

Lead Worshiper 101

Lesson 1: Our Role As Lead Worshipers

What is Our Role?

What's our role as the worship team? I think the best way to sum it up, for both the platform team (the musicians) and production team (the techs), is that ***we create an environment that encourages people to worship.***

We are priests - 1 Peter 2:9

- Priests worship God and help others worship God.
- Numbers 1:50 - Levites (the priestly tribe) carry and set up the Tabernacle: they *set up the place where God and man would meet.*
- ***We are priests creating a space for God and man to meet.***
- We help "steward" the meeting place between our congregation and God.

Another metaphor: We are hosts at a party, and the guest of honor is Jesus.

- We prepare the house.
- We welcome the people.
- We point them to Jesus and keep the attention on him.

We create an environment...

- Musically - sing and or play instruments to accompany worship.
- Visually - we model worship.
- Audibly/Verbally - we encourage worship at times through speaking.
- Intentionally - we have a plan--a set or an order of service--that we're following, which we believe can help people intentionally journey to towards connecting with God.

We have two roles:

- We are worshiping God (also, *ministering* to God).
- We are leading/serving the congregation.

Role 1: Worshiping God

Latreuo - Greek word often translated into “worship”. Means *ministering*. (It’s where we get our English word *liturgy* = the work of the people.)

How do we minister to God?

We’re not meeting God’s “needs”. But we are there to serve his desire. And that’s this:

God desires us, his people to do what they were created to do—enjoy him and his presence.

How do we worship God:

- Singing, physical expression, and/or playing a musical instrument.
- We’re also worshiping God by our service--giving our time, talent, energy.

Role 2: Leading/Serving the Congregation

What does serving the congregation look like?

- We choose to worship, even if we don’t feel like it, etc.
 - “Choosing to worship” doesn’t mean it’s an act of *pretending*.
 - “Choosing to worship” just means it’s an act of our *will*.
 - We must submit our personal worship preferences for the sake of ministering to the gathered congregation.
 - If you’re a part of the platform team, you have to die to personal preferences. This is part of *choosing* to worship.
 - *Example of dying to preferences*: Our personal worship expressions might distract from the corporate worship experience, like keeping our eyes closed the whole time.
- We model and encourage worship. When it comes to worship, *we go first*.
- We prepare to do lead the congregation with confidence.
- We accept and lead from the authority delegated to us.
 - We are delegated authority from the leaders above us to help them lead.
 - We are children of God, adopted heirs in Christ. We also need to lead from that authority. (Stop being timid.)