

harvest  
**GAP** year  
INFORMATION

A year of significance, servanthood and spiritual growth – focused on shaping young disciples for life!





## Dear Harvest GAP Year Applicant

There must be so many questions going through your head right now! Why should I do this Gap Year? Who is this year for and do I qualify? And if I choose to do this Gap Year, what does it all entail? How much does it cost and will it benefit me in the long run?

Before we start to answer all these questions, we need to share why the church felt the need to do this.

Firstly, the leadership at Harvest have prayerfully sought the Lord and clearly heard Him guide us to put something in place where we can come alongside young adults to journey with them through this pivotal and vulnerable stage of their lives.

Secondly, we want to create a year of significance that we trust will aid students in becoming well-established, well-rounded adults, who will have a heart for God and His Kingdom. It is a year of your life that you are committing to the Lord, to serve His body as well as to grow spiritually. This Harvest Gap Year is like giving a first fruit of your working life to serve the church, and at the same time to learn and grow in life's experiences, and in maturity as a believer.

Thirdly, we have also added in a business element to the year, which includes various business workshops as well as the opportunity to hear from Godly men and women who have either started their own businesses or are in key company positions, and to learn about how they are able to be the salt and the light in their work spaces.

Lastly, we've included some basic life skill training and practical lessons (DIY, cooking, various crafts etc.) that many young adults need but are not yet equipped with.

Our ultimate goal is for each student to have a year of significance through serving the body of Christ, to grow spiritually through learning solid biblical truths, and to become a well-established, well-rounded adult, with a heart for God and His Kingdom.

If you have any more question that we have not answered in this document, please feel free to email us at [gapyear@harvest.co.za](mailto:gapyear@harvest.co.za)

God Bless  
Dwayne & Lushe Greeff

## 1. Who is this year for, why should I do this, and do I qualify?

- This year is for young adults who may fall into one of three categories:
  - a) You have an idea of what you want to do going forward in your life, but would like to grow spiritually and serve God before entering the working / student world.
  - b) You are still undecided as to what you feel God is calling you to do.
  - c) You have been working but it is not really what you are wanting to do for the rest of your life, and really feel a strong call from the Lord but not sure which direction to follow.
- This extra year will help you to investigate various options.
- If you are between the ages of 18 and 25 years old, just finished matric or have done some studies, you can apply.

## 2. What does this year entail?

- The Harvest GAP year will have 4 terms during the year with holiday breaks in-between. Each term is focused on developing a certain area in each student's life.

<p><b><u>Term 1:</u></b>                      20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024 – Welcome Dinner                      21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2024 – Welcome Students                      at both services</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>22<sup>nd</sup> Jan – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024</b>                      (Holiday Period: 1<sup>st</sup> April - 8<sup>th</sup> April )</p>	<p><b>Character Development</b></p>
<p><b><u>Term 2:</u></b>                      09<sup>th</sup> April – 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024                      (Holiday Period: 24<sup>th</sup> June - 08<sup>th</sup> July)</p>	<p><b>Discipleship</b></p>
<p><b><u>Term 3:</u></b>                      09<sup>th</sup> July – 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept. 2024                      (Holiday Period: 23<sup>rd</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September)</p>	<p><b>Missions</b></p>
<p><b><u>Term 4:</u></b>                      1<sup>st</sup> October – 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2024</p>	<p><b>Legacy</b></p>

- **A typical week would be...**
  - ✓ **Mondays** – Off Days ( Unless there is a course or conference where students need to be at)
  - ✓ **Tuesdays to Fridays** – Lectures/Lessons/Practicals 08:00 -15:00
  - ✓ **Saturdays** – Off Days (Unless there is a course or function where students need to be at)
  - ✓ **Sundays** – Students need to be at both service (Serving at one and receiving in the other)
  - ✓ **Some week night evenings** will also be included due to courses or serving at a function or church event.
  - ✓ Public Holidays are also off days.
  
