

MUSIC MINISTRY POLICY & GUIDELINES
Tabernacle Bible Church

Introduction:

1 Peter 4: 9–11: Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. (the very words of God) If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion (power) forever and ever. Amen.

Realizing that the ministry of music in the local church is not only vital to the expressions of worship by God's people, but it also enables such worship to take place. The music that is used in the local church is a matter of biblical truth.

It is not the intent of this document to develop a biblical theology of music, nor to detail how that theology would impact the philosophy. Those disciplines are necessary for the understanding of these guidelines, and perhaps will be set forth in another document. This document is to give guidelines so that there is consistency, unity, and mutual 'understanding of purpose' both for those who share from within our congregation and those who are invited to the Tabernacle Bible Church to share in the ministry of music.

Guidelines For the Presentation of Music as Part of Our Special Music Ministry

- A. The person/persons presenting the music should be able to give and demonstrate a clear testimony of faith in Christ and obedience to His Word. Music is first and foremost an expression of worship before God. This is a requirement not only for individual presentations but also for the adult choir members.
- B. Within reason and circumstances, those presenting special music should rehearse prior to the service in which they will be ministering. The selection of the music, heart preparation, voice and/or instrument preparation for excellence in presentation requires proper rehearsal and

prayer. Those presenting special music should meet with the worship leaders before the worship service for prayer.

- C. The Tabernacle Bible Church would prefer that any instrumentation, other than the instruments provided by the Tabernacle Bible Church, be subject to prior approval and be heard by the Music Committee for recommendation to the Elders.

If background instrumentation is desired to be used by a vocalist, it must be submitted for approval in a timely manner, (3 weeks prior to the proposed date of use) and reviewed in a timely manner by the Music Committee. (within 2 weeks of being submitted)

The Tabernacle Bible Church is blessed to have capable musicians to accompany vocal presentations. It is our preference that, with proper rehearsal time, they are given the opportunity to accompany vocal presentations for worship.

The music committee is still accountable to the Board of Elders, but for the purpose of scheduling weekly music, they have the authority to approve or disapprove of submitted background accompaniment music.

- D. If church accompanists are not used for the vocal presentation any taped accompaniment should be orchestration and approved by the Music Committee.
- E. Any music to be played for special events such as, Valentine Banquet, Mother/Daughter Banquet, Father/Son banquet etc. as background music for the event, must still be recommended by the Music Committee to the Elders for approval. The Elders have the authority to approve or disapprove music being used without the Music Committee's input.
- F. The Music Committee or personnel from the music committee will be responsible for scheduling special music, and pianist and organist for the regular services of the Church.
- G. Those who attend the Tabernacle Bible Church should adhere to the highest standards of dress when presenting special music. Although

the occasion will dictate what is suitable, it is always appropriate and

preferred in the worship service for men to wear a shirt and tie, and for the ladies to wear dresses or skirts and blouses. The ladies need to be sure that their attire is modest in regard to hemlines, necklines, and the fit of their clothing.

- H. The Elders reserve the right to remove an individual from the music schedule if personal or spiritual problems exist.
- I. The Board of Elders may add and or remove members from the Music Committee as necessary.

This policy has been created to empower the Music Committee so that they may perform their duties so that the music of the Tabernacle Bible Church may always glorify our Heavenly Father and promote an attitude and environment of worship.

The Music Committee is accountable to the Board of Elders. The Board of Elders reserves the right to schedule music and events without a recommendation from the Music Committee.