



FOUR:ONE

2020-21

**AN INTENTIONAL YEAR OF
DISCIPLESHIP: LEADING A LIFE
WORTHY OF YOUR CALLING**



THE VISION

We want you to have a year where you encounter God as you serve Christ, His church and His cause. Essentially it's all about discipleship!

John Wimber, founder of the Vineyard movement, once said: 'I want to grow up before I grow old. Initial conversion doesn't ensure Christian maturity. We must be willing to patiently submit to and cooperate aggressively with the process of discipleship, understanding that there are no shortcuts to maturity.' Four:One is an accelerated opportunity for growth, where we'll aim to help you:

- Grow closer to God
- Grow in the knowledge of God
- Grow in gifting
- Grow in servant-heartedness
- Grow in character
- Grow in experience
- Grow in leadership
- Take risks in your faith

We are confident that during the year God will shape you and make you more of who you were always meant to be. It is a year of surrender, of sacrifice; a year of seeing more of the Kingdom advancing in your life and of those around you. It is a unique opportunity to share in a community of people who are all passionately pursuing God and who hunger for personal transformation into the likeness of Christ. Our hope is that it will be a year where you will have more space to listen fervently, serve tirelessly, love devotedly, and in doing so, be changed eternally.

'We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honour and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better. We also pray that you will be strengthened with all his glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need. May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father.' (Colossians 1:9-12)

CALLING

Ephesians 4:1

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

Four:One is a year tailored towards serving God in a variety of ways, stepping out of your comfort zone, supporting church ministry and growing and learning in community. In doing this we have seen people discover and step further into the call God has on their life.

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Members of Manchester Vineyard (in a small group, serving, attending on Sundays and giving financially in an accountable way) or any other church that shares the values of Manchester Vineyard.
- Able, in practical terms, to commit to a year of serving the church.
- In a flexible situation without too many other commitments (as social or family time will be impacted).
- Able to be a self-starter, much of what you will be involved in will involve you driving it.
- Able to balance and be responsible for their finances.
- Stable and secure, spiritually and mentally.
- Up for the challenge!

HOW TO APPLY

Fill in an application form at: mvuk.org/FourOne. The application process is our way of ensuring we have the right people and the right number of people for the year.



HOW TO FUND THE YEAR

Unlike most years of this type, we won't be expecting you to pay for simply taking part in the year. We'll help to cover some of the associated costs of you doing a year like this, but having said that, it is going to cost you. As much as we might like to, it is not possible for the church to employ everyone, so it's up to you to take responsibility for ensuring you'll be able to cover your expenses (mainly living costs).

We've seen people who commit to a year like this survive financially by working two or three days a week, depending on the rate of pay in their job and their fixed outgoings (rent, car, council tax etc). We can point you in the direction of people who have done similar years before so you can ask them about how they managed their finances. We don't want people to go out with a begging bowl to raise the cash, or to be irresponsible with debt, however, it's fair to say that most people who have done something similar to Four:One can testify to how God has never let them go

hungry and has been wonderfully generous with His provision. We would encourage you to work part-time in the secular environment, as this is often just as important to your year as the things you do in the church context. Learning to live and work in the secular world without Christian support is an important area of growth. Spending time in the world will help to keep your 'feet on the ground' whilst spending much of the year in a predominantly Christian environment. Furthermore, doing secular work allows you to develop and maintain relationships with unchurched people. On top of your paid work you might find that those who know you well may offer to help support you.

Also, plan to save money now before you start the year. If you are currently a student, it might be a good idea to get a full-time holiday job over the summer to get a head start! Whatever your circumstances, it is important, particularly given the current economic climate, that you make sure, as much as you can, that you have the means to support yourself through the year.



WHAT WILL YOU GIVE?

Quite simply, almost a whole year of your life – your time, your energy, your gifting, your passion, your loyalty... you!

WHAT WILL WE GIVE?

