



Title: Champion

Reports To: Jobs For Life Facilitator

Basic Function: To build a mutual relationship with a JFL student to encourage them to apply the principles of God's Word to all areas of life: career, finances, and family according to the gospel.

Why Champion? Relationships. At Advance Memphis we are privileged to see so many people truly experience the life-changing power of Jesus Christ by having their dignity restored and gaining hope and vision for their futures. We have also seen many of these same graduates, just like you and me, grow to become discouraged and feel defeated in the workplace and in their relationship with God. God knows we are all prone to discouragement and his Word directs us to His solution to this problem: relationships. Meaningful friendships are a key ingredient to gospel growth; however, this is often the *missing* ingredient (especially between racial and socio-economic divides). Our belief is that we all need each other because this is how God designed our sanctification. The poor need the rich and the rich need the poor. Do you believe this? We would like to invite you fulfill the gospel mandate to "make disciples of all peoples," and for you yourself to be changed in the process. Will you invest your time and energy in a true friendship and grow with others as a more godly parent, spouse, employee, and most importantly, as a child of God?

Attributes and qualifications:

- A Christian who believes God's word is truth and strives to live it out in every area of his/her life;
- A fundamental belief that individuals in poverty are created in the image of God and therefore, have value and gifts to offer
- A humility that comes from understanding one's own spiritual poverty and believes that this poverty is more than enough to unite those who would otherwise be divided by socio-economic or cultural barriers; and
- A willingness to love your neighbor as yourself by listening with empathy, praying with and for the other persons, and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with gentleness and respect

Responsibilities:

Get started by becoming a Small Group leader. Your role as a *Champion* will begin while the student is enrolled in the Jobs For Life class. The JFL class is a biblically based 6-week program which aims to empower adults to be economically self-sufficient by helping them achieve career and financial goals. Over the course of 6 weeks students will break into small groups to discuss material from the class and ways the material can be applied to their life. A small group leader is responsible for facilitating the group discussions and building relationships with the men or women in the group. There will be 2 to 3 students in your group.

The time commitment of a Small Group Leader is 1 hour a week for 5 weeks: a total of 5 hours. There are 5 small group sessions across the span of a 5-week period. Typically these sessions are held on Wednesdays at 11:00 and last about an hour each. The Jobs For Life instructor will email the discussion questions the day before small group sessions. These questions do not usually require prior preparation.

The commitment after Graduation is to attempt to walk in relationship with the graduates from your group for *6 months*. We understand that it is impossible to force meaningful friendships to occur and that this is a messier process than we sometimes expect. However, the fruit from such a relationship is extremely rewarding. Our hope is that you would commit to praying for and with the graduates and follow the Spirit's lead in deciding how to spend your time. We also have some ideas on ways you can help encourage the graduates and would love to be a resource to you.

Our expectation is that you would make phone contact with the graduates once every two weeks to stay in touch and encourage them. We also ask that you meet face-to-face with each other once every 6 weeks (4 times). We will check in with you from time to time to track the progress of the graduates and be of assistance to you in any way possible.