

**Class Session #1**  
*(Study Guide Overview)*  
**King Hezekiah**

2 Chronicles 28-32

**One strategic move by the leadership, King Hezekiah, brought this about. What is the result of a life/family/church who worships?**

**1. U\_\_\_\_\_ - 30:12**

Why? B/c your eyes are off of yourself and each other, and on the one who is most important!

**2. R\_\_\_\_\_ - 30:14, 15b; 31:1**

It wasn't just I'm sorry, but there was action behind it.

What are modern day idols of worship for people in our church?

**3. R\_\_\_\_\_ with the Word of God - 30:16; 31:21**

The priests consecrated themselves and then followed Scripture as to what they were to do.

**4. J\_\_\_\_\_ – 30:21, 25-26**

There had been nothing like this in Jerusalem since the days of David!

**5. G\_\_\_\_\_! There were heaps of tithe! - 31:4-10**

Plenty...leftovers...

**6. V\_\_\_\_\_ - 32:9-21**

If your worship is out of whack, it will affect every area of your life. If your church's worship is out of whack, it will affect every area of your church!

Matthew 6:33 (NKJV) *33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*

United Kingdom									
Years (BC)	King	Start / End	Prophet	Scripture					
1050 - 1010	Saul	Good / Evil	Samuel	1 Sa 8-31 1 Ch 9-10					
1010 - 970	David (Captain)	Good / Good	Samuel	1 Sa 16-31 2 Sa 1-24 1 Ki 1-2 1 Ch 11-29					
			Nathan						
970 - 930	Solomon (Son)	Good / Evil	Nathan	1 Ki 1-11 2 Ch 1-9					
Divided Kingdom									
Judah					Israel				
Years	King	Start / End	Prophet	Scripture	Years	King	Start / End	Prophet	Scripture
931 - 913	Rehoboam (Son)	Evil / Evil	Shemaiah	1 Ki 12, 14 2 Ch 10-12	931 - 910	Jeroboam I (servant)	Evil / Evil	Ahijah	1 Ki 12-14 2 Ch 10
913 - 911	Abijah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 15 2 Ch 13	910 - 909	Nadab (son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 15
911 - 870	Asa (Son)	Good/Good	Hanani	1 Ki 15 2 Ch 14-16	909 - 886	Baasha	Evil / Evil	Jehu	1 Ki 16
					886 - 885	Elah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 16
					885	Zimri (captain)	Evil / Evil	Micaiah	1 Ki 16
					885 - 874	Omri (Captain)	Evil / Evil	Elijah 1 Ki 17-19 1 Ki 21	1 Ki 17 2 Ch 18
					874 - 853	Ahab (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 22 2 Ki 1
870 - 848	Jehoshaphat (Son)	Good/Good		1 Ki 22 2 Ch 17-20	853 - 852	Ahaziah (Son)	Evil / Evil		1 Ki 22 2 Ki 1
848 - 841	Jehoram (Son)	Evil / Evil	Obadiah(?)	2 Ki 8 2 Ch 21	852 - 841	Joram (Son of Ahab)	Evil / Evil	Elisha 1 Ki 19 2 Ki 2-9 2 Ki 13	2 Ki 3
841	Ahaziah (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 8-9 2 Ch 22	841 - 814	Jehu (Captain)	Good / Evil		2 Ki 9-10
841 - 835	Athaliah (mother)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 11 2 Ch 22-23	814 - 798	Jehoahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 13
835 - 796	Joash (son of Ahaziah)	Good / Evil	Joel	2 Ki 11-12 2 Ch 23-24	798 - 782	Jehoash (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 13-14
796 - 767	Amaziah (son)	Good / Evil		2 Ki 14 2 Ch 25	782 - 753	Jeroboam II (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 14
767 - 740	Uzziah aka Azariah (Son)	Good/Evil	Isaiah Micah	2 Ki 15 2 Ch 26	753 - 752	Zechariah (Son)	Evil / Evil	Amos Hosea Jonah (2 Kings 14:25, Jonah 1:1)	2 Ki 15
					752	Shallum	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
					752 - 742	Menaheem	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
					742 - 740	Pekahiah (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
748 - 732	Jotham (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 15 2 Ch 27	733 - 722 (sole)	Pekah (Captain)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 15
732 - 716	Ahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 16 2 Ch 28 Is 7	732 - 722	Hoshea	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 17
716 - 687	Hezekiah (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 18-20 2 Ch 29-32 Is 36-39	Israel into Assyrian captivity - 722 BC				
687 - 642	Manasseh (Son)	Evil / Good		2 Ki 21 2 Ch 33				Nahum	
642 - 640	Amon (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 21 2 Ch 33					
640 - 608	Josiah (Son)	Good/Good		2 Ki 22-23 2 Ch 34-35					
608	Jehoahaz (Son)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 23 2 Ch 36				Daniel	
608 - 597	Jehoiakim (Son of Josiah)	Evil / Evil	Habakkuk Zephaniah Jeremiah	2 Ki 23-24 2 Ch 36					
597	Jehoiachin (Son)	Evil / Evil	Ezekiel (Lamentations)	2 Ki 24-25 2 Ch 36					
597 - 586	Zedekiah (Son of Josiah)	Evil / Evil		2 Ki 24-25 2 Ch 36					
Judah into Babylonian captivity - 586 BC									
586-450			Jeremiah Haggai Zechariah Malachi						

