



Worship Team Manual

June 2010

Introduction

This manual will give you a better idea of the intent and the requirements of the worship team here at Faith Fellowship. Please take time to read this carefully and prayerfully consider its contents.

We are on the front line of worship. We can either facilitate worship or distract from worship depending on how we perform our jobs.

Our Vision

To be a worship team (cohesive in focus, talent, style, and purpose) providing the best aural and visual environment (stimulus) to facilitate worship.

Our Purpose

Our purpose is to provide a vehicle for worshippers to connect with each other in the corporate praise and worship of God. We believe that worship is a primary means for us to participate in unbroken communion with God.

Our Priorities

We invest time, energy and money in worship. We provide for training and equipment, continually striving to grow and improve in all aspects in order to bring quality and authenticity to our worship.

Ordered priorities of this worship team:

1. We are about worshipping God, **all else is secondary.**
2. We are about modeling, and leading the rest of the congregation in, worship. Our purpose is to worship God, but our job is to model and lead others in worship.
3. We are about supporting, encouraging, and building up all members of the worship team. Being on a worship team is a hard and sometimes stressful job, but it must always be a safe place. We will be there for each other and we will hold each other accountable.
4. We will strive to attain the highest degree of musical skill we can achieve without compromising the superseding priorities.

Musician Development

We will, where possible, develop musicians for service in our worship ministry from within our local church body. Those interested in serving on the worship team should first show dedication to individual and corporate growth through:

- Regular attendance in Worship
- Musical Training
 - Basic Music Theory
 - Rhythmic Skills
 - Playing with other Musicians
 - Memorization of Worship Songs
- Service elsewhere in the church
- Faithful to Membership Covenant (if FF member)

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. These are not prerequisites to joining the worship team, but it is expected that team members will always be working to improve the skills appropriate to their position or area of service.

1. Spend time alone with God regularly.
2. Practice your musical and/or technical skills regularly at home.
3. Be willing to serve in any aspect of the ministry when called upon.

Attend worship team practice and worship services faithfully. The typical times and conditions are:

- Thursday night practice: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- Sunday morning warm-up and sound check: 8:30 am to 9:30 am
- Sunday morning service, 10:00 am to 11:30 am
- Special events as needed (workshops, special services, etc.)
- Extra practices for specialization or to learn new songs.

If for any reason, you are unable to fulfill your scheduled responsibilities, you are to contact the Music Team Leader immediately so accommodations can be made. Please keep Planning Center updated with times you are unavailable.

Musicianship Requirements:

Keyboard and Stringed Instruments:

- able to read sheet music/lead sheet/chord sheet
- understand chord sheet conventions (e.g. G/B is G chord with a B note in the bass)
- able to listen to a song and determine key and chord structure by ear

percussionist:

- able to “count off” as song at the appropriate tempo
- hold the tempo of a song constant

vocalists:

