



Briefly explain your desire to minister as a Group Leader.

## LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS AND EQUIPPING

The role of a small group leader is that of a spiritual shepherd and servant. Therefore, we expect our group leaders to aspire to the standards of shepherd-leaders in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1:

### Godly Character

- Regarding personal godliness: Professing saving faith in Jesus Christ, consistently growing in godliness, regularly participating in public worship at Riverstone Church
- Regarding personal conduct: dignified, tested and blameless, self-controlled
- Regarding speech: sincere and trustworthy, not indulging in gossip, slander, or saying harmful things of others
- Regarding substances: moderation, not controlled by any substances, especially alcohol.
- Regarding money: not greedy, dishonest, or given to materialism
- Regarding home life: faithful to their spouse, an unblemished reputation in the area of sex and marriage; able to provide for, care for, and gently discipline their family.

### Doctrinal Conviction

- Affirms the core truths of historic, biblical Christian doctrine, as represented in the Riverstone Church Statement of Faith, without reservation.
- Affirms additional distinctive positions of Riverstone Church as represented in the Constitution of Riverstone Church.
- Growing ability to exhort and encourage others with biblical truth.
- Growing ability to refute contradictions to biblical truth.

Are you aware of any reason why you may not meet one or more of these requirements?

Yes  No (If yes, please explain).

Are there any issues (for example: child abuse, sexual harassment, pornography, alcohol, substance or physical abuse) in your life that may have an impact on your Small Group leadership?

Yes  No (If yes, please explain).

Do you agree with, affirm, and support the Statement of Faith as it appears on pages 4-5?

Yes  No (If no, please explain).

In preparation for a significant leadership role at our church, we ask for prospective leaders to first read two articles that outline our basic convictions about group ministry and to attend our Group Leader Orientation, and to meet with a group coach or ministry leader.

- I have read "Something Worth Meeting For" by Steve Midgley
- I have read "The One Primary Purpose of Small Groups" by Ken Long
- I have completed Group Leader Orientation (GLO)

We know that a leader is never done learning and growing, so we want to be able to provide you with other resources to hone your leadership and discipling skills. To equip you for service and development as a leader, are you willing to:

- |  |                              |                             |  |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Communicate regularly with a group coach?          | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Let's discuss |
| Meet annually with a group coach?                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Let's discuss |
| Attend periodic in-service training opportunities? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Let's discuss |

### APPLICANT STATEMENT AND RELEASE

The information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. As a leader, I agree to submit to the spiritual leadership and direction of the pastors and elders of Riverstone Church and to affirm and abide by the church's Statement of Faith and Constitution. I acknowledge that failure to comply with these commitments may result in my removal from leadership. I further state that I have read the foregoing release and know the contents thereof and sign this release of my own free will and without duress.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

If you have questions about this application, contact Mindy Mason at the church office at either 215-321-3326 or [office@riverstone.church](mailto:office@riverstone.church).

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	Interviewer _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommended Growth Steps	Date _____

# RIVERSTONE CHURCH STATEMENT OF FAITH

## **Introduction**

This Statement of Faith, to which we subscribe, does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs but serves as a dependable summary of what the Bible teaches on the subjects indicated. The Bible speaks with final authority to the matters it addresses and is the source for all that we believe in doctrine and conduct as believers living under God's authority. Our elder board is Riverstone Church's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application to faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline as it relates to our church.

## **God**

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

## **The Bible**

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

## **The Human Condition**

We believe that God created Adam and Eve in His image, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed.

## **Jesus Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

## **The Work of Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation.

## **The Holy Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.

## **The Church**

We believe that the true church comprises all who have been justified by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. They are united by the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The true church is manifest in local churches, whose membership should be composed only of believers. The Lord Jesus mandated two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper, which visibly and tangibly express the gospel. Though they are not the means of salvation, when celebrated by the church in genuine faith, these ordinances confirm and nourish the believer.

**Christian Living**

We believe that God's justifying grace must not be separated from His sanctifying power and purpose. God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially, and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor and justice for the oppressed. With God's Word, the Spirit's power, and fervent prayer in Christ's name, we are to combat the spiritual forces of evil. In obedience to Christ's commission, we are to make disciples among all people, always bearing witness to the gospel in word and deed.

**The Return of Christ**

We believe in the personal, bodily and premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service and energetic mission.

**Response and Eternal Destiny**

We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

**Conclusion**

We believe that all persons employed by Riverstone Church in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to, actively promote, and abide by this Statement of Faith so as to 1) preserve the function and integrity of Riverstone Church as a local body of Christ and 2) provide biblical role models to the church members and our community.