

CALVARY CHAPEL DAYTON VALLEY

Worship Ministry Handbook

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C.C.D.V. Worship Ministry **Handbook**

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Introduction

The purpose of this handbook is to provide an overview of the worship ministry at Calvary Chapel Dayton Valley. As you read be sure to look up any scripture references that are given.

A call to worship! John 4:23 & 24 states: "Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and His worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth." (NIV)

A definition of worship: *"To revere and give homage to God, serving Him through profound adoration, intense love and desire, intimately turning towards Him (as if to kiss), complete honesty and surrender."*

Why do we worship? God is looking for worshippers! (Luke 19:40) He desires to manifest Himself to them and through them! (II Chron. 16:9, John 4:23, Psalm 95:6) In doing so, we minister to the Lord. (Ezek. 44:15 & 16, 1 Peter 2:9) As we worship, we draw near to God, He draws near to us, (Heb. 10: 19-25, James 4:8) and we, consequently, respond to His presence. (Luke 19: 35-40)

Our worship consists primarily of personal interaction with God, and secondarily, of service to Him. Mary sat at the Lord's feet and listened to Him while Martha was busy with the chores. The Lord's own answer was that Mary chose what was better. (Luke 10: 38-42) It is our sincere desire to nurture this same value in the hearts of those called to worship here.

Our Vision

Whatever setting we may find ourselves in, be at home before the Lord, in a small group setting, or a Church meeting with many others, we look to the Lord for the following characteristics and experiences:

1. For our Worship: Times of unbroken communion with God; (the sharing of our thoughts and emotions with Him) worship is identifiable by an obvious interchange of love between God and His people. The presence of God is tangible and evidenced in the yielded life of the believer.
2. For the Worshippers: A people who are eager to come into God's presence, desiring communion with the Lord, reaching out to the God with joyful abandon, submissive to Him, all in one accord with the Holy Spirit and with each other.

Our Purpose

Our purpose in this ministry is to facilitate the practice of unbroken communion with God, which is the result of Jesus' redemptive sacrifice, to the Father for us. We believe that God created us to live in constant fellowship with Him in unbroken communion. The fall of man brought about eternal separation from God, which the father remedied through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus, who died as a sacrifice for our sin that we might have salvation. Through Him we obtain eternal life and direct access to God. We desire to worship the LORD in the knowledge of His Word through new life in His Spirit.

Philosophy Of Worship

A philosophy of worship is the way we approach worship as a Church. The elements of our worship philosophy include: **Values, Priorities, Practices, Programs, and Biblical Expressions of Worship.**

I. VALUES

1. Values are extremely influential.
 - a. Values are like the foundation beneath a building. The foundation defines the **location** and the **limits** of the building. The deeper the foundation, the higher the building can safely rise.
 - b. Values affect what we think and what we do. Values are an intrinsic part of us, even though we seldom think about them in a conscious fashion. They determine the ideas, principles, and concepts a person or a group can accept, assimilate, remember, and transmit.
2. The following are values, which we hold to and seek to instill as we worship our Lord together.

- a. Worship is given only to God and only for His glory. (Deut. 5:6 & 7, Rom. 1:20-25)
- b. We are intimate and self-disclosing with God. (Isaiah 49:15 & 16)
- c. We do not worship for “effect” or to manipulate God. (1 Kings 18:26)
- d. We worship in honesty and integrity. (John 4:23 & 24, Eph. 4:14-15 & 25)
- e. We welcome the ministry of the Holy Spirit. (1Thess. 5:19)
- f. As those in the “front line” ministry of “service”, we recognize that all the worship team members must meet the qualifications of a deacon as found in the book of Timothy. (Timothy 3:8-13)

II. PRIORITIES

1. Priorities can be seen.
 - a. Priorities are the out-cropping or the fruit of values. These can be compared to building blocks, they rise out of the foundation and hold the building together.
 - b. Priorities are established in order to give visible form to our values. Priorities demonstrate how we spend our time, energy, and money. More importantly they are things that we believe in. “Action is the motion of belief.” (All else would be considered mere lip service.)
2. Priorities influence practice.
 - a. Our worship is **TO** God, before it is “about” Him. (Rev. 5:9 & 10)
 - b. Worship is communication between both God and us. (John 4:23 & 24)
 - c. Worship is to be our lifestyle, individually and corporately. (Col. 3:15&16, Psalm 95)
 - d. We set aside time specifically to worship.
 - e. We provide for training and equipment, continually striving to grow and improve in all aspects of worship.
 - f. We provide instruction to help others be more effective in experiencing intimacy with God.
 - g. We need to grow and nurture our understanding of worship as God brings growth and change in us. We are careful to maintain consistency to Biblical soundness of our values and our priorities when change is initiated. This will insure a solid foundation.

