

Worship Leader & Singers Guidelines

Worship ministry is team ministry. Together we can scale the heights of praise and worship more effectively than we can individually. These guidelines are presented to help clarify various aspects of our ministry as a functioning team.


Worship Leading

- Choosing the songs for our services has a spiritual as well as a practical aspect. Obviously we need to be led by the Holy Spirit therefore we should seek Him for a 'rhema' leading when choosing songs for a service. As you choose your songs, which is a practical thing, you should have a sense of theme and flow in the way that God is leading you. This is a challenging responsibility but not one to be overwhelmed by; God is gracious, if we do our best He will do the rest.
- It is helpful to be aware of the overall vision of Southland International Christian Centre and the general thrust of our worship services. By this I mean we need to flow with the vision that Pastor Graham believes God has called our church to be: a church in revival with a heart for the lost which hungers for deep times of throne room worship and praise.
- Try to vary your song choice from service to service. Avoid choosing the same song or songs that you selected the previous service. Be adventurous with your song choice and do not just select 'security blanket' songs that you are confident in leading. If the range or style of the song does not suit your voice, one of the backup singers should be able to handle the lead vocal on that particular song. If a new song has been used for an item the previous week try to include that song in your list.
- Try to include one of our own songs in your list. We are trusting God to give our songwriters new songs which He wants our church to sing, therefore in the future there will be more of our own songs to choose from.
- Apply wisdom in selecting songs which are new and popular. If they are chosen every service they will soon become tired and ineffective.
- During the praise and worship time be open to and look for a clear leading from the Lord. If God opens a door in the Spirit be bold to enter and explore that opportunity. Our church is one that is eager for the prophetic word from God, our heart therefore should be "speak Lord for your servant is listening".

Back up Singing

- Try to anticipate what the worship leader will do and the way that God is leading them and flow with this. Try to keep 'one eye open' to watch for change of direction and signals from the worship leader.

- Be bold, strong and supportive in your back up singing rather than holding back. This releases the worship leader from having to maintain the lead vocal and assists them in tapping into God's flow for that worship time. Don't worry - the worship leader will let you know if you are going over the top.
- Be determined to sing in tongues during times of free worship and be open to the prophetic song of the Lord. This can lead into a beautiful time of intimacy with God. Our team is sensitive and ready to follow when this leading comes.

- Smile 

Items

Pastor Graham has requested that we bring more items. He feels that this is an opportunity for you to minister to the Lord and the congregation in song while they don't have to sing themselves. There are a number of things we need to bear in mind in preparing items for the worship service:

- Items need to be brought in a spirit of humility so that the focus is on the Lord and not on us or our talent. If we adopt this approach we will attract more of God's anointing as opposed to relying on our own skill.
- We obviously have a limited rehearsal time so to maximise the use of that time we need to do the following:-
 - Bring songs that the team learns as items. (these will be assigned to you)
 - Effort is being made to provide you with songs that we have CD's and sheet music for - this speeds up the process getting the songs ready. You will be provided with the song and sheet music/lyrics and therefore it is your responsibility to learn the song so that it can be practiced on the Thursday before you are rostered to bring the item. Practice time for the entire team is limited so generally items will be songs that only require minimal accompaniment such as piano or guitar. These type of songs often sound more personal anyway and so are better suited for their place in the service.
 - If you have a song that you would like to bring, submit these songs to Steve or Dawn but you must have the CD and sheet music for that song. Alternatively if you have a backing track, similarly the song is to be submitted to Steve or Dawn.