- The chance to serve the church, serve the community, serve the people.
- The chance to increase your Kingdom impact.
- Opportunities to have input & teaching in discipleship over a wide range of topics.
- Opportunities to get involved in a wide range of areas within the life of the church.
- The chance to see how a church plant lives and works – things that you may not know you're being 'taught' at the time, but things you'll just pick up along the way; things which many people will never see.
- Time to invest in your relationship with God and grow in vision for how He might use your life.



HOW WILL YOU GROW SPIRITUALLY?

At the end of the day, your spiritual life is down to you. It's down to your own discipline – you will have time to use, so use it wisely. Keep developing your spiritual life in the secret place of your own life. The church will help by providing a community of like minded people that are willing to encourage you, challenge you and shape you to be more like Jesus. There'll be opportunities to grow spiritually in all that you do this year. But it's up to you to take the opportunities you're given to press in and use them to learn and grow spiritually. The more you put into the year the more you'll get out of the year.

HOW WILL YOU GROW IN EXPERIENCE?

By actually doing the stuff, by trying things out, both in already established ministries and new things that we may ask you to help pioneer. We will regularly encourage you to step out of your comfort zone and in doing this you will inevitably learn more about yourself and about God.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

Aside from the Four:One team, you won't be allocated to a member of pastoral staff in a formal sense, but the nature of what you're doing means that you'll be working in and around some of them throughout the year. Contact with pastoral staff will therefore be more relational than formal.

WHAT'S INVOLVED?

Giving eleven months, from the beginning of September 2020 to the end of July 2021, to the church. Typically you will devote around 10-15 hours of your week to the church, mostly on Mondays and Sundays, but

also during the evenings of other days. This will mainly be through serving, but also includes training, time for worship and ministry, as well as community time as a group.

A TYPICAL WEEK

There will be no typical week! We are a church plant and things at times move quickly and at others slowly.

MONDAY

- Serving the city - As we develop multiple ways to love and serve Manchester and it's people, you will have time dedicated to play your part.
- Serving ministry areas - You will be assigned to one of the ministry teams who you will support in a variety of practical tasks. This will give you an opportunity to see first hand what day-to-day ministry looks like.
- Most Mondays will include a mix of training, input, worship, ministry and community time.

SUNDAY

As a member of Four:One you will be expected to be at gatherings on a Sunday. Typically, Four:One serve at three of the four services in a month, in a wide variety of roles. They may be related to an area of ministry you are involved with (e.g. Vineyard Kids, Welcome, Hospitality) or may be a little more mundane (you will put a lot of chairs out over the course of the year!), but are all essential to the smooth running of each gathering.

OTHER COMMITMENTS

Outside of the normal routine, there will be other things that we will expect you to commit to:

SMALL GROUP

As a member of the church you will be expected to regularly attend a small group and be a part of the 'family' as normal.

SERVING AT EVENING EVENTS

From time to time during the year there will be events such as leaders' meetings and other one-off events that you will be required to serve at.

MID-WEEK MINISTRIES

As the church grows and develops there will also be other midweek ministries you might be involved in.

STUDY TIME

Everyone will be expected to invest in personal study, typically a few hours a week. We have a reading list with set texts. You will also be encouraged to keep a journal through the year to allow you to reflect on what God is doing with you.

CONFERENCES

You will have the opportunity to attend various conferences through the year such as the National Leaders' Conference, Dreaming the Impossible and The Cause to Live For. By serving on team at these events you will be given free admission.



WHAT NOW?

Seek God. Pray. Talk to those you love and trust. If it is right for you, this year will be exciting, pivotal, envisioning, challenging and transformational.

If you want to go for it, fill in the application form at mvuk.org/FourOne.

We'll then consider each application. Please let your small group leader know that you're applying for the year, as we'll be asking them if they are happy to support your application.

We'll let you know within a few weeks whether you've got through the first stage of the selection process. If you have, we'll invite you to an interview with some of the staff and let you know within a couple of weeks whether we feel it's the right thing for you.

We're aware that's all a bit formal, but this is important. We need to be as sure as possible that this year is right for you and us. We owe you that. If God has called you to do this year, it could prove to be one of the best years of your life!

