

SUMMER IN THE GROVE '25

Dear friends,

With great joy and anticipation, I invite you to consider joining us for Summer In The Grove 2025. I have never seen a summer intensive or short-term class that has produced long-term fruit like Summer In The Grove has. Not only has my life been deeply changed since going through SITG as a student and a leader multiple times, but I have also been profoundly impacted by individuals who have gone through it over the past fifteen years. I have seen the lives of many students be transformed by their decision to fully say yes to God and say yes to this set-apart summer to learn more about how to truly follow Him. It is a joy for me to be a part of what God is doing this summer and continue to see sons and daughters learn their true identity, receive the tools to grow into deeper unity with Christ and one another, and be empowered to live a purposeful, missional life that brings glory to their King.

It is a cultural norm for people in their late teens and early 20s to invest heavily in reaching success financially and socially, while taking little time to invest in building a foundation of God's love for them and how to walk hand in hand with God throughout their lives. Summer In The Grove comes against this norm by providing a set apart time to develop a solid foundation rooted in the truth of Christ, that will be built upon for the rest of your life, wherever you feel led to go. Our deep dives into the three main focus areas -*scriptural foundation, inward transformation, and missional activation*- have a way of stripping out old ways of thinking as we build on the truth together. Teachings are an important part of our summer, but our heart is mainly to create a space where we can learn to follow Jesus as a community. Community is God's design, and learning to truly walk in unity as the body of Christ together, and share the love of God with the lost together, has value that cannot be measured.

My hope is that what I have written above addresses the questions "*Why Summer in the Grove? And why do I need to take a whole summer for it?*" As a team, we are passionate about SITG because we believe God has called us to it, and excited because of how much joy we experience each summer as we grow deeper roots into God's love together. If this is something you believe the Lord is calling you to in this season, please review the information below and fill out the application. I look forward to hearing from you!

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Summer in the Grove Team

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SUMMER IN THE GROVE '25

Objective



Set aside a summer to cultivate a Jesus-centered life.

Summer in the Grove is a 12 week intensive school of learning, growth, & set apart space for intentional spiritual formation. It's aim is to help participants move beyond a place of believing in a belief system, to knowing and following Jesus, the only One who is worthy to give our entire lives to. With the commitment that we will follow Jesus no matter the cost, we dive into topics ranging from sonship and living from a whole heart, to prayer and worship, to disciple-making and missions.

Significant Dates

Opening Bonfire: **Sunday, May 25**

Discipleship Training Weekend with Pam Arlund: **May 30th- June 1st**

Collective Worship Nights: **3rd Fridays of the Month - June 20, July 18, August 15**

St. Mark's Place Missional Training Trip: **July (exact dates TBD)**

Graduation Banquet: **Thursday, August 14**

Collective Worship Night: **Friday, August 15**

Move Out Day: **Saturday, August 16**

*Please plan to be in Grove City by May 25 and plan to stay until August 16. We believe that fully devoting yourself is an important aspect of Summer in the Grove.

Please plan accordingly and schedule vacation or other trips before or after SitG.*

*There may be a weekend retreat sometime in June, we are praying about that now and will plan it based on student availability as we move into the summer together.

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What will I gain?

Being formed more into the image of Jesus, and learning to do what He did.

Our focus areas:

1. *Inward Transformation*

Living out of a whole heart & soul & developing a relationship with Christ that changes my life on a daily basis.

- Wholeness, Heart Health, & Inner Healing
- Understanding the Kingdom of God
- Hiddenness with God
- How to Hear God's Voice
- Beholding Jesus

2. *Scriptural Foundation*

Learning & wrestling through why I believe what I believe.

- The Kingdom of God
- What is the Gospel
- Spiritual Gifts
- Deliverance and Spiritual Freedom

3. *Missional Activation*

Learning how to move out of overflow of God's love to the people around us that don't yet know Him, and bring the kingdom of heaven to earth wherever we are.

- Discerning Atmospheres
- Hearing God for Others
- Making Disciples
- Simple Church

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How Will I Learn?

Personal Devotion & Discipleship

Deepen your relationship with God as you learn to develop personal and collective rhythms of prayer, worship, time in the Word, and rest throughout the week. There also will be extra time to receive mentorship from leaders as you work through homework assignments or any other questions that come up.

Class Day Instruction and Impartation

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday mornings are set aside for teaching, training, and impartation. With both Biblical teaching (**the fuel**) and practical equipping (**the function**), we believe that you will grow in faith as you receive over 100 hours of discussion-based instruction from our team and other leaders from our region and the nation.

Weekly Assignments

Each class day session will end with practical assignments that will help you exercise what you are learning throughout the week. You will move beyond belief to practicing and obeying the commands of Scripture. This will be stretching in healthy ways, as you move beyond your comfort zone to follow passionately after Jesus, doing the things He did.

Life in Community

Summer in the Grove is intentionally integrated into our local community. While you will be closely following Jesus within the small group of Summer in the Grove, you will also be an integral part of a larger church community, as well as a part of the small town Grove City community as a whole!

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Weekly Schedule

- Monday:** 8 AM - 1 PM // Class & Lunch Together
- Tuesday:** 6 PM - 8:30 PM // Missional Time In Neighborhood
- Wednesday:** 7:00 - 9 AM // Prayer Rhythm
9 AM - 12 PM // Class & Lunch Together
- Thursday:** 8 AM - 1 PM// Class & Lunch Together
- Friday:**
- Saturday:**
- Sunday:** TBD // Morning Church At McKoy's

*one day of sabbath rest is required for everyone- most will choose either Saturday or Sunday, depending on their schedule.