**Class Session #2**  
**In Spirit and In Truth**

John 4

Exodus 7:16 (NIV) *16 Then say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to say to you: Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the desert. But until now you have not listened.'*

Exodus 8:1 (NIV) *1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me.'*

Exodus 9:1 (NIV) *1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: "Let my people go, so that they may worship me."*

Hebrews 4:15 (NIV) <sup>15</sup> *For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin.*

Always read the OT with the NT in mind!

Christ came and fulfilled most all of the areas of the tabernacle:

**The Tabernacle** – God became flesh in the person of Jesus and “tabernacled” among us. Exodus 25:8 (NIV) *8 "Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them.*

Think about this - The tabernacle was the first time since the garden that God creates a place for us to be with him.

**The Brazen Altar** – Jesus was the substitute sacrifice, shedding His blood for our sins. When we think of worship, we think of singing, hand claps, lifting our voices...when God thinks of worship, he thinks of **sacrifice!**

**The Laver** – Through the blood of Jesus we are purified (or cleansed) from the guilt and stain of sin, past and present.

**The Table for the Shewbread and the Lampstand** – The bread represents the Word of God, who is Jesus (John 1:14; 6:35). The Lampstand represents the illumination the Holy Spirit brings to us by the Word and by His voice.

**The Altar of Incense** – Points to the beautiful devotion God seeks—a treasure of love and adoration reserved for Himself and Himself alone.

In Scripture, incense is often associated with prayer. David prayed, *"May my prayer be set before you like incense"* (Psalm 141:2). In his vision of heaven, John saw that the elders around the throne *"were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people"* (Revelation 5:8; cf. 8:3). As Zechariah the priest was offering incense in the temple in Luke 1:10, *"all the assembled worshipers were praying outside."*

Once a year, on the Day of Atonement, the high priest was to put blood on the horns of the altar of incense to cleanse it. The altar of incense was called *"most holy to the Lord"* (Exodus 30:10).

**The Veil** – Jesus' death on the cross made the way for this divider between God and man to be destroyed, making possible to everyone access into the holy of holies.

Matthew 27:50-51 (NIV) *50 And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. 51 At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split.*

**The Ark of the Covenant** – The Ark represents the relationship God seeks with His people through our worship and His Word. The Ark's contents represent God's promises of daily provision and a life-flow of grace for His people.

**The Mercy Seat** – Jesus Himself became the Mercy Seat by the shedding of His blood and its presentation for the sin of mankind.

## Spirit

1 Corinthians 14:15 (NIV)

*15 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.*

John 4:24

Genesis 1:26 (NIV)

*26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."*

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NIV)

*23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Romans 8:15-16 *The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.*

What does it mean to worship in Spirit???

