



SMALL GROUP LEADER INFORMATION

VRSM
VALLEY RANCH STUDENT MINISTRIES

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dates:

February 13-15, 2026

Location:

Valley Ranch Baptist Church | 1501 E Beltline Road, Coppell, Texas 75019

Leader Meeting:

Friday, February 13 | 5:00pm | Seminar Room

We will go over details for the weekend, have dinner together, and pray over our weekend. Please make plans to attend this meeting!

Important Contact Information:

Caleb Wade | Student Pastor | cwade@vrbc.net | (817) 304-4523

Kassidy Turner | Student Ministry Associate | kturner@vrbc.net | (972) 989-5921

WHAT IS WINTER WEEKEND?

Winter Weekend is a discipleship retreat for 6th-12th grade students. Students are hosted in homes all across Coppell for a weekend focused on worship, Bible Study, and building community. You will play an important role in the weekend. You will be responsible for preparing and teaching the small group lessons for a group of teenagers for the weekend. You will stay in the home with them and guide them throughout the weekend.

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

Per VRBC's Good Shepherd Policy, it is needed that each small group leader goes through each step in our Good Shepherd process. Each of these items (except the two noted below) may be found in the confirmation email you receive after completing your registration. After you have finished your registration, we will be following up with you if any of these items are still missing.

- **Small Group Leader Registration**
- **2026 VRSM Adult Participation Waiver**
- **Signed Good Shepherd Policy (Updated in October 2025)**
- **Ministry Safe Certificate** (if not completed in the last two years) — The invitation to the Ministry Safe awareness training will be sent to you through email after you complete your registration. If you have recently gone through this training for VRBC or another organization, a copy of the certificate can be emailed to kturner@vrbc.net.
- **Approved Background Check** (if not completed in the last two years) — The invitation to begin a background check will be sent to you through email after you complete your registration. If we have a valid background check on file for you, you will not need to do another one.

WHAT TO BRING

YOU WILL BE STAYING IN THE HOST HOME WITH THE STUDENTS ALL WEEKEND.

- A sense of excitement, expectancy, and flexibility. This is going to be a great weekend!
- Prepared lessons to teach during small groups.
- Western Attire for our Friday Night Party (Lone Star Late Night!)
- Your Bible and a pen.
- Wear casual, but appropriate clothes. You will be given a Winter Weekend shirt to wear for Sunday. Gloves, a set of clothes to work in, and some closed toed shoes. We will be doing some mild construction for our Mission Project.
- Basic toiletries (towel, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, brush, deodorant, etc.) Please do not forget a towel – Host Families are not responsible for providing towels!
- Sleeping bag and a pillow. We have asked each Host Home to provide a bed for each leader but, just in case, bring something to sleep in.

DNOW LEADER EXPECTATIONS

We need a number of college students/young adults to help lead our small groups during Winter Weekend. We need committed Christians who are willing to prepare and invest themselves in a group of students (6th-12th grade) over the course of a weekend. The bulk of our expectation lies in your connection and investment in students for the weekend. You will also be expected to help make sure students are where they are supposed to be when they are supposed to be there, that they are respectful of the Host Home, and they are making good choices during the weekend.

A Winter Weekend Leader must:

1. BE INVESTED

A small group leader must (1) be actively pursuing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and (2) want to invest into the lives of junior high and high school students.

2. BE A LEADER

We'll be looking to you to step up, take charge and ensure that the students are able to have a fun and productive weekend. If students aren't doing what they need to be doing, don't be afraid to speak up and take charge!

3. FACILITATE SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

One of your main responsibilities will be leading the small group times in your groups. We provide material to facilitate and direct your small group times, so please take the time to pray, study, and prepare for each of the three small group lessons. You don't have to stick to the material word-for-word, but we do expect you to cover what each lesson is teaching those students. We believe that these small groups will provide a major avenue for spiritual growth for students, so use this time wisely....and have some fun doing it!

4. ENGAGE WITH THE STUDENTS

Building relationships with your assigned group of students is critical. This is challenging to accomplish in a weekend, and that is why we ask you to stay with your assigned group of students as much as possible. I know you might have friends in other groups, but we need you to be responsible for your own group. This means spending time with your specific students and knowing where they are. You have a great opportunity to impact these students' lives during this short period of time. Please use it effectively.

5. SET THE EXAMPLE

Look around...guess who's looking at you? Your group of students! We expect you to set an encouraging example throughout the weekend. This means we expect you to be willing to participate in the activities, engage in worship, and follow directions. Also, we need your help encouraging positive and flexible attitudes for whatever is happening next.

