



ERIC L. MATHIS, PHD

CONTAGIOUS LEADERSHIP //

TRAINING TEENAGERS FOR WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

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ACCIDENTAL INTENTIONALITY

STARTING WITH “WHY”



THROUGH WORSHIP, TEENAGERS MIGHT HAVE AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE LIVING GOD, CONNECT THEIR OWN PASSION TO THE PASSION OF CHRIST, AND USE THAT PASSION TO MAKE WORSHIP CONTAGIOUS FOR ALL AGES IN THE BODY OF CHRIST.



THOUGHTFUL STRATEGIES

**MAKING THE ACCIDENTAL
INTENTIONAL**

“TRADITIONALLY, YOUTH MINISTRY HAS ... FAILED TO HOLD TO THIS THREE-STEP PROCESS, BUT IN THE EXACT OPPOSITE WAY AS THE ACADEMY. OUR MISTAKE IN YOUTH MINISTRY IS NOT THAT WE HAVE BEEN CLOSED TO EXPERIENCE; YOUTH WORKERS ARE GREAT AT HAVING EXPERIENCES. AND IT IS NOT THAT WE HAVE FAILED TO MOVE INTO ACTION: OUR CALENDARS ARE GENERALLY FILLED WITH PLANNED ACTIONS, AND WE’RE OFTEN WILLING TO DO NEW AND DIFFERENT THINGS. THE PROBLEM IS THAT WE HAVE OFTEN FAILED TO ATTEND TO DEEP, RIGOROUS, REASONED REFLECTION; WE’VE BEEN TOO ANXIOUS (REBELLIOUS) TO SLOW DOWN AND THINK BEFORE DOING.”

ANDREW ROOT

EXPERIENCE

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

REFLECTION

WHAT HAPPENED?

ACTION

WHAT DO I DO?

EXPERIENCE WORSHIP

- ▶ Create meaningful experiences of worship for teenagers.
- ▶ Frame the worship experience for teenagers before it happens.
- ▶ Help teenagers anticipate worship gatherings they will participate in.
- ▶ Talk with teenagers about what to expect from worship leadership.
- ▶ Be clear about your expectations for teenagers during worship.

REFLECT ON WORSHIP

- ▶ Provide teenagers with times and opportunities to reflect on worship.
- ▶ Place teenagers into small groups after a sermon and provide questions as a prompt to help them reflect with their peers.
- ▶ Ask teenagers questions about the worshiping community.
- ▶ Invite teenagers to complete a questionnaire about worship.
- ▶ Actively plan a time for worship leaders to debrief a service they led.

ACT AFTER WORSHIP

- ▶ End worship by asking students to name a thought, attitude, action, or behavior they might change as a result of God speaking to them.
- ▶ Begin worship by asking students to recall the commitment they made, celebrate it when accomplished, and offer grace when it's needed.
- ▶ Choose a worship habit each week and teach about it briefly.
- ▶ Let worship speak boldly and prophetically to world events.
- ▶ Talk about worship gatherings during youth activities that are not worship.
- ▶ Connect teenagers' work and play and service to worship in all of life.



TRADITIONED - INNOVATION

PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE



**“CONVERGENCE WORSHIP IS
THE COMBINING OF THE
HISTORICAL AND THE
CONTEMPORARY AT EVERY
LEVEL OF WORSHIP TO
CREATE MAXIMUM
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
ENGAGING WORSHIPERS WITH
THE PRESENCE OF GOD.”**

Constance Cherry



**“SO, IF YOU WANT A
DEFINITION OF ANCIENT-
FUTURE WORSHIP, IT IS THIS:
THE COMMON TRADITION OF
THE CHURCH’S WORSHIP IN
WORD, TABLE, AND SONG,
PRACTICED FAITHFULLY AND
COMMUNICATED CLEARLY IN
EVERY CONTEXT OF THE
WORLD.”**

Robert Webber



ENLIST A TEAM TO HELP



EAT MEALS

BUILD CULTURE

CREATE VISION

ADOPT PURPOSE

SET TRAJECTORY

DEVELOP WORSHIP REPERTOIRE

ESTABLISH COMMON STRUCTURE

PLAN TWO WEEKS

SET REGULAR MEETING TIMES

**BUILD
RELATIONSHIPS**

Minute	Action	Description
10	Gather	Small talk and prayer.
5	Reflect	Reflect on the most recent worship gathering.
10	Revise	Improve the plan for upcoming worship gathering.
5	Realize	Communicate a vision for the service to be planned.
20	Devise	Plan the first draft, filtering for best ideas.
5	Assign	Delegate work that needs to be completed.
5	Close	Small talk and prayer.



