

Band Leader Training 2008

Semester 1

Discussion Leader: Pastor Tim Smith

Meeting times: The in person meetings will happen on Wednesdays, at 7pm in the Green Room on the West side of the Leary building production area. The weeks in between those dates, you will be responsible to stay in contact with your band mentor to discuss book chapters and to turn in written assignments etc. This course will start on March 5th and end August 20th 2008.

Materials needed: Books and printed handouts as provided. Please bring a note-pad each time we meet in person so you can take notes. You'll also need a computer and an email address so that you can keep in contact with your mentor. If you do not have a computer and or working email address, please discuss this with your mentor and figure out a practical solution.

Purpose, Goals, and Objectives

- “*Band Leader Training*” is intended to prepare future worship leaders for ministry as a corporate worship leader at a Mars Hill service.
- We are concerned about fine tuning our theology to think “Christian-ly” about issues pertaining to corporate worship and how to “reject, redeem and embrace” our surrounding culture’s objects of worship.

The basic rationale of this course is to communicate the following:

- 1.) All of us (Christians or not) are worshippers by nature,
- 2.) All of life is worship and
- 3.) Its vitally important for Christians to think through the implications of these issues because ideas inevitably have practical, everyday consequences. We want to love and serve Jesus in spirit and truth in our own context and time and to lead others well.

Class Dynamics

This course is intended mostly to be a time of informal discussion, so please come prepared to ask questions, discuss and debate. For the 8 “in person” group meetings your leader will take roughly thirty minutes or so to deal with general housekeeping issues and outline the discussion time and in some cases give a very brief talk about the material. After that we will open up the time for general discussion and Q&A. The in-person lessons will run roughly 2-3 hours. The other assignment discussion-time is to be determined by you and your Mentor.

General Requirements

- Obviously this is not a graded “course” but it should be treated as if it *were* being graded.
- These assignments are required and must be completed before going on to lead your own worship band.
- Provide enough time in your schedule to complete the reading, listening, field-trip and writing assignments as well as the weekly discussion time with your Mentor.
- Complete assignments on time so that your leader doesn’t have to track you down.

We want to give our very best to the Lord in all that we do and it’s crucially important that we are all on the same page in terms of ministry philosophy.

Content Outline / Assignment Info

Each assignment is expected to be finished on the dates listed below. Please turn your essay assignments in to your mentor for review and bring a printed copy the weeks we meet in person. Refer to the questions for each assignment and write a short 200—or more—mini-essay for each set of questions. More details will be given as the curriculum develops. Also, your respective Mentor will make arrangements for them and their BLiTs to attend a concert together. The time of this outing is to be determined by that particular group.

Assignments

Due Date	Assignment Name	Summary
March 26th	Personal Worship Part 1	Read through chapter three in <i>Desiring God</i> by John Piper. According to Piper, what is God's chief purpose throughout history? How does this sit with you? Do you agree or disagree? Why? Should a conflict between performance and praise exist? Why or why not?
March 31st	Mentor Rehearsal #1	Attend your mentor's off-week rehearsal in an off-stage setting
April 9th	Personal Worship Part 2	First Fruits - Readings through Deuteronomy and Exodus (Ex 25-30, 31:1-11, 35:30-36:1, 35:4-10, 25:1-7, Duet 12:1-14). God wants to be worshiped in a specific way and we owe him the very best we have. What is your specific gifting? How are you called to serve specifically at Mars Hill Church? How will you be empowered to serve? What does worship "their way" mean in Deuteronomy 12 in our own time and place?
April 16th	Universal Worship Part 1	Read Chapter 1-5 in <i>Unceasing Worship</i> by Harold Best (provided). How does Best define Worship? Discuss the difference between "Policy" and "Operations" theology.
May 14th	Universal Worship Part 2	Read chapter eleven of <i>Unceasing Worship</i> . How does Best define idolatry? How can art/creativity become idolatry? Discussion re: the relationship of idolatry and Jesus as the only mediator.
May 28th	Write a song	According to Bob Kauflin, one of our primary goals as worship leaders is to combine God's Word with Music in order to help us remember His word and respond to it emotionally. What makes a good corporate worship song? Are there things that Mars Hill adds to that definition to describe a good <i>Mars Hill worship song</i> ? If so, what? Write a song with your own melody, words, chords, and arrangement and fulfill these definitions to the best of your ability.
June 4th	Missiology Part 1 - Missional Worship	Read chapter twelve of <i>Unceasing Worship</i> . How does Best define culture? What is the link between culture and worship? What are the differences between "truth" and "artifact"?
June 11th	Missiology Part 2 - Receive, Reject, Redeem	Read through Acts 17. Listen to Tim Smith's Receive, Reject, Redeem talk from the Continuous Worship Conference . How did Paul "contextualize" for the gospel? What specific things in Athens did Paul receive, reject, and redeem?
June 18th	Missiology Part 3 - Receive, Reject, Redeem	Attend a concert with your Mentor. Pick a CD in your collection which has been the MOST influential to you spiritually and musically (Christian or not). In light of Acts 17, 1 Corinthians 9:19-23, and Pastor Tim's talk, write separate reviews of both the concert and the CD highlighting things which can be received, and redeemed, and things which need to be rejected.
July 16th	Submit First 6 Song Set	Submit your 6 song set to Joel Brown via demo or to your Mentor and Joel Brown via in-person performance at your rehearsal
July 31st	Mentor Rehearsal #2	Attend your mentor's on-week rehearsal in an on-stage setting - This will include the BLiT shadowing their mentor to learn greater detail of Production Processes and Sunday routines.

Meetings

Event Date	Meeting Topic	Summary	Teacher
March 5th	Course introduction	Worship department mission, Worship Leader Job Description, Mentors/ BLiTs Fellowship and Meet One another.	Joel Brown
April 9th	Personal Worship Discussion	Discuss Doxology and First Fruits Assignments.	Pastor Tim Smith
April 23rd	Spiritual Leadership	Discuss your degree responsibility of the spiritual health of your band and what you can do to best stay on top of what's going on in their lives.	Pastor Joe Day
May 7th	How to lead the Congregation in Worship	How <i>do</i> you do this??? We plan on addressing the practical things that contribute to someone coming to a greater love and understanding of Jesus through singing songs corporately.	Joel Brown
May 14th	Universal Worship	Discuss Theology of Worship Assignment (Parts 1&2).	Pastor Tim Smith
May 28th	Songwriting	Discuss Songwriting Assignment.	Joel Brown
June 18th	Missiology	Discuss Missional Worship and Receive, Reject, Redeem Assignments.	Pastor Tim Smith
June 25th	Demoing	How to use demoing to maximize your growth and advantage, to the Glory of God.	Brian Eichelberger