- **Courses/Programs that Students will be involved in on some weekends/week nights:** (Take Note: Some courses students will attend and others they will serve at)
  - ✓ Positioned for Blessing
  - ✓ Kingdom Leadership School
  - ✓ Crown Financial Course
  - ✓ Conquer Course
  - ✓ Storm Inside
  - ✓ Women Of Peace
  - ✓ Better Together
  - ✓ Precepts Courses such as Discipleship 1-2-3, Biblical Foundations, How to study your Bible in 28 days and Lord, teach me how to pray.
  
- **Weekly Lectures and ministry serving hours will include the following subjects:**
  - ✓ **Administration** (includes Church Governance, Basic Church Admin - Daily and Sunday services such as Welcome Team/ Serving Teams etc, and Staff Management, Events Management, Facilities Management, Media and Communications)
  - ✓ **Family Ministry** (Includes Children's Church, Youth, Young Adults, Harvest Seniors, Counselling)
  - ✓ **Pastoral Care** (Site Pastors, Small Group Training, Counselling, Men's Ministry, Ladies Ministry, Hospital Visitations)
  - ✓ **Media & Creative** (Tech/Audio & Visual Recordings, Events, Conferences, Social Media, Productions)
  - ✓ **Worship** (Tech, Music Ministry, Biblical Teachings on Worship and Practical)
  - ✓ **Biblical Training** (Precepts, Topical Studies, Biblical Teachings on Ministry and Biblical Teaching of Business, KLS)
  - ✓ **Missions** (Live School, Outreaches with Mission Partners and Lectures from Mission Partners, Serving Hours)
  - ✓ **Business** (How to start a business, Small business & Big Business Lecture, social media, advertising, skills development, barista courses)
  - ✓ **Life skills** (Practical lessons on DIY work, Arts and crafts, cooking, changing a tyre, fixing a plug, etc.)
  
- **Mission trips**

Our church has pioneered two outreaches for years and have developed a solid relationship in each of these communities so that we are able to visit them often. During these outreaches we share the Gospel, help the community in many practical ways such as building, painting and teaching new skills (such as farming, crochet etc.)

The two mission trips will be to **KeiskammaHoek** and **Lesotho**.

Students are responsible to organize their own gear and equipment for each trip. There will be lists given at the beginning of the year so that students can be well prepared for when we take the trips. The costs of these trips are included in the fees.

- **Serving Hours**

Part of the curriculum is to accumulate the required hours served in each ministry subject. This will help those who would like to apply for a ministry position at a church and can add these hours onto their CV's.

### **3. How does this application process work?**

- You can simply complete the application form online (a digital CCB form is available on [www.harvest.co.za](http://www.harvest.co.za))
- You can download the application form, fill it out and email it to [gapyear@harvest.co.za](mailto:gapyear@harvest.co.za)
- Or you can get a form from the front reception at Harvest, fill it out and drop it off at the front desk again. Please address Attention: Dwayne and Lushe Greeff.
- Once your application has been processed, we will contact you and confirm if you are accepted or not.
- If you are accepted, you need to pay the non-refundable deposit to confirm your spot.
- We will then send you your welcome package and start the process of ordering your jacket/shirt and book your spot on the courses and mission trips.

### **4. What are the terms and conditions + Commitment?**

As an applicant for the GAP Year, you will need to agree and commit to the following:

- ✓ A limited amount of people are accepted per year and that your acceptance is conditional and that prayerful consideration will be given to your application. Should your application be declined, you will need to gracefully accept it.
- ✓ *Leadership development takes humility and sacrifice.* You will be expected to achieve 100% attendance to training sessions. Course overseers will consider valid excuses on a case-by-case basis where only exceptional circumstances will be given consideration. If not well and unable to attend a lecture, course or mission trip, a valid doctor's note needs to be handed in.
- ✓ *Internal governance and discipline* is an important part of leadership development and therefore, you will be required to complete all given assignments.
- ✓ You will need to understand that you will be given a certificate on completion of the GAP Year (on condition that the required attendance is met and assignments completed). You acknowledge as yet there is no formal accreditation for this training.
- ✓ Partnership is important and therefore, you will need to agree to *commit* to allow the GAP Year Oversight to meet with you from time to time to discuss your progress.
- ✓ You will need to have someone come alongside you throughout this year who will stand in prayer for you. You will need someone who is objective and mature in their walk with God. This person will be the one who will cover you in prayer when you go through challenges, spiritual growth, mission trips, etc. This person should not be a parent or a family member, although their prayers are also welcome.
- ✓ **Payment:** The course fee for the year is R26 500, which covers all printed material, a jacket. Shirt, teas, coffees, weekends away and allocated mission trips.

