

Where do we start?

Beginning more modern forms of worship music in your congregation.

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Mark Your Course - Ask God's direction and guidance on the purpose of your worship ministry. Decide and make known the priorities for your endeavor. Ask yourself: "How will I / we accomplish this? What is the reason why we want to engage in different forms of worship? Who do I personally know that I could call and ask three questions to? What steps will I need to take?" Take some time away from work and think about what you want to achieve. What is the best way to reach the people in your community? What gifts have you seen displayed in your congregation that would be utilized? Is there a need for this initiative in your congregation right now? Worship for sure is bedrock for the local church, but is this the answer toward helping people grow and offer themselves in thanksgiving to God? Is heading up this ministry in your giftedness? Who else could you visit with? Are you willing to go slow? Set the direction of your worship ministry and ministry in general. Get a plan together, spend time in prayer and chart the possible direction – you might take a different route, but start with an end in mind.

Understand the Climate and Culture of your church and worshipping congregation. Pull some leadership folks together to pray and discuss the possibilities of transitioning to something new. Is this something that the congregation would embrace and support? What about the climate of the current worship services? Are the people currently God focused? If not, how will you make the change? Is there a desire for depth in your group? Is your congregation a "singing group?" Even more, what type of people are in your community and region? What are they looking for? Are there praise and worship bands that your people resonate to and would love to have come be apart of a special service or event at your church? Are there people in your church who would be willing to help get a new form of worship started? What about college students or the younger students?

Strategize for Ministry - Begin to put legs and feet on your plans and dreams. Even small steps can get momentum going. Don't lock yourself into thinking that a band knows 50 songs and plays the next 52 Sundays. If you are musical, help anchor the group, if you are not musical, try and find another person who will be able to set up the rehearsal, get the music, etc. Excellence will breed excellence. You will be able to find some others from your church who are willing as time goes on. Plan on having a person from your church who plays guitar accompany a couple songs for a special commitment time you are planning for Sunday night. Start somewhere –with a video, a new look to the altar area, a fresh change in the bulletin. Look for events / worship services that you can take some of your interested, musically gifted, potential leaders to. Pray and ask for people to be a part of the ministry with you. Asking is huge.

Insist On Commitment – Set out a plan for making sure that people take the role seriously. A person who wants to lead God's people has to be seeking to follow him. More is expected of the person in front. Just as a great witness from the leaders will be energizing, a leader who blows their witness – on or off stage will be detrimental. The best and easiest time to set the bar high is before you start!

Commission To Lead Worship - Find a particular time to formally pray over your team. Give them authority to do what needs to be done and then work with them to accomplish it. Then turn them loose to serve and lead worship. Teaching, leading and encouraging is ongoing.