

W o r s h i p M u s i c M i n i s t r y

T R A I N I N G C O U R S E

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Fostering the Prophetic

Spontaneous Song

Introduction

- ◇ Our main goal in worship is to meet with God.
- ◇ Any time you meet with someone there is dialogue; both people communicate.
- ◇ Worship is also a two way interaction. We speak to the Lord and the Lord speaks to us.
- ◇ As with any conversation, you can plan out some of the things that you are likely to talk about (your set list), but it will never come out exactly as you had planned.
- ◇ For this reason we must be flexible and spontaneous in our worship leading.
- ◇ At times we will be used as the voice of God to the people, and at times we will speak to God as the voice of the people or just from our own heart.
- ◇ The people in the congregation are also interacting with God in this way on an individual basis.
- ◇ This free flow of communication can not be completely planned out, but instead flows through us by the Spirit of God.

What is spontaneous song?

- ◇ The rest of the world would call it improvising.
 - ◇ However, it's not done only with our mind. It also comes out of our spirit.
- ◇ It's singing what our thoughts are at that very moment.
 - ◇ We can only plan to a limited point. The set list lets us plan ahead and spontaneous song lets us sing other things that need to be expressed.
- ◇ Just as spontaneity is gas to a fire in a romantic relationship, so it is in a worship setting.
- ◇ It's a place for the prophetic to be exercised.

General points

- ◇ For tips on encouraging prophetic expressions among the general congregation, see the 'Encourage Individual Expression' section in the 'Leading a Set' teaching.
- ◇ Always submit to the leadership and authority of whoever is over you.
- ◇ If you are speaking from God to the people, be sure to stay within the bounds of 'building up the body' (Eph 4:29, I Cor 14:12)
- ◇ Possible ways to prophecy:
 - ◇ With your instrument
 - ◇ With spoken words
 - ◇ Other means (dance, actions, etc).
 - ◇ With sung words
 - ◇ With sung melody (no words)

Why do it?

- ◇ It's scriptural
 - ◇ Col. 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. (NIV)
 - ◇ The Psalms largely came from David making up songs in the fields.
 - ◇ Songs were written for an occasion, on the spot
 - ◇ These songs praise God and often testify to others of what He has done.
 - ◇ Being delivered from Egypt

Exodus 15:1-8 - Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD: "I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea. ... 4 Pharaoh's chariots and his army he has hurled into the sea. The best of Pharaoh's officers are drowned in the Red Sea. 5 The deep waters have covered them; they sank to the depths like a stone. ... 8 By the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up. The surging waters stood firm like a wall; the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea.

◇ 'Mary's Song'

Luke 1:46-48 - Mary responded, "Oh, how I praise the Lord. 47 How I rejoice in God my Savior! 48 For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and now generation after generation will call me blessed. (NLT)

- ◇ You can't plan everything ahead of time that will need to happen in a worship time.
- ◇ Song writing often flows out of a 'spontaneous song'.
 - ◇ It may just be intended for that moment, but if the idea stays in your mind throughout the week, you should ask God if He wants you to develop it more fully.
- ◇ Launching the general congregation into personal expressions of worship.
 - ◇ As a leader begins to worship spontaneously, it can inspire individuals to also express their worship spontaneously.
 - ◇ It can be a good idea to say something like, "Sing your own song to the Lord".
- ◇ It allows you to be able to express an idea without having to know a pre-written song to match it.
- ◇ Facilitating prayer – It is a powerful tool for spiritual warfare and intercession.
 - ◇ You may play and sing music that weaves into the theme that others are praying.
 - ◇ While people are praying you would likely just play instrumentally, but in a way that supports what is being prayed.
 - ◇ Ex: Intense, rhythmic music for a loud warfare prayer or gentle soft music for a similar prayer.
- ◇ Facilitating prophecy:
 - ◇ Scriptural examples:
 - ◇ The song of Deborah (Judges 5),
 - ◇ The sign of Saul's anointing (1 Sam. 10:1-12),
 - ◇ The Levites set apart by David to lead Temple worship (1 Chron. 25:1-7),
 - ◇ Elisha (2 Kings 3:9-20).

How to get started

- ◇ Take time in songs just to let God speak to you and the people. Just play over the 'vamp' chords for a while.
- ◇ It may come out of the song you are already singing.
 - ◇ If a particular phrase of that song stands out to you, ask the Lord if He wants to dwell on it for a while.
 - ◇ You might just repeat that phrase of the song.
 - ◇ You might use those words to sing a new melody over the same chords/music.
 - ◇ Repeat a section of chords from that song as your canvas and sing something new over it..
 - ◇ The chord progression can be adapted as the song develops.
- ◇ Start simple.
 - ◇ Use just one phrase or even one word.
 - ◇ What is the main point of what you are feeling or 'hearing'?
 - ◇ What would you pray right at that moment? Sing it instead.
 - ◇ Find the essence of the prayer and sing that.