

52 Worship Training Events

So when you went to your worship team rehearsal this week, what skill did you plan on working on with your team? Did you just learn the songs or did you learn how to play music together?

Because it's the perfect lab for growth really: Two hours, five songs, and six (or three!) musicians PLUS the desire to learn and just a smidge of intentionality, and BAM! you've got a mini-seminar. And you can have 52 of them every year...at YOUR church with YOUR people! And it's stinkin' free!

Or you can just get the songs learned for this Sunday. (bleh!)

Sure, your team might accidentally get a tad better (or they might stay relatively the same for the next year). Look behind you to see how far (or short) you've come. Do you have the same nagging musical irritations over and over?

How do you actually start doing this?

Simply and one small step at a time. Hey, this is the real world. You may be struggling to just put your song list together, or you may be doing all you feel you can do just to get there and strap on your bass, let alone prepare.

So this challenge is going out to worship leaders and to team members...**since you're each responsible to double your talents.** Seriously (don't get Matthew twenty-fived). That's part of why God gave them to you to manage. And let me ask you this: If you were managing someone else's talents the way you're managing your own, would you fire yourself? (thank you, Dave Ramsey)

Choose one skill to work on in one song for that week. Relax and play what you know for the others, but intentionally focus and stretch in this one song. Consider doing it first so that it has the potential of influencing all the other songs.

Skills? What skills?

Dynamics, listening, groove, steady tempo, build, tuning, blend, accents, different styles, listening (you're right, I did already say that), playing in fractions, memorization, improvisation, listening (yep), modern sound, you get the idea. Here are some samples:

- ~ Work dynamics with *10,000 Reasons* - play the chorus super loud, the verses super quiet, and use the musical interludes at the end of each to set up the next section.
- ~ Take a familiar song, like *Our God*, and play it once together, once with just the bass and drums (having the piano and guitars listen), then once with just the piano and guitars playing (having the bass and drums listen), and then all together. Then talk about what each of them heard.
- ~ Get the metronome out (oh boy), and play *Be The Centre* at the typical 67 BPM. Then at 87 BPM. Then at 107 BPM. Or take a song you always do at 90 BPM, and try doing it at 83 BPM.
- ~ Use a remade hymn like *Jesus Paid It All* and have all the singers circle up tightly and sing it without mics to really focus on blending and owning the words.
- ~ Use a song born from the river (Bethel, IHOP, Life Center...*O Taste And See, My Soul Longs for You, Faithful*) and "plan" for spontaneous improvisation at the end of the song. Have a different member of the band pick the chord progression to use.

The bottom line is this: If your only growth plan is Ad Lib Music's Rehearsal Coaching (which is great) or going to seminars and conferences (which are awesome), you're missing the biggest opportunity for growth. Really.

We hope you're encouraged by the Worship Fertilizer, a free resource from Ad Lib Music, "*in simple love and pure devotion to Jesus, we are eradicating isolation and burnout so that leaders bear much fruit!*"

www.AdLibMusic.com ~ 717-468-6428 ~ info@adlibmusic.com

©2012 Ad Lib Music Please freely share this with anyone involved in worship ministry.