Thank all of you for the commitment and investment you are making by being a part of this weekend. You are so vitally important in the lives of these students! We are praying for each of you as you prepare your hearts and minds for Winter Weekend.



SMALL GROUP SESSION OVERVIEW



When the lesson guides for all three small group sessions are completed, you can find them in the Winter Weekend Google Drive Folder. You can find the link to this on the Winter Weekend Small Group Leader webpage (vrbc.net/ww26smallgroupleader). You will also find Lesson Prep Videos to help as you prepare to teach each lesson. *Reminder: These lessons are not meant to be scripts, but guides. Please do not just recite them word for word. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you as you prepare and lead.*

THEME: NO OTHER NAME

MAIN SCRIPTURE: "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." - Philippians 2:9-11

MAIN IDEA: Worship is not only a few songs that you sing in Church on Sunday morning. Worship is the music you sing along to on your way to school. Worship is not only bowing your head during prayer. It is also the time you spend with your head bowed, looking down at a screen. Worship is more than what we think it is. It is a daily and ever-present part of our lives. There is only One who is worthy of our worship. When we feel joy or sorrow, there is **No Other Name** worth crying out to. Jesus Christ is not only our Savior. He is our Lord. His work on the Cross was to set us free from sin, not so that we could continue on as though nothing had changed, but so that we could live a life of freedom from sin. No one else could do that because No Other Name has that power. We worship God with praise for who He is. We worship with thanksgiving because of what He has done for us. We worship Him daily because we know that He is alive and with us. And we worship out loud because we know the world is watching, and they desperately need to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.

SMALL GROUP SESSIONS

Session 1: The Name that Changes Everything

Main Scriptures: Colossians 1:15-20, Hebrews 1:1-4, Acts 4:12, Philippians 2:9-11

Session Snapshot: Everything begins with Jesus. Before students explore how to worship Him or live for Him, they need to understand who He truly is. He is not just one voice among many. He is the Creator, Sustainer, and Reconciler of all things. His Name changes everything, not just because it's powerful but because of the Person behind it.

Session 2: Worship Immanuel, God With Us

Main Scriptures: Matthew 1:23, Isaiah 7:14, John 1:12-18, Titus 3:4-7, Psalm 16:9-11

Session Snapshot: The Garden of Eden. The Ark of the Covenant. The Temple. Immanuel. In a few short words, you can tell a story of God's desire to be present with His people and receive their worship. We were created for this! When we act as though God only receives our worship at camp, a church event, or on Sunday morning, we miss out on the many opportunities to worship Him regardless of where we are or what we are up to.

Session 3: Our Worship, Our Witness

Main Scriptures: 1 Kings 8:12-24, 2 Corinthians 5:14-21, Matthew 28:16-20

Session Snapshot: Worship is not about us. It can be tempting to worry that others will judge us by how well we sing, how many resources we give, or even how professional we speak. But when we worship, it all comes down to what our actions and words say about the One we are worshipping. It doesn't matter how beautifully you can sing the Name of Jesus; it matters that others can hear His name for the first time and be saved!



WINTER WEEKEND **WW26**

SCHEDULE



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 5:00 PM | Small Group Leader Meeting + Dinner |
| 6:30 PM | Check-in – <i>Church Lobby</i> |
| 7:00 PM | Worship Session 1 |
| 8:30 PM | Late Night Party |
| 10:00 PM | Head to Host Homes |
| 10:30 PM | Small Group 1 in Homes |
| 12:00 AM | Lights Out |

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

| | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| 8:00 AM | Breakfast / Time Alone with God |
| | Small Group Session 2 |
| 10:15 AM | Arrive at VRBC |
| 10:30 AM | Worship Session 2 at VRBC |
| 11:45 PM | Lunch |
| 12:45 PM | Mission Projects |
| 3:00 PM | Free Time |
| 5:45 PM | Head to VRBC |
| 6:00 PM | Dinner |
| 7:00 PM | Worship Session 3 |
| 8:15 PM | Small Group Session 3 at VRBC |
| 9:30 PM | Late Night Worship |
| 10:30 PM | Everyone Head Home |
| 12:00 AM | Lights Out |

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

| | |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| 8:30 AM | Breakfast at VRBC |
| 9:00 AM | Group Pictures |
| 9:15 AM | Head to Worship Center |
| 9:30 AM | Worship Worship Center |
| 10:45 AM | Winter Weekend Wrap-Up |
| 12:00 PM | Students and Leaders Dismissed |