

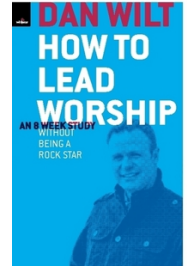
# Worship Values: what I really care about when I lead

So I was preparing for a coaching meeting with a new worship leader, and I was reading the chapter in the book we're going through called "How To Lead Worship Without Being A Rock Star."

In the second chapter, Dan lays out five worship values based on his church context.

They are:

1. Intimacy
2. Accessibility
3. Integrity
4. Cultural Connection
5. Kingdom Expectation



And reading the descriptions prompted me to write my own. They are:

1. God-centric
2. Authentic
3. Inviting/Welcoming
4. Moving/Stretching/Growing/Discipling
5. Free
6. Grounded and Very Broad

Maybe it'd be helpful to say just a bit more of each of them.

## God-centric

I needed to say that He is the Host, that it's His party, that everything is centered and gathered around Him. As we as leaders create spaces where people can meet with God, it can be easy to focus on the people, on us, on what songs we picked, on...stuff other than God.

## Authentic

Man, is this you? I want to make sure that *you* buy it before *I'll* connect. You be you. And hey, this likely isn't a stadium of Australians or Mega-church Texans that you're leading, so it probably won't feel, look, or sound the same. You guys be you guys. Don't compare or imitate, but be inspired by the other guys...and then translate it to your hometown.

## Inviting/Welcoming

[When I worked at Starbucks](#), we were taught that we needed to be welcoming. There was none of this scripted junk that we had to say or mandate that we needed to greet a customer when they got to within 6 feet of us...but we by all means needed to make them glad they were there. We could learn from that...from how we talk to folks, to the way we open ourselves and lead vulnerably, to the volume we choose at the beginning. No rules, just make sure that what you choose to do has a good chance of making them feel like maybe, just maybe, they belong there.

### **Moving/Stretching/Growing/Discipling**

Entertainment? Feeling good? Sentimental fuzzies? Comfort? Um, no. When we lead worship, we are to be making disciples. It's our job to stretch people a little. (A little!) They should be just a little deeper in their relationship, a little more sold out, a little more fearless, a little more Christian (read: little Christs) when the last song is sung.

### **Free**

So here's a sure way to tell if God's Spirit is at work in a room: there's freedom happening. Every Sunday morning, there's this little thing that tries to bite you in the heel or backside to make you tense up, formalize, get churchy...and it's *not* nerves. It's just not the Holy Spirit at work. Kick that thing. Tell it off. Send it to its place...back where it came from. Abide in the Vine and bear the fruit of those things against which there is no law! :-D (Galatians 5:22)

### **Grounded and Very Broad**

Here's a newsflash: Church didn't start on May 4, 1972. It's been happening for a loooong time! Praise choruses and hymns are a great place to start in the lineup with current tunes, but did you know? Chants, Kyries, twelve-tone beauties...are all part of *Our* music heritage. So dig in. And while we're at it, we have such breadth in what we could be using. Musically, perhaps we should ask [WWHD](#)? There are so many more textures and grooves and ensembles and combinations and arrangements and...I mean, use [this](#) as a launching pad...it'll make you rethink throwing away that old typewriter!

Oh, so what's special about that 05.04.72 date? Christopher Dwayne Tomlin joined us.

So that prompts me to ask...what are yours? It'd be a worthwhile five minutes to mine the insight from your own context...and it'll help you communicate them, ask for them, teach from them, and make decisions from them. I'd love to hear from you!

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!"* Find a Worship Coach that will take your effectiveness to a whole new level at [www.adlibmusic.com](http://www.adlibmusic.com)!