 – While in ministry it is good to be in a group that you are not required to lead. We ask that you look to join a house group and would suggest, at least initially, that this is St Judents on Wednesday nights. We also ask that you attend a service other than 10.30am, and would suggest the 4.00pm service at St Margarets as a starting point.

Your Work –

- **Punctuality & Reliability** – you need to be on time for meetings and other events (including morning prayers). If you are involved in leadership at an event you should always be there early.
- **Quality of Work** – Colossians 3:17 – Do everything to glorify the Lord, including the smaller things. We expect an increasing quality to your work as you get used to the placement.
- **Attitude** – Philippians 2:14 – 'Do everything without complaining or arguing' – this includes clearing up after events, and anything else required no matter how menial.
- **Willingness** – as leaders you need to be bold in leading prayers, worship, a talk, whatever it might be and be up for whatever challenge is coming next.

Your Witness –

- **Language** – we expect that the language you use in speaking to others to be godly and not cause anyone to stumble.
- **Alcohol** – Be sensible with alcohol consumption and be aware that you are a witness to Christ whenever you are out. We operate a 'No Drinking' policy whenever you are responsible for young people but there may be occasions

when it is appropriate to drink alcohol; church socials, etc provided you are not leading, in ministry or responsible for young people

- **Smoking** – No smoking around the young people.
- **Courtesy to one another** – as you are living in someone else's house, please be wise in decisions about how late you have people over and commit to helping with household chores.
- **Relationships** – you are expected to be proactive in ensuring good relationships with members of the staff team, church congregation and wider community. As someone representing the church you will make every effort to be above reproach in speech and conduct. You are allowed romantic relationships with members of the opposite sex, **but not with anyone under 18 years old**