

Hello!

Thank you for your interest in community life and discipleship on The Hill! This ministry began a little over 40 years ago when Bob Warren, the founder, was asked by six college students to lead a bible study. Throughout the years, the ministry evolved and expanded. Today, many high school and college students, as well as adults of all ages have visited The Hill to explore the heart of God, the grace offered through Jesus, and the freedom that belongs to those who have entered into a relationship with Him. While the property is used for many different events and guest groups, our heartbeat is personal discipleship.

Christ's love compels us to help believers encounter and explore the depths of Jesus by providing an environment where people can "press on to maturity" (Heb 6:1). Understanding God's grace and our identity in Christ welcome us into the joy, freedom, and rest God intended for us. We aim to dig into what it means to know Him through 'normal' daily life with all the young folks who live here. We'd like to partner with folks who want to seek the Lord and uplift them as they discover the next step in their journey with Jesus.

Growth happens through various avenues. Studying and meditating upon the word, prayer, worship, and interaction with believers help us renew our minds and think correctly. Scripture tells us it's life-transforming (Romans 12:2)! Here's the skeleton of how we approach that as a group:

HOUSING

There is room for four girls and four or five guys to reside with a discipleship leader in two separate, furnished houses. Residents provide their own groceries and personal items, including bedding, towels, and cleaning supplies. All residents have a hand in stewarding the place we live and are expected to share the responsibilities of cleaning and keeping living quarters neat.

BIBLE STUDY

We firmly believe the Bible is an expression of God's heart and valuable for growth and maturity. On Sunday nights, we will come together to study and discuss His word. Areas of study will vary based on the group we have at the time. There will typically be questions and commentary to be considered throughout the week.

In addition to the weekly Bible study, all of your housemates will meet together weekly with your mentors and invited guests for discipleship.

FIRST YEAR MENTORSHIP

Your first year living here includes meeting one-on-one with a mentor at least once a week. The desired outcome of this time is to establish a relationship built on mutual trust, sharing, and enrichment for both the mentor and mentee. Iron sharpens iron!

SERVICE/PROJECT HOURS

For a minimum of five hours each week, residents serve in various ministry tasks and maintain the property. These hours cover all rent and utility costs. More info on this is included in the policy packet.

RETREATS

We host several retreats and camps each year. We ask that each resident volunteer in some capacity for ONE retreat each semester. It's a fun way to serve and get to know the folks who visit The Hill.

LIFE OFF THE HILL

Residents need to be in school or employed while residing at The Hill. While some choose to do both, it can make for a hectic schedule. We also desire for each resident to be involved in a local congregation for corporate worship. Your mentor will help you navigate the transition and craziness!

LIFE ON THE HILL

The estimated time commitment is around ten hours per week. Included are work hours, time spent with your mentor, group meetings, and group Bible studies. While this may sound structured, many of our favorite times are the mundane days, extending grace to each other when we fail, and normal silliness we all get to experience together.

CANDIDATES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

After several years of hosting residents for discipleship, what we look for in a potential candidate has become more defined. The ideal candidate is one who already has a hunger for the person of Christ and is inclined toward discipleship in identifiable ways.

The same mandate given by Paul to his spiritual son Timothy resonates with us:

The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. (2Tim. 2:2)

What we look for in a potential resident is:

- A passion to know the heart of God
- A faithful man or woman
- Those who understand the value of and have a desire for discipleship
- Someone who genuinely desires to be an active part of the ministry and participate in what God has called us to do.

We realize a person having all of those traits fully developed wouldn't need much discipleship. However, we are looking for the seeds of those traits that can be cultivated into a fruitful life in Christ.

The Hill is not a place of escape or convenience for the residents we consider. On the contrary, we are called to be a place of intentional discipleship with highly engaged participants.

We live in a “free to fail” economy with our good God! We want you to operate in that same freedom. During your time on The Hill, we pray you feel free to try new things, explore ideas, and build relationships without the paralyzing fear of repercussions. We’re on an incredible adventure discovering what it means to know Christ as our life.

APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS

The submission of this application is not a guarantee you will be accepted as a resident for discipleship at The Hill. Prayer, an interview or two, available space and other factors come into play, but you’re starting at the right place.

Upon receiving your application, we will set up an interview with you, either in person or by Zoom, to talk in more detail about your application and discuss any further questions. Applications and interviews must be completed by March 14th. An intern will be chosen and communication sent out to all applicants by Monday, March 17th.

Please take some time to ask Jesus about living here. If you sense He is leading you this direction, fill out the application and send it our way. Once received, we will contact you within two weeks and arrange for a time to talk together. If you have any further questions, comments, or ideas, please contact Jenelle Schimpf at Events@lifeonthehill.org or 615.295.9185.

We look forward to hearing from you!

In Christ,
Jenelle Schimpf, Kim Warren, Brent Armstrong, Andrew Porterfield