

Servants Passage



A guided 'journey' of learning that equips ministry teams and individuals with passion and ability for participating together in Jesus' discipling ministry.

Generations Ministries (GenMin) is pleased to provide Servants Passage to serve WCG congregations in the United States. This information sheet is designed to answer questions and invite your participation. We are here to advance Jesus' ministry by serving you and your congregation.

What is Servants Passage?

Servants Passage is not a formulaic, one-size-fits-all program. It's not about notebooks and busy-work. It's not about loading new tasks onto already over-flowing plates. Rather, it's a *lifestyle* where teams of existing and potential ministers (ministry workers, ministry leaders and pastors) grow in passion and skill as they participate together in Jesus' ministry within their congregation.

Servants Passage is a *journey* of exploration and learning that...

- Provides opportunities to think deeply about personal and shared ministry callings and giftings.
- Affords insight about personal and shared ministry strengths and needs for growth.
- Equips participants with useful tools to grow, over time, within 'real-world' constraints of time and money. These tools are typically utilized within what we refer to as church-based 'mentoring communities' - usually these are existing ministry teams that learn in the midst of doing ministry together within their congregation. We find this approach to be both realistic and transformational.

Who is it for?

Servants Passage is a valuable tool for any believer who wishes to make progress as a ministry worker, ministry leader or pastoral leader. It's ideal if ministry teams participate together—but it's accessible to individuals who want to explore their calling to ministry within the church.

Servants Passage is also a great way to 'jump-start' or strengthen a ministry team by clarifying roles and callings—perhaps leading to restructuring for greater effectiveness. Our experience with over 300 participants is that for many, Servants Passage is a catalyst for ministry transformation.



Servants Passage equips ministers and ministry teams

Why is Servants Passage part of Generations Ministries?



- GenMin's leaders are experienced in growing ministry teams in churches and in corporate settings. We've seen these principles work and we're devoted to sharing them with the whole church.
- GenMin seeks to serve all generations within the WCG while pursuing a specific vision of God using Servants Passage to raise up new generations of spiritual servants within our congregations and denominational ministries.

What is involved?

Though Servants Passage is a life-style, it's of limited (and flexible) duration. It typically includes the following five steps:

1. **Join the Journey.** This initial exploratory intensive is focused on thinking deeply about personal and team ministry callings and giftings. This two-day-long event is usually hosted by a WCG congregation. *Join the Journey* has been held in camps, church buildings and on canoe trips – places where existing and potential ministers of Christ get away from regular routines to hear from the Lord.
2. **Church-based discussion.** For those who choose to continue the journey, the next step involves six once-a-month small group meetings back home to further explore the material covered at *Join the Journey*. These meetings are usually an adjunct to ministry meetings the group already holds.
3. **Growing Deeper.** This second intensive helps journey participants grapple with 'ministry survival' issues and measure ministry abilities with an eye toward utilizing strengths and filling ability gaps.
4. **Church-based learning.** Following *Growing Deeper*, participants journey for another 18 months meeting in ministry 'mentoring communities' where they share learning that enhances strengths and fills ability gaps. This learning in community is focused and achievable, recognizing limitations of both time and money. Servants Passage staff coach these communities to help them take advantage of readily available resources – many downloadable at no cost from the GenMin website.
5. **Staying the Course.** This final intensive completes Servants Passage in a formal sense. It provides a 'graduation' and discusses life-long learning strategies and 'ministry survival' issues.

How do I get on board?

Take the first step by participating in *Join the Journey*. See the 'events list' on the GenMin website (youth.wcg.org/generations/) for currently scheduled intensives in your area. Invite other ministry workers, leaders and pastors in your congregation and neighboring ones to join with you.

- If your congregation would like to host *Join the Journey* in your area, email Servants Passage director Ted Johnston at Ted.Johnston@wcg.org or phone Ted at 330.497.7188
- For more information about Servants Passage, visit us online at youth.wcg.org/generations/developmentprograms.htm