- **Starts with salvation!**
- **Continually yield that spirit!**

Romans 12:1 (NIV) *1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship.*

Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)

*23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,  
24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

Matthew 15:8, *"This people honors me with their lips but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me."*

Genesis 22

Revelation 1:10 (NIV)

*10 On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet,*

1 Corinthians 14:14-15 (NIV)

*14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. 15 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.*

## **CHART: SACRIFICES COMPARED**

<i>In the old sacrifices</i>	<i>But for the new sacrifice</i>
An altar was required	There is no altar
Animals were slain	The sacrifice lives
Sacrifices were cut up	The sacrifice is whole
Sacrifices were burned up	The sacrifice serves
It was based on a legal obligation	It is based on mercy and gratitude
Death was not defeated	Eternal life is celebrated

- Life Application Bible Commentary

# Truth

John 14:6 (NIV)

*6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

John 4:24 truth and John 14:6 truth is the same greek word – alêtheia...

What is worshiping in truth?

- **Built on and around Jesus**
- **Built on and around the Gospel**

Colossians 1:3-6 (NIV)

*3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you,  
4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints--  
5 the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you  
have already heard about in the word of **truth**, the gospel  
6 that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has  
been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth.*

Ephesians 1:13 (NIV)

*13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the **word of truth**, the gospel of your  
salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit...*

James 1:18 (NIV)

*18 He chose to give us birth through the **word of truth**, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of  
all he created.*

2 Timothy 2:15 (NIV)

*15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to  
be ashamed and who correctly handles the **word of truth**.*

1 John 1:6 (NIV)

*6 If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live **by the  
truth**. Same Greek word for truth...*

John Piper, **Desiring God**, Pages 81-82... "Truth without emotion produces dead orthodoxy and a church full (or half-full) of artificial admirers... On the other hand, emotion without truth produces empty frenzy and cultivates shallow people who refuse the discipline of rigorous thought. But true worship comes from people who are deeply emotional and who love deep and sound doctrine. Strong affections for God rooted in truth are the bone and marrow of biblical worship."

*Our lives lived out as worship ought to be in spirit and in truth. Our lives should be completely connected and driven by our spirit, which is led of the Holy Spirit, and drenched in truth!*

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**Class Session #3**  
**Worship That...**

**1) Worship that t\_\_\_\_\_ His presence.**

Exodus 32-33

**2) Worship that h\_\_\_\_\_ your heart.**

Isaiah 6:1-8

*Job 42:5-6 I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.*

*Matthew 18:2-4 He called a little child and had him stand among them. And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."*

Different Ways of Worship:

**3) Worship that sacrifices and e\_\_\_\_\_ something from God.**

Hebrews 11:6 (p. 851)

*Matthew 5:6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.*

*Malachi 3:10-12 10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. 11 I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty. 12 "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty.*

*It is not unspiritual to remind ourselves that worship is God's gift to us for OUR blessing and benefit.*

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**4) Worship that \_\_\_\_\_ you something**

Genesis 22 - Abraham and Isaac

John 12:1-8 - Anointing of Jesus' feet...

Romans 12

**5) Worship that results in a \_\_\_\_\_, giving away God's love**

Matthew 22:36 <sup>36</sup>"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" <sup>37</sup>Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup>This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup>And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'<sup>40</sup>All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

**Worship - The Power of Song**

**Jack Hayford** - "The world doesn't understand the relationship between sacrifice and song, how God's people can sing their way into sacrifice and sacrifice their way into singing."

**1. Song Accompanies God's C\_\_\_\_\_ Power**

Job 38

Isaiah 54:1-5

1 Corinthians 14:15 <sup>15</sup>*So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.*

**2. Songs Lead to V\_\_\_\_\_ in Battle**

2 Chronicles 20

What do we do? What did he do?

- ✓ S\_\_\_\_\_ God (Vs. 3)

Ephesians 6:12 <sup>12</sup>*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*

- ✓ Rehearse the p\_\_\_\_\_, build your faith (vs. 6-9)

*One of the greatest tools the enemy will use to drain your faith is spiritual amnesia!*

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- ✓ L\_\_\_\_\_ to the Holy Spirit as He speaks to you (Vs. 13)

- ✓ Move f\_\_\_\_\_ in faith and song! (Vs. 29)

**3. Songs Bring Release From B\_\_\_\_\_**

Psalms 32:7 <sup>7</sup>*You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah*

Acts 16:25-33

# Worship Team Leader

*The worship team exists to regularly bring our congregation into 'God is among us' moments. This will be accomplished by using responsive scripture readings, musical instruments, voices, and other means of musical worship.*