- a) R1500 (non-refundable registration fee) must be paid before 10 January 2024 to secure a place in the GAP year, if accepted.
- b) Payments will be over 10 months, starting from February R2500, payable by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- c) Should you wish to pay electronically (EFT) please make sure to reference payment as follows; GAPYR + surname and email proof of payment for our record purposes to [gapyear@harvest.co.za](mailto:gapyear@harvest.co.za)
- d) The bank details are as follows:
 

Bank:	FNB
Branch:	Main Road Walmer 211217
Account:	Harvest Christian Church
Acc. No:	6252 5998 649.

#### 4. Will a year like this benefit me in the long run?

Many young adults come to a crossroads where they ask questions that inevitably will change the course of their lives. This year will help shape you spiritually and teach you practical biblical truths, such as seeking God first before making any life altering decisions, hearing Him before stepping out into the unknown, and following His peace when you need to take a leap of faith. We read it clearly in the Bible in **Matthew 6:33, "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."** Putting God first in all we do is a vital part in any adult Christian's life and in a year like this one, setting a whole year aside for Him, to serve Him whole heartedly and to grow in your relationship with Him, will help you as an adult in all areas of life.

If you take this year seriously and allow God to shape your life spiritually, this year will help cement your commitment to God and help you in the future to make important, destiny decisions. We read in God's Word in **Proverbs 16:9** that **"The Heart of man plans his ways, but the Lord establishes his steps."** Allow the Lord to shape you into becoming a well-established, well-rounded adult, who will have a heart for God and His Kingdom wherever He leads you and takes you into your future.

#### 5. Is there anything else that I need to know?

- **Calendar** – The church calendar gets planned every year around October November for the following year. Once this is established we will be able to email you the year events and important dates.
- **Jackets & Shirts** – Wherever we as a group go to minister or serve each student is required to wear the Gap Year jacket and shirt with jeans or appropriate pants.
- **Teas/Coffees** – These are provided for students daily, but luncheons and snacks are for their own costs and can be brought from home or bought from the Cafe.
- **Transport** – It would be very helpful if students are able to drive themselves in an event that we are unable to use the Missions Hand Up Foundation bus for an outreach or social event.
- **Stationery/Work Notes/Laptops** – The students need to provide their own stationery such as highlighters/pens/pencils/ etc. for taking notes. If students would like to bring laptops to take notes, they are more than welcome to do so.
- **After hour work** – Even though there are set rosters and timetables, these can frequently and suddenly change. Remember this is a church with different ministry gatherings and students need to be available for any changes that

might happen in their schedule. In other words, it would be very difficult to maintain a job and attending this GAP year at the same time.

## In Conclusion:

If you are reading this form, please prayerfully consider a year like this one. A year where you can...

- ✓ Take the time to figure out the purpose and destiny that God has called you for
- ✓ Establish your identity and relationship in Christ
- ✓ Learn to develop and portray a Christ-like Character through solid Biblical Foundational teachings
- ✓ Learn more about life and Kingdom Leadership.

At the end of the year, our dream for each young adult is that they would be equipped and empowered to be of significance through stepping into their purpose and destiny that God has for them so that they can be of impact in the spheres that they are called to.

If you are needing more info or have any more questions please feel free to email us at [gapyear@harvest.co.za](mailto:gapyear@harvest.co.za).

God Bless

Dwayne and Lushe