



1. MISSION OF THE WORSHIP TEAM

The mission of each worship team is to highlight and focus people on the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and all of God's beautiful attributes. I like to say, bringing God to the center of a room and creating an atmosphere for people to speak directly to Him. We are shaping peoples hearts and minds through the lyrical content of the songs and responsive prayers, giving the people words to speak to God. We also want to be whole hearted about preaching the gospel through our songs/music each Sunday morning, reminding each other of the life, death, resurrection, ascension and return of Jesus Christ. Out of the centering of the heart on Jesus flow monumental things. It washes people with the much needed truth, heals a broken heart, takes our eyes off ourselves, helps us to see the broken world around us, and draws the manifest presence of God. We also learn to see through the world's lies by the truths we offer in the songs and music. Exalting and adoring God with our affections and confessions draws His presence, and in God's presence life takes place for a community of followers, and the outsider may begin to see that there is life beyond what they have known. We want to be skilled and prepared musically and have deep and rich content filling each song. This is the calling, and work of our worship teams.

2. THE WORSHIP LEADER/PASTOR

The mission of the worship leader is to be living an open, gospel soaked, communal life and operating out of spiritual and relational authority. In other words, God's calling is on this person and people trust this person to lead others. The worship leader should also be skilled in their vocal and musical performance to the level of the group size they are leading. This leader should be moving in humility and character and be open to correction of any kind. They should be aiming for the lifestyle similar to Elders qualifications in 1 Timothy 3 & Titus 1. The intentions of this person are to publicly highlight the Father, Son and Holy Spirit through song and prayer and to train the congregation's hearts and minds to have the truth of God and scripture in them in all phases of life, and on every mountain and in every valley. This worship leader should be intentionally growing their heart and mind for Jesus consistently.

3. THE TEAM MEMBER

The mission of the team member is to have a trajectory toward growth in Christ and in community as well as having current music culture sensibilities. This person should be skilled, prepared, and timely. This team member should be working against pride/self exaltation and desire identity in Christ over the need for the stage and visibility to people. This member should not self appoint their self; in other words, insert themselves into a position before being appointed. Team members need to have thick skin and a soft heart to be able to take critique quickly and easily. This person is not perfect or sinless, but aiming to have their passions on a leash, and not hiding sin. Team members should be living in character in their personal, home and community life.

THE HEART

➔ **Heart...**

...attitude, patience, and openness are key to the culture that we want to foster among the worship and arts community. Humility serves and intends to give its place away. It doesn't grasp, scratch and climb to insure its attainment of place. Place is received and earned, not grabbed.

➔ **Humility...**

...not fake or false humility, but literally the setting aside of ourselves, for the highlighting and lifting of Jesus, and placing others above ourselves.

➔ **Marked by the presence of God...**

...knowing that our songs and music are empty without the Holy Spirit, our Sunday mornings are not shows, but a place for making space for God, needing the Holy Spirit to change us in the midst of the gathering and ultimately lifting Jesus to be seen by all who would look.

➔ **The gospel...**

...this is the sum of all things powerful and beautiful in our lives. It is the grace and confrontation of Jesus life, work, death, resurrection and ascension that saves us every day and is what we want to speak with our lives and offer to everyone around us.

➔ **Passing it down...**

...we are hopeful to create a culture of worship and music where the attitudes and heart is what is passed down to the upcoming generation. They may reject our styles but hopefully adopt the worship of the triune God, the living and proclamation of the gospel, and the heart that we are expressing our worship with.

➔ **God centered...**

...Father, Son, and Holy Spirit being brought to the center of the room and adored. God's presence and power sets everything apart. Healing and life will flow when Jesus Christ is lifted. In our worship and music we want to teach who God is and what He's done, preach the gospel and wash people with truth in Gods powerful life giving presence. Also, plotting after God in our personal lives will wash over into the stage. We are Christ eccentric.

THE HEAD

➔ **Character...**

...understanding our brokenness but leaning into the gospel, not yielding to sin, living in the light and struggling out loud, not alone.

➔ **Processing season's...**

...life is sure to place us in various seasons, as well as our personal decisions both good and bad, we have to know when to be on stage and when to rest and receive healing. Struggle out loud not in quiet.

➔ **Community, Healthy relationships...**

...this is a difficult one, but love, confrontation, repentance, humility and apologies are a part the Christian community. We all have faults and have to own our part consistently. God does beautiful things in us through people. Knowing people in the good and the bad, feasting with friends and being known.

➔ **Thick skin, soft heart, open hands...**

...when we are teaming with people, we need to be open to quick correction without hurt feelings as well as knowing when to let others take your part or even your place.

➔ **Theology and doctrine ...**

...our song choices are of key importance. We want to make sure we are saying big things about Jesus life, death, resurrection and it's impact on our lives. The lyrics of our songs are training minds and hearts, and the presence of God is deepening those truths in us. We don't want to just be intelligent theologically; we want to respond to the truths.

"Theology, the study and understanding of God, must burst into Doxology, which is response and service to and for the glory of God." Doug Wilson. As we move through every season we have to keep pressing into knowing God and then moving toward responding to Him, all the while longing for the presence and power of God.

➔ **Congregational...**

...worship is not about a band, the look of the leader, the sound, instrumentation, lights, etc. Those are all vehicles to help exalt Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and can happen without any of the modern day props. Congregational worship is proclaiming the power of the gospel while the people are singing together to God and to each other's the truths of the scripture. If or when we get these things out of order we fail. Let's not take ourselves too seriously, but we do want to take our great God extremely reverently.

THE HANDS

➔ **Skill...**

...to continue growing and pushing ourselves in how we play our instruments and in how we sing. We need to continue in advancing our equipment and honing our sensibilities to the ever advancing music culture.

➔ **Preparedness, Timeliness...**

...when we are involved with teams of people, it shows great respect to the greater good, to be prepared and punctual, every time.

OUR PRAYER

God, you are the only thing worth looking to. God you are the only thing that can heal us deeply so we want to keep holding you up with our frail music, riddled with mistakes. Jesus you are primary and center. We need you Holy Spirit empowering our music. We invite you Holy Spirit to reach into our music and lyrics and bring the kind of life only you can bring. Father let our music be marked heavily with your presence. Each and every one of us are broken and in need of the Gospel in You Jesus everyday of our lives. We live overcoming lives because of your life, death, and resurrection, but we give into our brokenness. Please empower us to yield ourselves to you Jesus, community, and to knowing when to step off the stage, and receive help to walk out our issues and brokenness. God we want our relationships to bump up against each other, each time causing us to see ourselves more clearly and pursue you more deeply. God I pray you would move song leaders to worship leaders and worship leaders into worship pastors and I pray you would make us a worshipping community, in death and life! Father, by your spirit let new songs, saturated with Your life, flow out of songwriters and artists here. Help us God to receive your gospel everyday! Father help us grow theologically and in Your presence. God don't just grow us in numbers, but also deepen us. When we gather on a Sunday morning, my prayer is that the songs we sing would give us words and thoughts about You that are true and that show up in the hardest and most beautiful times in our everyday lives. My prayer is also that we are heavily moved and experiencing your presence God in the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ and that at any moment we are happy to get off our plan and follow You, wherever You want to go. I pray that You, Jesus Christ, would be the center in our congregations and that You Jesus, the beauty that towers and powers over all the beautiful things You have made, would heal, save, lift our eyes, and empower us to move in and through this world with the lifted Bread and Wine in our hands.

Amen