## Weekly Worship List:

- Start with prayer and listening to God. God knows what songs are going to move the people into His presence on that day.
- Start your list with the song or songs (we'll call it our "main song") that you know you want to do. Connect with the speaker for that Sunday and see if they can give you a feel for where their message is going. Build a list around the theme if you can. Sometimes, you don't feel much direction concerning the whole list, but you know there's one song that is really heavy on your heart...run with it.
- From there, start looking for songs that will flow with the key of the main song. Switching keys between every song can hinder the flow of the service. It's not the end of the world, but try to do songs in sets of the same key. This is more important in our slower songs, than in the fast. The fast are a little more forgiving in that you are usually clapping or whatever at the end of the fast songs so it gives a break in the flow when you can step into another key. Try to put our last fast or medium song in the same key as our first slow song to make for an easier transition.
- You might try to find a medium speed song to transition from the fast songs to the slow, but this is not a necessity (example: Our God).
- Rule of thumb is to try to keep the songs moving up in key, rather than down.
- Choosing Fast songs – As a rule, try to open with a newer song that is going to get people up and moving. A rule for fast (and slow) songs usage is try to never sing the same song two weeks in a row, and spread it out longer if possible, unless that song is helping drive a message driven theme across.
- Choosing Slow songs – Try to end the time of worship with them looking up to God in Worship. Meaning, if we're going to do a few prayer type songs, put it immediately following the fast. Then follow that with a few songs of direct singing to God worship songs. So, we start with exuberant praise, move into testimony or prayer type songs, and then top it all off with some intimate worship stuff. This is not a hard fast rule, but a guideline to follow.
- New Songs – try not to do more than one new song per week, and keep it from being the first or last song you do.
- Ultimately be led by the Spirit – Let the Holy Spirit lead you as you work through a list. Approach it with prayer.
- Understand that there may be times when the pastor will request a song be in the list at the last minute. This should be an exception, and not a rule.
- Hymn thoughts – use hymns as we can fit them in.
  - It brings some depth to our worship service...the lyrics are powerful in many of these songs...

- It connects some of our congregation to their more traditional roots...though they'll be singing the songs of their possibly "religious" past, the heart in which we present them will be spiritually alive!
- Use creativity in bringing fresh life to some old songs.
- Scripture Reading – These readings ought to bring further depth and faith to our worship times. Have the team prepared to go right into the next song following the scripture reading to avoid having that awkward pause.

#### Altar Time:

- Look to the speaker to help you with the direction in the altars as far as song selection.
- If multiple songs are used, use songs in the same key to make this transition as smooth as possible. Even with same key songs, we've got to be very careful in the transitions. Dead time seems to kill the altar time. Strange and shallow? Yes. But it happens. The same thing can be said about key changes.
- Be led by the Holy Spirit though. If God leads you to go to another song that is not in the same key, make it happen.
- Plan on singing or playing until the last person has left the altar.

#### Sunday AM Practices:

- Try to connect with each musician/singer before practice starts. This can be something as simple as "Good morning Susie, how are you?" But it is vitally important that they feel connected to the group in order for us to be able to minister together in unity.
- Call everyone to order and get the thing going!
- Practicing the start and end of each song needs to be done. This can also include some thoughts on how to transition into the next song.
- The pastor will then meet you 30 minutes before the service starts to walk through the service and pray. Be sure your Sunday morning practice/sound check is done by then.

#### Outside of Pre-Service Practices:

- You step up and call things to order!
- Emphasize to the instrumentalists that they should be plugged in and ready to play by the time practice time is there.
- Start with prayer and end with prayer. This helps to shift gears and set the tone for the practice.
- A time of 5-15 minute instruction is great to start with, or to place somewhere towards the beginning. If you find a great article, or video clip, show it here. If the Lord lays something on your heart to share, this is a great time to share it. The Lead Pastor may even use this time to communicate with the team.
- The goal would be that these practices are there to work through each song and transitions, improving on anything that can be improved on. If a new song is presented, this practice time should not have to be spent on the musicians learning the song. The song should be learned from the same music source for all (YouTube link, mp3, etc)!

This new song practice time should be spent meshing with the other instruments and voices. These goals ought to be repeated regularly to the team.