ISAIAH 6:1–9

NEHEMIAH 8:1–12

LUKE 24:13–35

ACTS 2:42–47

JOSHUA 24:1–28

1 CORINTHIANS 26:33

PSALM 95:1–7

PSALM 100

REVELATION 3:20

Teach Worship Using Scripture

Classic Worship Forms

Dialogue: Revelation & Response

Revelation: "I saw the Lord" (v1)

God speaks (v1-2)

Praise and Adoration: "Holy, Holy, Holy" (v3)

We speak (v2-3)

Confession: "Woe is Me. I am lost!" (v5)

God speaks (v4)

Forgiveness and Atonement: "Your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out" (v7)

We speak (v5)

Proclamation:
"I heard the voice of the Lord" (v8)

God speaks (v6-8)

Dedication and Commitment:
"Here I am; send me" (v8)

We speak (v8)

Commission:
"Go and say to this people" (v9)

God speaks (v9)

ISAIAH 6:1-9 | CLASSIC DIALOGICAL MODEL



SCRIPTURE
REST
MINDFULNESS
ART
PLAY
PRAYER
TESTIMONY
OTHER ORDINARIES

Adopt Key Practices

CREEDS
REGULARLY CONFESS THEIR
TRADITION'S GOD-STORY

COMMUNITY
BELONG TO A COMMUNITY
THAT REGULARLY ENACTS
THE GOD-STORY

PURPOSE
FEEL CALLED BY THE
GOD-STORY TO PURSUE A
LARGER PURPOSE

HOPE
FIND HOPE FOR THE
FUTURE PROMISED BY THE
GOD-STORY TOLD TO THEM

**IN WHAT WAYS ARE OUR WORSHIP PRACTICES
PROMOTING CREEDS, COMMUNITY, PURPOSE, AND
HOPE FOR TEENAGERS?**



planning center



Google docs



remind



A simple new way to design

ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES

Psalms for All Seasons

A COMPLETE PSALTER FOR WORSHIP

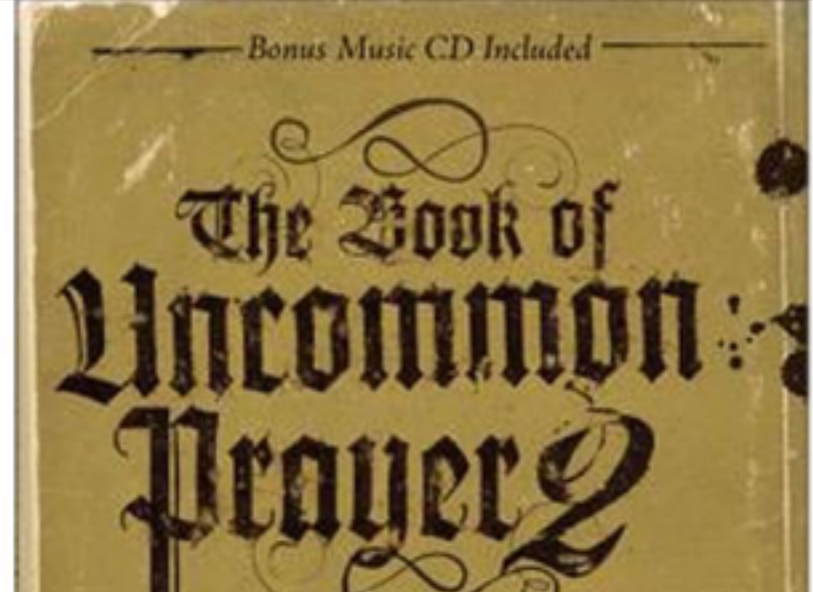
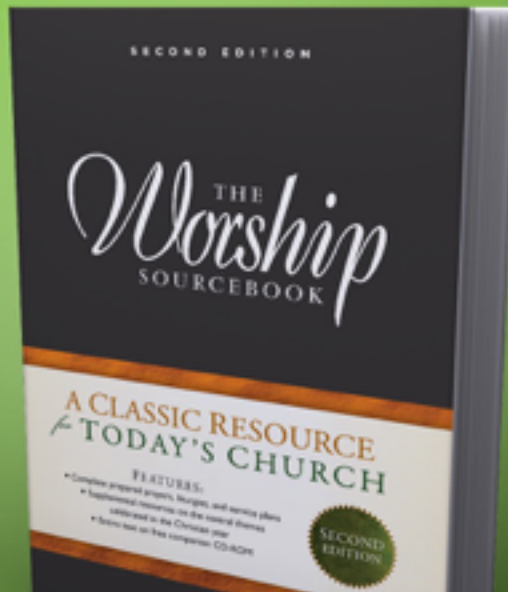
DIGITAL

