



Grace Church Music Ministry Team Guidelines

Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn't. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever.

JOHN PIPER

At Grace Church we believe that the primary purpose of every Christian is worshipping God. Worship is not just for the congregation, but also for the team on stage. We worship while we lead and teach others to do the same. Those who serve through music should view their role not as a performance but as a ministry to and for God and his people. It is a privilege and a responsibility that should not be taken lightly.

"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth". (John 4:24)

As musicians, our purpose is to magnify God and call others to join us by leading them into songs of worship to our great God. Our job is not that of rockstar or showman. So, we ought to always walk on stage as humble and repentant worshippers. Still, we are in one sense performing, using our talents. So, there is a fine line team members must walk between serving God with excellence while not putting on a show or manipulating emotions. Also, not to neglect our talents and become a distraction to the congregation. We are to aid in worship, not distract from it.

Applying to be on the Team

If you are interested in joining the worship team at Grace Church read through the guidelines, fill out the application, and then turn it in to one of the elders.

Requirements

All worship team participants must be...

- a born-again Christian (affirmed by one of the elders).
- living a godly lifestyle that can be an example to others.
- a member of Grace, in the process of becoming one, or a child of a member (if under the age of 18).
- able to fulfill the musical requirements in the guidelines below.

Lifestyle

All worship team participants are expected to strive to exemplify a godly life. Participants must be born-again and living as Christians in the power of the Holy Spirit. Key characteristics include a teachable spirit, a good attitude, a servant's heart, and a willingness to participate in the normal aspects of the music ministry. Participants must strive to worship God while on and off stage from a pure heart as the Scripture requires through the Holy Spirit and to enthusiastically lead the congregation by demonstration: with all our heart, mind, and actions.

Personal and Spiritual Matters

Come to the service spiritually and musically prepared, and with a right attitude to fulfill duties as a worship “leader.” Trials and difficulties do not disqualify you from service, but an unrepentant heart does. Learn to model sacrificial praise in the midst of your trials and gain needed support and exhortation from other team members. If personal problems or sin affects your ability to serve on the team, please talk to your elder and/or the worship leader.

Talent and Skill

Although we recognize that true worship can proceed from an individual of any skill level, team members must be able to keep up technically with the team as a whole and become a productive addition. They ought to have enough skill that they can lead the congregation in singing and praying without being an unnecessary distraction (mistakes and pitchiness). Musicians and vocalists should have open hearts to receive advice, correction, training, and should be committed to becoming proficiently skilled at their ministry. One does not need to be a professional musician to worship the Lord, but God honors the discipline of additional practice and preparation.

Commitment

Praise Team members should be actively involved at Grace and dedicated to Grace’s vision and leadership of its pastor and other leaders. This commitment includes their prayers, regular attendance, and tithes/offerings. Those who commit to serving on the praise team are asked to commit to rehearsals prior to the service and they are expected to do their best to make sure other commitments do not interfere with their ability to serve on the team on a regular basis. Because we value the importance of family, prospective praise team members should not join the team without the full support of their family.

Attire

As leaders and examples, members must dress properly. Although we recognize that God does not judge us by outward appearance, we also realize that proper attire contributes to the holiness of the worship service. Immodest dress, which is forbidden by Scripture, or distracting clothing is unhelpful and unbecoming for team members. Consequently, members are encouraged to be neat, clean, and appropriately dressed for all services.

- Please no tight fitting/revealing clothing (guys or gals).
- No clothing with clear or distinct messaging, logos, brands, or sayings (even Christian).

Attitude

A loving, submissive, and humble attitude is very important among the team members. Always be uplifting and encouraging to one another. Speaking negatively against the leadership or other team members is not acceptable. A critical spirit or negative attitude will reflect in our corporate worship. If you do not agree with the way things are handled—pray about it. If the issue persists approach the individual in a biblical manner privately.

New Applicants

We desire everyone at Grace to use their gifts to serve the church. So, anyone interested in serving is encouraged to set up an appointment with the worship leader to discuss the guidelines and expectations presented in this manual.

- Prospective members will need to have a brief and informal audition.
- New applicants to the music team will be required to attend several rehearsals before “taking the platform.”

Schedule Conflicts, Etc.

If at any time, a member cannot attend a service, rehearsal, etc. they should notify the worship leader in advance

if possible so that proper adjustments can be made.

- *It is important to state that we intend for the information in this manual to serve as a guideline, but we realize that exceptions will occur. These exceptions will be determined by the leadership of Grace Church. It is also important to state that these guidelines apply to those who participate in the music ministry on a regular basis.*

Communication

Open communication is of vital importance. If at any time a member is confused, discouraged, or unhappy with the way things may be happening at a given time, they are encouraged to speak with the worship leader, senior pastor, or other leadership. The only way to deal with hurt feelings, resentment, confusion, etc. is to bring it out into the open so that the Lord can help us work through it as a team.

Practice Schedule

Currently, practices are on Sunday 9am during Berea.

Please show up on time so we can get through all the songs before Berea is finished.

Also, there are special services throughout the year. Practices will be decided by those members able to play at the service—usually 1.5 hours before the service starts. Please volunteer to play at them, since there is usually a small number of participants.

Chord Charts

We use chord charts for all our music. They are usually in chords that favor guitar players. Team members must be able to follow along using a chord chart like the one provided below. If you only know sheet music, let the worship leader know and he can work with you to make the transition to chords.

Stage

Please play a role in keeping the stage neat and tidy. Since we have plenty of cords and equipment. Take a minute to look around the stage and make sure that everything looks decent, particularly your area.

Behold Our God

Behold Our God

Capo C=0, A=3

VIDEO: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gqri3Lkf58>

VERSE 1

C **Em**
Who has held the oceans in His hand?
C **Em**
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
C **Em**
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
C **Em7** **G**
All creation rises to rejoice

C **G/B** **Am** **F**
Behold our God seated on His throne
C **G**
Come let us adore Him
C **G/B** **Am** **F**
Behold our King, nothing can compare
C **G** **C** **Em**
Come let us adore Him!

VERSE 2

C **Em**
Who has given counsel to the Lord?
C **Em**
Who can question any of His words?
C **Em**
Who can teach the one who knows all things?
C **Em7** **G**
Who can fathom all his wondrous deeds?

VERSE 3

C **Em**
Who has felt the nails upon His hands
C **Em**
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
C **Em**
God eternal, humbled to the grave
C **Em7** **G**
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign

VERSE 4

C **Em**
Who is seated over kings of earth?
C **Em**
Who can summon angels with a word?
C **Em**
God in flesh, Messiah came to save
C **Em** **G**
Servant-king, our ransom he has paid

BRIDGE:

C **F/C**
You will reign forever! (Let Your glory fill the earth)
C **F/C**
You will reign forever! (Let your glory fill the earth)
Am7 **F/C**
You will reign forever! (Let your glory fill the earth)
Am7 **F/C**
You will reign forever! (Let your glory fill)