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Finances

How much does Summer in the Grove cost?

\$1775

*****We believe in the value of this internship & we never want cost to deter anyone from being a part of Summer in the Grove. If cost is an issue, we will work with you to help you raise the funds needed for the summer. Because AOX runs Summer in the Grove at cost, you will need to have a plan in place for payment prior to move-in day. (Please let us know how we can work with you as soon as possible.)***

What is included in this cost?

- Twelve weeks of intense discipleship and leadership training
- Any Required Books & Materials for the Summer
- End of Summer Banquet
- Travel Cost for any Class Day Trips
- Experiential Learning Missional Trip to NYC
- Coffee & Lunch on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays

What is not included in this cost?

- Groceries and personal items for living throughout the week
- Housing

When is the money due?

- **Nonrefundable Deposit:** \$887.50 due on May 18th
- **Payment #2:** \$887.50 due on June 29th

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Thoughts from those who have gone before



"Life changing is an expression we can overuse. But my experience during summer in the grove truly gave God the time to significantly shape my heart. There is something about setting time apart to become a student of the knowing that changes everything."

David Wade - Summer in the Grove 2012, Pastor of All Saints Church, San Diego



"In my pride, the idea of being a student again made me feel weak, Thankfully I obeyed what God was saying instead of what I felt, because that second summer was probably one of the most life-changing and humbling seasons of my life. In that summer I was stretched more than I had ever been. Sometimes that stretching was not pleasant, but I can't ignore that it was producing lasting fruit in my life. And when I look at the Summer in the Grove program that's what I can say for it. Be prepared to be stretched more than you ever

have before. Be prepared for your paradigm of life to shift completely. And when it does, be prepared to see the beautiful fruit of your time here."

Hannah Giffone - Summer in the Grove 2013 and 2014



"Jesus yearns to show us how much he loves us. Summer in the Grove was my first taste of his passionate expression of love. Through relationship, I was shown how the consuming love of Jesus turns brokenness to beauty and makes dead hearts come alive. I would encourage everyone to have a summer tucked away in the Grove, where the eyes of their bridegroom can transform them."

Haley Andrews - Summer in the Grove 2017

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I'm interested. What should I do now?

1. *Let us know you're interested*

let Luke or Brad know you are considering being a part of the internship.

2. *Pray and seek wise counsel*

take time to listen to what God has to say about your summer plans.
talk to wise counsel in your life and get their input.

3. *Complete the application*

please turn it in to Luke or Brad by May 14th.

4. *Turn in your deposit & prepare*

due by May 18th. (deposits are non-refundable)

make plans for the rest of summer. (Secure housing, find a part-time job, if necessary, talk to Luke or Brad about getting help raising funds for the summer & help with housing, etc.)

5. *Ask God to prepare your heart for an amazing, life-changing summer!*

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Application

Please complete the following application and have it turned in to Brad McKoy or Luke Woodard by May 14th to secure your spot in the Summer in the Grove internship. A non-refundable deposit of ___ will be required to complete the application process if accepted. **The deposit is due by May 18th.**

Your Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Emergency Contact:

Emergency Contact Phone Number:

What is their relationship to you?

How did you hear about Summer in the Grove?

Why would you like to be a part of the Summer in the Grove Internship?

What are your expectations?

Do you already have housing or potential housing lined up for this summer? If so, where?

Are there any concerns you may have about being in Grove City this summer?
If Yes, please describe.

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Do you have a job or the possibility of a part-time job, internship, or volunteer position already lined up? If so, what and where?

Have you read the "social covenant" (located on last page) that the community in Grove City has agreed to walk in? Y/N

As part of coming this summer, have you agreed to walk in that 'social covenant' with us? Y/N

Do you understand that AOX is a church and you are coming to be a part of this spiritual family? Y/N

Will you have use of a car for the summer? (not required) Y/N

Do you have any allergies or medical concerns we should know about?

By signing below, you are expressing your commitment to be a part of Summer in the Grove 2025. (The SitG Team will use the commitment to prepare and plan logistics.)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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“Social Covenant” . . . to be the church.

“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Jesus, John 13:35

“Social Covenant” is the term used for the agreement together as a church community ahead of time on how we are going to walk in relationship. We actively look to the New Testament standards for behavior and conduct and have agreed to love well and care for one another’s hearts in an intentionally safe environment. We ask that people who want to be a part of our church community agree with these values as well.

There are four main agreements that we as a community have made:

1. Confrontation - We have agreed to talk if there is an issue & do it one-on-one.

...Matthew 18:15-17

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.”

2. Culture of Honor - We have agreed that since we are royal sons and daughters of the King of kings, we will value and serve each other in a respectful and loving manner fitting for the King’s children.

...Rom 12:10

“Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.”

3. Accountability (out of real relationship) - We have agreed, out of a real relationship with each other, to speak into each other’s lives and grow together more and more into the likeness of Jesus until his appearing.

...Hebrews 10:24

“And let us consider how to stir up one another in love and good works...”

4. Purity - We have agreed to live from the pure hearts that Jesus’ death and resurrection has returned us to.

...1 Peter 1:22-23

“Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God.”