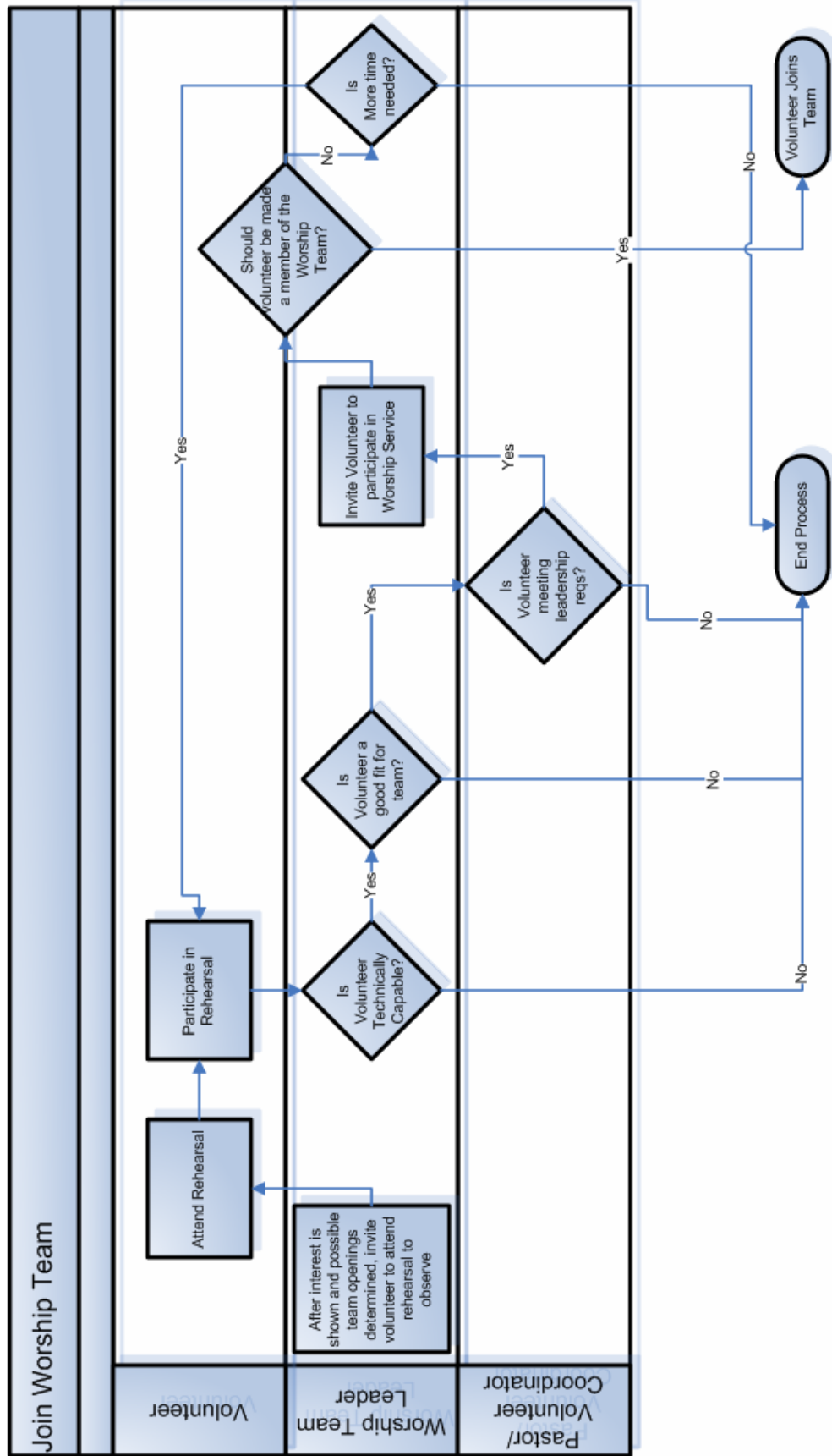
- memorize lyrics to recurring songs (all songs if possible)
- find pitch from any instrument that starts song
- stay in tune
- find appropriate harmony line when none is provided
- learn song from recording or lead sheet
- presentation
- diction
- blend with other vocalists

all:

- demonstrate proficiency on chosen instrument
- able to listen to a piece of music and “replicate the feel”
- able to take a song and “re-interpret” it with a different feel
- able to vary dynamics
- work within several different musical styles
- copy rhythms that are played for you
- self-correct when mistakes arise
- willing to take correction or constructive critique

work ethic:

- display desire to improve self and as a band
- practice at home BEFORE rehearsal (rehearsal is a time to polish a song , not learn it)
- share in setup/tear down and other work as required



Prospective Worship Team Member's Questionnaire

If you have a desire to participate in the worship ministry at Faith Fellowship, please answer the following questions and return the answers to the music team leader. If you would like to meet with the music team leader to discuss this handbook or these questions, please do not hesitate to make an appointment.

1. How long have you been a Christian? How were you saved (testimony)?
2. How would you define worship? Why is worship important to you?
3. What is your vision for worship at this church?
4. What is your educational background or experience level relative to music?
5. What kind of music do you listen to?
6. What is the most important quality a worship team member should have?
7. After reading the Worship Ministry Handbook, do you have any questions, concerns or comments? Will you agree to the Worship Ministry Job Requirements section of this handbook?
8. If you were a worship team leader, what would you require of prospective new members for team involvement?