#### Choosing New Songs:

- New songs should be brought to the Worship Team leader.
- In choosing a new song, there are a lot of questions to ask:
  - Is it singable? Not only for our worship team, but for the congregation?
    - Does it flow? Some songs are just too choppy...you never know when the chorus starts and ends, etc.
    - The goal ought to be to never go over a “D” note in congregational singing (possibly “E”). Any higher than that, and we’ll tend to lose the congregation.
  - Do we have the musicians to pull it off?
  - Does it fit with the culture of our worship ministry? Or will it stick out like a sore thumb? This doesn’t mean we can’t ever try anything new, but, it ought to fit in the flow of what we have going. Also, just b/c a song is suggested by a team or church member doesn’t mean they will make for a great song at Pathway!
  - Does it fit with the culture and theology of our church? Do these songs reinforce what is being preached from the pulpit? Sometimes we may find a great song, but you’d have to preach a whole message on it in order for people to “get” it. Are there themes that have been real revelations over the past few years that can be reemphasized through our music?
  - Is it a Biblically solid song? Not every popular song is worth singing.
- Sources to look to regularly are Hillsong, Bethel, Elevation, Vertical worship, Gateway, etc. Don’t limit yourself to these though. The goal would be for us to be able to begin to use some of our own musician’s songs, but they also would need to be run through the above new song selection questions.
- Once the songs are selected, email the YouTube link to the team.
- Try to stick as closely to the original music as possible for the sake of everyone being able to learn the song outside of practice. If changes are made, they need to be made in the **original practice time and everyone must write them down so they are not forgotten**. This will save everyone a load of headaches and confusion later on!

#### Relationship with/Leading the Team:

- The need for patience and the fruit of the Spirit to be in the Worship Team Leaders life cannot be overstated. In all dealings with all members, Christ-like character has to happen. Team members are going to be late, or do other things that are highly irritating, and they must be held accountable, but wisdom must be used in handling this team.
- Look at it this way, you are the mini-pastor of this group. You love on them, and get on them when needed.
- Get to know their lives. Get to know where they work. Get to know who their kids are. Get into their lives, and this will make it easier for them to follow you.

- **Guard against pride.** Every musician struggles somewhat with pride. Talk about this continually with the members of the group at practices. There is no room for pride on our Worship Team.
- Develop a spirit of encouragement between musicians. When it's not your week to play/sing, but you notice something someone did as they were ministering, shoot them an email or pull them aside and honor them. Encourage your team to do the same thing with fellow musicians. Build the "one team" concept (even though we have multiple musicians who play at different times).
- When questions arise, they should look to you for the answer. If there is a question concerning tempo, notes, dynamics, anything like this, they should look to you. If you then want to look to the piano player, the drummer, or the guitarist for direction, that's your call. You have the "right" (for the lack of a better term) to step in, no matter who is leading the song, and suggest they change it (speed it up, slow it down, louder, softer, etc.).

#### Relationship with A/V Guys:

- Love on them the way you love on the worship team, and they'll respond. Build a relationship with each of them.
- Be direct with them in what it is you need. Don't be afraid to ask them to do something out of the ordinary if needed. They are here to serve.

#### Spontaneity and Sensitivity:

- The hardest thing for most worship leaders to learn is what to say/do in between songs. You've got to know when to talk, and when not to! You've sat in a service before (hopefully not here at Pathway) where the leader should have just been quiet and let God work. Then there are other times that the worship leader interjects a Psalm, or a verse of Scripture, or just an exhortation to worship, and it is the exact thing that needed to happen. If in doubt, don't say it. Before you say it, before a word comes out of your mouth, try to have an understanding of the main thought you are trying to say.
- A great place to mentor all worship leaders is in memorizing and regularly reading the Psalms. This not only develops their heart for worshipping the Lord, but gives them a greater vocabulary as they lead others.
- Learn to be led by the Holy Spirit. Change the song list if needed, go a different direction than you were planning, step out and sing whatever comes to your heart, learn to follow His lead! The pastor will be there to steer the service, but you ought to feel free to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit (which should be the same person both you and the pastor are following!).

#### Others:

- **Eyes and Vocalize.** Connect your eyes with the congregation while you are leading. Fight the urge to keep your eyes shut the whole time! Also, vocalize your worship, and encourage the rest of the team to do so as well. Set the example for the whole church as you lift your voice to God.