III. PRACTICES (Living out Christ before all)

1. Practices are both seen and sometimes unseen. Practices are priorities in action.
 - a. Practices communicate values and priorities even though they may never be articulated verbally. We try to ensure that our practices communicate our values and priorities by what we choose to practice or not to practice.
 - b. Non-verbal communication is what others see and ultimately how they think of the Lord through us. What we choose to be involved in will speak non-verbally.
2. Following are our practices (life-style) here at CCDV.
 - a. We engage in practices which are Biblical.

- b. We worship at each of our gatherings.
- c. We encourage an uninterrupted flow of worship.
- d. We encourage each person to enter into worship to his or her level of comfort.
- e. We are free to express worship through all Biblical means: intimate adoration, thanksgiving, praise, extolling, exalting, and rejoicing.

IV. PROGRAMS

1. Programs allow values, priorities, and practices to be expressed in various ways.
2. The following programs are part of the life of CCDV.
 - a. Seminars and conferences.
 - b. Celebrations.
 - c. Congregational gatherings. (i.e. Sunday morning service)
 - d. Small group gatherings.
 - e. Personal and private worship. Our personal worship times should be an intricate part of our prayer life and Bible study.

V. BIBLICAL EXPRESSIONS OF WORSHIP

The following forms of expression are found in scripture. This list is not intended to be limiting or exhaustive in any way.

1. Singing to Him. (Col.3:16, Psalm 149:1)
2. Singing new songs. (Psalm 144:9)
3. Speaking about Him. (Psalm 145:6-12)
4. Playing musical instruments. (Psalm 150:1-6, Psalm 149:3)
5. Shouting joyfully to Him. (Psalm 47:1)
6. Lifting up our hands. (Neh. 8:6) An outward expression of our hearts showing surrender.
7. Bowing low with our faces to the ground. (Neh. 8:6, Psalm 95:6&7) Demonstrating reverence and respect.
8. Kneeling. (Psalm 95:6) Shows humility, meekness, and submission. It literally means, “to bless” God.
9. Lying prostrate. (Eze. 9:8, 11:13) Awe, reverence, humility, and adoration.
10. Standing in His presence. (Matt. 18:20)
11. Clapping our hands. (Psalm 47:1)
12. Meditating. (Phil. 4:8) Pondering the attributes of God in our hearts.

Musician Development and Release

It is our desire to facilitate the development and release of musicians for service in our worship ministry and to do so from within our local Church body. To this end, we are committed to a process by which musicians are trained and released as worship servants in our Church.

This process is:

- Regular attendance in Church gatherings.
- Musical training. (When training sessions are in process.)
- Apprenticeship
- Fulfillment of handbook requirements.
- Service
- Attendance in home fellowships when applicable.

Apprenticeship: Once a musician has achieved an appropriate skill level both musically and as a worshiper, he or she may begin an apprenticeship as a member of a worship team. This also applies to experienced musicians. During this phase, various levels of responsibilities will be given. This provides a “learning by doing” type of training. Apprenticeship is, by design, a probationary period which affords “a time of seasoning the call” as well as providing a built-in time period for the congregation to get to know and be comfortable with the additions of new members.

Handbook: As an apprentice is developing his or her calling and that calling is being affirmed and confirmed, the pre-qualifications for involvement on short term, long term, or permanent are found in this handbook.

Service: A musician can enter into service as a worship team servant after he or she has met all the requirements listed in the CCDV Worship Ministry Handbook.

A commitment of time is expected of all individuals desiring to participate. This time commitment ensures that changes on the worship team are at a minimum. Congregational confidence in the security of the worship team causes a peaceful “at ease” forum of worship.

WORSHIP TEAM MINISTRY PRE-QUALIFICATIONS

The following are pre-qualifications and commitments for participation in the worship ministry of our Church. It is our intention that there be a calling, an anointing, and a Godly desire evident in the participant. It is not our desire to make it difficult for “difficulty’s sakes”, but rather to ensure and encourage proper attitudes, teachable spirits, Godly character, and the full use of God’s gifts and callings in each team member (to the best of our ability).

