

Worship Team Vision for New Life Chapel

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I. Introduction

- A. Everyone has a unique journey that has brought him or her to New Life at this time.
 - 1. We bring hopes, dreams, and victories.
 - 2. We also bring broken promises, hurts, and personal issues.
- B. God has a purpose for every person He's brought into His kingdom.
- C. It is up to all of us to discern what our purpose is and how we can best Serve the Lord.
- D. Worship leaders and team members have specific and high callings.
 - 1. Lead the congregation into the presence of the Lord and model Biblical worship for them. (Team members ARE worship leaders!)
 - 2. Support each other in releasing gifts and callings.
- E. This teaching hopefully will begin our understanding of who we are and what God wants us to be.

II. We need to be excellent at what we do.

- A. Our worship counterparts in scripture are the Levites of the Old Testament. Here are several examples of their musical abilities.

2 Chronicles 24:12 The men did the work faithfully. Over them to direct them were Jahath and Obadiah, Levites descended from Merari, and Zechariah and Meshullam, descended from Kohath. The Levites—all who were skilled in playing musical instruments- (NIV)

1 Chronicles 25:6-8 - All these men were under the supervision of their fathers for the music of the temple of the LORD, with cymbals, lyres and harps, for the ministry at the house of God. Asaph, Jeduthun and Heman were under the supervision of the king. 7 Along with their relatives—all of them trained and skilled in music for the LORD -they numbered 288. 8 Young and old alike, teacher as well as student, cast lots for their duties. (NIV)

- B. Levites had a priestly role. Many of them were set apart for a musical role as well.
 - 1. Excellence was not an option. They were skilled and trained.
 - 2. They were set apart and called to their positions.

Numbers 8: 13 Have the Levites stand in front of Aaron and his sons and then present them as a wave offering to the LORD. 14 In this way you are to set the Levites apart from the other Israelites, and the Levites will be mine.

- 3. Their instruments were set apart (2 Chronicles 7:6)
 - 4. They (musicians) were excused from other duties (1 Chronicles 9:33)
- C. Our Father deserves excellence from modern worship leaders and teams.
 - 1. Be self-sufficient on instruments and voice parts.
 - 2. Always seek to improve while staying humble.
 - 3. Opinion: The level of our release can be the result of the level we develop the talents the Lord has given us.

III. We need to lead worship in Spirit and Truth

John 4:4 - Now he had to go through Samaria. 5So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. 7When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" 8(His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) 10Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." 11"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?" 13Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." 15The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." 16He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." 17"I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. 18The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." 19"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. **20Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.** 21Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." 25The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." 26Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he."

A. Jesus says we are to worship in Spirit and Truth (Verse 23)

1. "Truth", because we worship what/who we know, the Christ who brings salvation. (Verse 22)
2. "Spirit," because God IS Spirit (Verse 24) Meet Him on HIS level.
3. The Father "seeks" these kinds of worshippers. (Verse 23)
 - a. This implies that they may be hard to find!

IV. Some specific goals – musically and spiritually

- A. Decrease stage volume level.
 - 1. Compromise so everyone can hear themselves.
 - 2. Minimize the effect of monitors on the house sound.
- B. Increase our sensitivity to the music.
 - 1. More dynamics and contrast within the songs.
 - a. Some musicians may not play on all songs.
- C. Increase our sensitivity to the Spirit.
 - 1. Begin to sense the move of the Spirit in worship as a group.
 - 2. Increase our understanding of free praise.
 - 3. Model our sensitivity to the people.
- D. Become repertoire based, as opposed to rehearsal based.
 - 1. Know ALL songs in our current songbook and be able to lead them without practice.
 - 2. Vocalists/musicians will know their specific parts.
 - 3. Musicians become interchangeable between teams.
- E. Teach and train members/congregation on worship expressions.
 - 1. Free praise, focus, etc.
 - 2. Movement: dance, lifting hands, etc.
- F. Help with worship at Grand Terrace Foursquare Church
 - 1. Develop team(s) to lead at Grand Terrace once/twice monthly.
 - 2. Develop worship leaders.
- G. Provide opportunities for more musicians to participate.
 - 1. Have more vocal teams. (Alternate singing at specific services.)
 - 2. Develop a worship choir.
 - 3. Possibly alternate bass players.
 - 4. Most weeks at NLC there are 4 opportunities to participate.
- H. Grow individually as worshippers, musicians, and leaders.
 - 1. Have daily personal devotion times
 - 2. Have daily personal worship times
 - 3. If you are on a team, you ARE a leader!

V. Procedural stuff

- A. Contact me if you can't make a rehearsal or service.
 - 1. Rehearsal attendance is usually mandatory to participate in services.
- B. Please leave the worship music books at the church. They are shared.
 - 1. Put your book back in order after the service.
 - 2. You can checkout a book to take home or
 - 3. You can download a book at:
www.kensockwell.com/resources/nlc0707.pdf
- C. Please dress appropriately. No jeans on Sundays.
- D. Even if you are already on a team, please fill out a new Worship Application for my records.
- E. All prospective members will need to audition.