☑ Music and Words
for Print



Lift Up Your Hearts

PSALMS, HYMNS, AND SPIRITUAL SONGS



LITURGICAL RESOURCES

d365



PRAY
AS YOU
GO



A NEW
LITURGY

NO. 4 CREATION

subway



DIGITAL RESOURCES

the WORSHIP architect

A Blueprint for Designing
Culturally Relevant and
Biblically Faithful Services

Constance M. Cherry



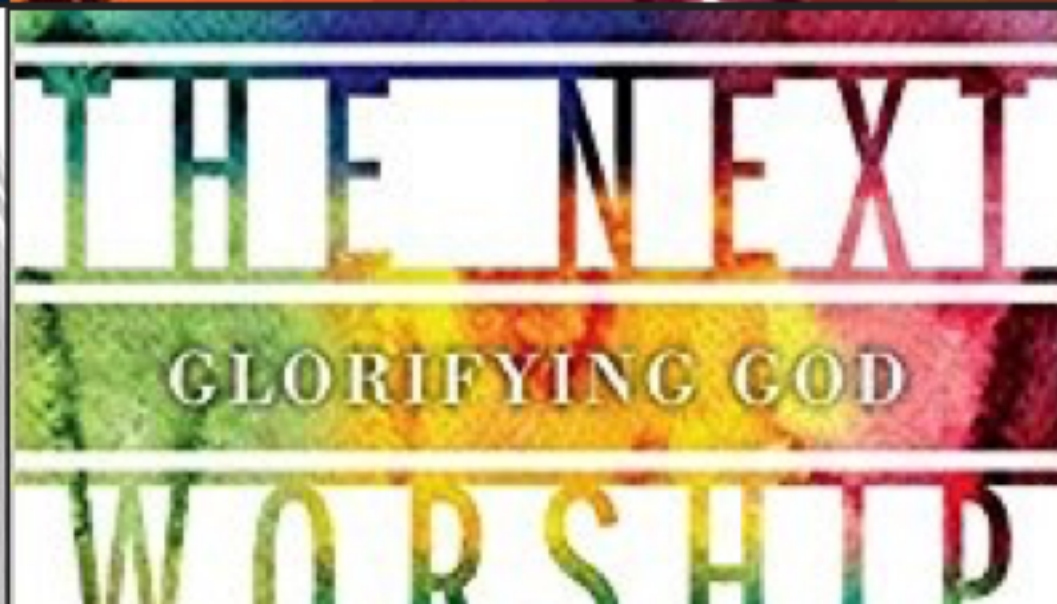
ESSENTIAL WORSHIP

A HANDBOOK
FOR LEADERS



THE WORSHIP PASTOR

A CALL TO MINISTRY FOR WORSHIP LEADERS AND TEAMS



TEXT RESOURCES




What is anima?

anima exists to help teenagers connect their imagination, creativity, and enthusiasm to all the possibilities inherent in worship and the arts. [Learn More](#)

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DIGITAL RESOURCES



"WE PLEDGE OURSELVES TO BE THE FAMILY OF GOD
FOR YOU IN THIS PLACE. WE OFFER YOU OUR HOPES,
OUR CARES, OUR DREAMS, OUR KINSHIP, AND OUR
LOVE. WE HOPE TO LEARN FROM YOU, GIVE TO YOU,
AND WALK WITH YOU UNTIL THAT DAY WHEN JESUS
CHRIST CALLS US ALL HOME."



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