

Discipleship Ministries Data 2012

Questions for 2011-12 Leaders:

In my specific area, the common student leadership questions were asked in the following ways:

1. What do you do when planning for your weekly cov group meeting?
2. What are the things that make a cov group meaningful?
3. Briefly describe one event from the year that shaped your approach to leadership. What did you learn?

They were asked in a slightly different way but the desire to assess their ability to lead a small group meeting was the common goal that we were trying to assess. The students were asked these questions via Survey Monkey and their answers were assessed.

2011-12 Results:

Based on the common student leadership questions:

- 24% Covenant group leaders were advanced
- 55% Covenant group leaders were proficient
- 18% Covenant group leaders were basic
- 3% Covenant group leaders were below basic

We had a total of 38 responses out of 49 participants (78%). The questions were asked on a survey monkey survey and might not have clearly articulated the desire for student leaders to list or describe the necessary steps for an effective small group meeting. The assessment of the answers was done by the Discipleship Ministries Director.

Criteria Used for Assessment (note that the assessment was done by a new director of the program who had been in the position for just three weeks before the assessment was done)

I was looking for the ability to identify important aspects of a successful group meeting. For example, I was looking for them to give multiple steps/ aspects of preparing. I literally counted the steps or aspects they came up with and categorized from there. Most students could name 3-4 steps/aspects (read a passage, write lesson, pray, plan an aspect of fellowship, prepare for discussion, journal, discuss with others, etc.) For 4 or more components, I gave them advanced. For 3-4: Proficient, for 2-3: basic and for 1-2: below basic. It doesn't seem like there was specific/ shared language for the leaders which makes me think this whole idea had not been shared with them in terms of actual steps or things—more as concepts/ values.

I did not do any categorization around the other common question (Briefly describe one event from the year that shaped your approach to leadership. What did you learn?) because it shows learning, not necessarily proficiency. All could articulate something learned so that seemed very hard to categorize. That question seems to measure the ability to see and recognize growth/ learning.

One of the things that was noticed is that there were significant differences between the rating for the student leaders in Community Ministries and Discipleship Ministries. In the future work will be done to address rater reliability. The comments on this year's assessment and the differences are below:

It should also be noted that this survey was given 2-3 weeks after the I started and so it makes sense to me that the leaders for Community Ministries used different criteria—they were part of the training with their students and knew exactly what had been communicated. I assessed the Discipleship Ministries survey based on my limited observations and conversations with the Chaplain and Chaplain's Assistant, and my understanding of group process.