



Title: Champion

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

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 to 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?

Responsibilities:

- **Get started by becoming a Champion.** Your role as a Champion will begin while the participant is enrolled in the Work Life class. The Work Life class is a biblically based 7-week program which aims to empower adults to be economically self-sufficient by helping them achieve career and financial goals. After they complete the Work Life class, Champions and participants continue meeting for 1 more week. Over the course of 8 weeks participants will break into small groups to discuss material from the class and ways the material can be applied to their life. Champions are responsible for facilitating the group discussions and building relationships with the men or women in the group. There will be 2 to 4 participants in your group. *Advance Memphis provides material to help guide the discussions each week.*
- **The time commitment of a Champion is one hour per week for 8 weeks.** There are 8 small group sessions across the span of an 8-week period. These sessions are held on Wednesdays at 11:00 am and last about an hour each. The Volunteer Coordinator will email the discussion questions a few days 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.

Required Skills and Attributes:

- A Christian who believes God's word is truth and lives it out in every area of his/her life.
- A personal commitment to God's kingdom work specifically for the economically, educationally, and spiritually poor.
- A commitment to racial and socio-economic reconciliation at a personal level, and a willingness to foster a relationship that goes beyond stereotypes and challenges your own perspectives.
- A recognition of the poor as individuals made in the image of God.
- The attainment of a High School or GED diploma. If a graduate of our program, must be currently working towards attaining the GED.
- A commitment to a local church body.
- At least 2 years of continuous work history or 6 months of continuous work history and currently employed.
- A willingness to let relationships with participants change and impact your life.

How to Get Started:

- Contact Advance Memphis Staff at 901.543.8525, specifically the Volunteer Coordinator at cchapple@advancememphis.org who will provide you with the next steps in becoming a Champion.