- Starting the Service – when we start the service, whoever is leading should say a quick “Good morning, I invite you to stand with us and sing” or something short and sweet like that. It should be full volume and energy (no mumbling). It should set the tone to what is going to happen the rest of the morning. This is not the time to ask questions, or do a lot of talking, just get into the song. Don’t go for a laugh...don’t go for a whole lot of verbal response (as usually they are still brain-dead at that moment)...just a quick “Good morning, stand and sing with us!”
- LEAD! Train anyone who leads a song in how to lead the congregation in that song. The goal is not to just sing the song along with the congregation, but to lead them. We aren’t singing from a hymnal anymore. There aren’t always clear directives as to where we are going. Train leaders to give vocal guidance to the congregation as to where we are going (‘sing that verse again’, ‘join me right now in worshipping’ as you worship during a musical interlude of some sort, etc.).
- Help round up the worship team when it is time to start the service! A daunting task, but somebody has to do it! We MUST start on time!

## THE ATMOSPHERE WE WORK TO CREATE

Atmosphere is that hard to define but unmistakable feeling you get when you enter a worship service. It has to do with the mood, the spirit, the tone of the service.

### **Seven words that describe the atmosphere you want to create.**

#### **1. Expectation**

“According to your **faith** will it be done to you.” Matthew 9:29

Create a sense of enthusiasm that says “something good is about to happen!”

#### **2. Celebration**

“Worship the Lord with **gladness**; come before him with **joyful** songs.” Psalm 100:2

Many church services resemble a funeral more than a festival.

#### **3. Affirmation**

“...you should meet together and **encourage** each other,” Hebrews 10:25 (NCV)

We want our services to be encouraging, not discouraging.

#### **4. Incorporation**

“All of you should be in agreement, understanding each other, loving each other as **family**, being kind and humble.” 1 Peter 3:8

We work hard to create a family atmosphere where people feel like they are a part.

#### **5. Restoration**

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and **renew** a steadfast spirit within me...**restore** to me the joy of your salvation.” Psalm 51:10, 12

Plan your services to refresh and recharge people emotionally.

#### **6. Liberation**

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **freedom**.” 2 Corinthians 3:17

Avoid stuffiness, Formality and pretentiousness. Create a relaxed atmosphere.

#### **7. Sensitivity**

“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” Galatians 5:25

Every service should not be exactly the same. Learn to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit!

\*\*\*1-6 Taken from the “Purpose Driven Church” workshop

*Revised: Scott Miller 8-14-19*

## **Worship Team Dress Code**

Guiding Principal: Don't draw attention to yourself!

Pants:

- Wear what looks best on you & your body shape.
- Whether dress pants or jeans, they should fit properly - not too tight or too loose.
- Jeans should be nicer or dressier than average: (remember we are not on a picnic or hike)
  - Preferably in a darker wash (they tend to look better & camouflage imperfections)
  - No excessive wear marks or excessive "whiskering" that would draw attention to body parts
- Ladies, a trouser jean is your most flattering option with a long boot cut your next best bet. A skinny jean is fine as long as a tunic top is worn with them. Your shirt in the front should cover your zipper, and be at least the same length in the back.

Shirts:

- Guys, no t-shirts. Ladies, make sure the t-shirt fits appropriately and dresses up your outfit.
- Collared shirts are suggested as they tend to look a bit dressier.
- Ladies, do not show any cleavage or midriff. Remember ladies, men are visual. We do not want to distract our brothers from the Lord.
- Guys and Ladies, do a "worship check" in the mirror before you come to church (to make sure nothing inappropriate shows through the fabric or when you raise your hands, etc....we don't want to see a ladies midriff, or a guys gut!).

Shoes:

- No athletic shoes please. A nicer shoe will dress up your outfit, even if wearing jeans.
- No rubber flip flops.

Other:

- No shorts.
- No hats for men.
- Skirts ought to be at the knee or below.
- Whether skirts, tie's, shirts, socks, or anything else visible, it ought to be void of any cartoon or picture scenes. (example – favorite college's sports logo on your tie, "I love Shippshewana" sweater, etc.)

\*Remember it's really not important what we wear, until it's the wrong thing and becomes a distraction. We must keep in mind that no matter what our fabric choices are, we do not want to call unnecessary attention to ourselves.

10-12-20  
SM