

Northeast Chi Alpha Campus Ministries
Instructions for Pre-Work for the April 5-April 6, 2024 SRT

You should plan on 12 hours of work to complete the pre-work before attending the March 5-April 6, 2024, Northeast Support Raising Training (SRT) weekend in Charlottesville, VA.

The three assignments here (PART ONE – two hours) as well as the pre-work on verticalsupportraising.com (PART TWO – ten hours) are BOTH part of your preparation to get the most out of your participation in the SRT weekend.

PART ONE OF THE PRE-WORK – two hours

1. Please write your personal and ministry testimonies: One-inch margin, single-spaced, 500 words for each testimony (**and no more than ONE page**), 11 or 12 point font, with your name at the top. **Please email them to Mike Olejarz (is492@aol.com) by 9:00 PM on Saturday, March 30. These two testimonies are the only pre-work due before you arrive at the SRT.**

- A. Your **personal testimony** (PT) is a description of how you became a follower of Christ. Use Before, How, and After as the sections of your PT. Answer the following: 1) What were you like before you became a follower of Jesus; 2) How did your journey of starting to follow Jesus happen? 3) How is your life different after you have become an apprentice of Jesus? The PT should be **ONE page** in length.
- B. Your **ministry testimony** (MT) is a description of who you are, what you want to do and why, what you need (i.e., prayer and financial partners), and your deadline to develop your ministry partnership team by (i.e., August 1). Your MT should be **ONE page** in length. See the following **example**.

I joined the Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship chapter at James Madison U. (JMU) in the winter of my second year and it has been a great community for me to be a part of. I enjoyed their support while going through a tough academic program and living a long way from my family. Chi Alpha has been my family while I have been in school.

One reason my experience has been good is the choice I made to serve in student leadership with Chi Alpha the last two years. I realize what a great opportunity we have as students to represent Jesus to our classmates and friends. I have gotten to a place where I know better what the Bible says, what I believe about how I should live my life, and why I should be a faithful steward of my life and talents. I certainly comprehend how faith in God should affect my values, choices, lifestyle, and career plans.

God has been birthing dreams in my heart about what He wants to do in my life as I approach graduation. I plan to complete my undergraduate degree in business in May. But I have decided to postpone heading into the marketplace. I believe God wants me to consider campus ministry as a career option. To take a step in that direction, I plan to participate as a CMIT at JMU. CMIT stands for campus missionary in training. It is a chance to stick around JMU for a year after graduation, give back to a ministry that has impacted my life, and get trained for campus ministry.

Josh and Katie Moran are the Chi Alpha directors at JMU, and both have had a profound impact on

my life. I have seen my character refined, Bible knowledge deepen, and am a better person. Much of that can be credited to the work of God in my life as I have sought to better align my lifestyle with the teachings of Jesus. Josh and Katie (and many Chi Alpha students) have contributed to my growth through their modeling and helped me figure how to follow Jesus better than I was when I first came to JMU.

So, I have decided to give the next year to serving with Josh and Katie on the JMU Chi Alpha staff team. The cost of this decision is \$2500/month. I am responsible to raise the cost of food, housing, insurance, training, etc., from interested friends and family. My goal is to raise the \$2500 by August 1, so I can be ready to join the Chi Alpha staff team and students in preparing for the launch of the new school year.

God has already provided one third of my budget! I am asking friends and family to partner with me as a prayer and financial partner. Several of my classmates are willing to give \$50-100/month towards this project. By doing this you would not only help me minister to the students coming to JMU next year, but you would also help me fulfill the calling of God I sense. Together, both of us could develop a deeper passion for God's redemptive mission in the lives of college students.

I am excited about investing the next year of my life into reaching students, training leaders, and impacting nations for Jesus. I will contact you soon to discuss your interest in joining my team.

*Grace and peace,
Diana Prince*

2. You need to create a slide presentation on your laptop to share the mission opportunity that you are raising monthly financial and prayer support for.

To start, go to the first part of the **Pre-Work section** of verticalsupportraising.com entitled, "Communication with Potential Supporters." Click on the "Media Assignment – Pics" tab and open the sample Powerpoint slides that were created by the Youngblood's at TCU. Use their six slides as your starting template and create a presentation using your school colors, your own photo, and a picture of a student you will share a changed life* story about.

Bring your slides with you to our Northeast SRT. You will have a chance to share it and get feedback on your presentation. We will review your presentation at the SRT weekend and help you sharpen it for your use.

*The four options for a changed life story are: A) A student coming to faith in Christ; (B) A Christian student coming to college and growing in their faith; C) An International Student being befriended and either coming to faith in Christ, or, going from faith to leadership while in Chi Alpha; or D) a future leader being influenced for Christ.

We recommend you prepare a story for each of the four "changed life story" options.

3. Watch the videos on the Media page of northeaststrt.com for encouraging tips on seeing the Lord help you build a support team to raise your mission budget.

PART TWO OF THE PRE-WORK – ten hours

Cut and paste https://www.verticalsupportraising.com/class_offering_detail/387/ in your browser to set up an account in order to access the second set of pre-work for the Northeast SRT.

Click "Create an Account", enter the Class Code (which you will receive in an email from Mike Olejarz when you register through www.northeastprt.com), and pay the \$20 tech fee to access the second part of your pre-work. The **four sections** (Communication with Potential Supporters; Spiritual Preparation; Getting Organized, and Videos) include **seventeen components** of VSR work **that should take you about ten hours**.

Please note that the SRT Faculty expects you to complete the VSR Pre Work by 11:00 pm ET on Sunday, March 31.

Each time you complete an assignment on VSR, a green checkmark appears next to the assignment. The SRT Faculty have access to each SRT participant's pre-work on VSR and can see which assignments you have completed. **If you do not complete the pre-work, you will be asked not to attend on Friday & Saturday**, since the SRT weekend is built on the assumption that you finished the work and are ready to use it in practice sessions.

BRING WITH YOU on the SRT weekend: Your laptop and/or tablet, power cord, your sample slide presentation, all of your VSR pre-work, a pen, pencil, and three different colored highlighters. You will be given a SRT Notebook to use in the training weekend.