

## **Ministry Job Description: GEMS Counselor**

**GEMS** stands for **G**irls **E**verywhere **M**eeting the **S**aviour. It is a ministry devoted to providing a Bible-based, Christ-centered program for girls that result in personal growth and prepares them for Christian service. Club nights consist of Bible lessons, badge work, crafts, snacks, fun, and friendship.

### **Goal of Positions**

The mission of GEMS Girls' Clubs is to help bring girls into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ. Their vision is to see girls around the world actively and enthusiastically expressing love for God and others—girls equipped, motivated, and passionately engaged in living out their faith. The goal for every club meeting is to grow bigger hearts and learn how to love and care for one another, other people, themselves, and their relationship with God. This will be done by learning about Jesus Christ, what He has done for us and His plans for each of our lives.

### **Responsible to**

GEMS Club Coordinator

### **Job Description**

The GEMS Counselor helps the Club Coordinator and may lead Bible lessons, craft lessons and/or other activities. Counselors serve as teachers and role models to GEMS members.

In addition, counselors should:

1. Understand your primary goal is to help bring girls into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ.
2. Model a relationship with Jesus Christ and with other counselors that girls admire and want for their own lives.
3. Understand the developmental stages of the girls you are working with.
4. Be prepared for each club meeting and attend all counselor meetings.
5. Share the truth of Scripture with enthusiasm and passion.
6. Treat each girl as an individual—developing a loving relationship with every girl in your small group.
7. Use integrity at all times.
8. Be open and honest with girls, appropriately sharing from your own personal experiences.
9. Develop a positive relationship with the parents of all the girls in your small group—keeping them up-to-date with club news.
10. Know, understand, and adhere to the child abuse prevention and protection policies of your church.
11. Attend training events.
12. Pray regularly for your girls, the other counselors, your Club Coordinator, and the international ministry of GEMS Girls' Clubs.

**Time required:**

Two hours a week from September through May for meetings, plus weekly preparation of approximately three hours, plus some summer prep as needed.

**Length of commitment**

The basic responsibility of a GEMS counselor is to develop a loving, nurturing relationship with the six to eight girls in your small group. To nurture, teach, guide, enjoy, and model Christ-like love, the girls will benefit most and be blessed from counselors who are willing to commit for more than one season, so a preference would be for at least a three year commitment.

**Training Provided**

In order to develop people in their ministry roles, it is important that GEMS Counselors are provided with training. Such a meeting will orient those who are new to this role and refresh memories of those who have done this before, as well as give the group the feeling of being united in this ministry – that they are part of a team. Training should include lesson planning, classroom management, ideas to build relationships, special event ideas, safe church policies and introduction to the year's theme.

**Qualifications or special skills**

As someone who is nurturing children in their faith, it's vital that a GEMS counselor takes care of herself spiritually, spending time in scripture, prayer and worship. Additionally, counselors should be team players, flexible, open to learning, have a positive attitude, love working with children, and know how to have fun, laugh and enjoy life. Lastly, the church is not just a place of worship and where ministry programs happen, but also a place of safety and trust. Parents will want to know that not only are their children being cared for spiritually, but also that they are in a safe environment. As such, those serving in any children's ministry program will be required to provide a current police background check.

**Benefits to this position**

In your role as a GEMS counselor, you will likely be challenged in some ways, but you'll also be blessed in abundance. Here are some things you can expect:

- *Help young girls in their faith development*
- *Help young girls understand what it means to be a godly woman*
- *Growth in your own faith*
- *Affirmation of your gifts*
- *Develop lasting friendships with other counselors*
- *Joy in seeing God at work through the GEMS ministry*

*Information provided for this document was taken from the GEM's website, [gemsgc.org](http://gemsgc.org) as well as from information provided by Crossroads CRC, San Marcos CA.*

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