Pre-Qualifications:

1. Be a “True Worshiper”. (John 4:23 & 24)
2. Evident ability to skillfully play your instrument. Willingness to be auditioned by the worship team.
3. Demonstrate a willingness to hold this ministry with an “open hand”, leaving up to the Lord and the leadership all questions regarding the scope of your involvement.
4. Be a faithful participant in the life of this Church as evidenced by regular attendance at Sunday services and at small group meetings.(if applicable) A minimum of six months is required, subject to the Elders discretion. Demonstrate commitment to this local body by becoming involved in growing healthy relationships with other people who are doing the same. Invest time, energy, and money (regular tithes) as evidence of your call to this body.
5. Be recommended to the worship ministry by two or more persons involved in leadership. (Deacons, Elders)
6. Show a willingness to submit to and work within the expectations of the Worship Ministry Leader, as indicated in this handbook.
7. Indicate your willingness to support the Pastor’s vision, even if it requires you to lay yours aside.
8. Indicate your commitment to the vision, purpose, and goal of this worship ministry.
9. Indicate your willingness to commit to the “Worship Ministry Job Requirements” included in this handbook.
10. If you are married, you must have the support of your spouse for involvement in the worship ministry.
11. Answer the “Prospective Worship Team Members Questionnaire” included in this handbook.
12. Read “The Jesus Style” by Gayle Erwin.

WORSHIP TEAM JOB REQUIREMENTS

In order to properly nurture and sustain the kind of worship we desire and to fulfill the biblical mandates regarding worship and work, (worship in spirit and in truth; play skillfully; work as unto the Lord) we require all members of this ministry to commit themselves to the following requirements:

1. Spend time alone regularly worshipping God.
2. Regularly practice your musical skills.
3. A willingness to be available to serve in any aspect of the worship ministry when called upon.
4. If you are on the worship team you must commit to.
 - a. Weekly practices
 - b. Sunday morning warm-up, one-hour prior to the first Sunday services.
 - c. Sunday morning service.
 - d. Special events which are relevant to your participation, on an “as they occur” basis. (Workshops, special services, events, etc.)
 - e. Extra practices for specialization, i.e. vocalists.
 - f. Commitment to punctuality.
 - g. Commitment to practicing well.
 - h. Willingness to be corrected or criticized.
5. Memorization. Music used in-group worship sessions need to be committed to memory, as much as possible, within reason.
 - a. Lyrics
 - b. Chords and Notes. (Music)
 - c. Arrangements and Rhythms.
6. Musical skills.
 - a. Able to discern “in tune” vs “out of tune”.
 - b. Trained ear. Able to play proper notes, chords, etc.
 - c. Familiarity with instrument. Play well and smoothly within your current level.
 - d. Rhythmically correct. Able to understand a rhythmic code or cell in a given song. Able to maintain rhythm with others.
7. Vocal skills.
 - a. Able to discern “in tune” vs “out of tune”.
 - b. Trained ear. Able to sing proper notes, harmonies, etc.

PROSPECTIVE WORSHIP TEAM MEMBER'S QUESTIONNAIRE

If you have a desire to participate in the worship ministry at Calvary Chapel Dayton Valley, either at the small group level, or as a member of our worship band, please answer the following questions. Return the answers to the Worship Leader. If you would like to meet with the Worship Leader or the Pastor to discuss this handbook or these questions, please do not hesitate to make an appointment.

1. Do you believe you have been called to participate in the worship ministry at this Church? Explain.
2. Why are you interested in being involved on the worship team?
3. How would you rate the importance of the worship ministry in the Church today?
4. How long have you been a Christian?
5. What "job" are you looking for?
6. What kind of music do you listen to? Describe the style and name several of your favorite songs and groups.
7. What is the most important quality a worship team member should have?
8. What is your educational background relative to music?
9. If you play an instrument, how long have you been playing?
10. Who is the most important member of a worship team?
11. After reading the "Worship Ministry Handbook", do you have any questions, concerns, or comments?
12. How would you define worship?
13. Why is worship important to you?
14. Who is your Pastor?
15. Explain what "ministry" means to you.
16. What do you consider to be the greatest Christian virtue?
17. Have you met the pre-qualifications listed in this handbook?
18. Will you agree to the "Worship Ministry Job Requirements" section of this handbook?
19. If you were a worship team leader, what would you require of prospective new members for team involvement?
20. What makes a "public ministry or service" different from ministries or services that the public does not see?
21. Are you a team player? Explain.
22. What is the purpose and function of a worship team in the Church today?
23. Are you involved in or on another worship team or band? How would this affect the commitment you are entering into at C.C.C.C.? If the effect is not a hindrance to you, is there any difference of philosophies or doctrines that may cause confusion? (see "VALUES" section in this handbook)