

# Compass Church Worship Team

## Qualifications and Guidelines

**Statement of Purpose:** The worship team exists to edify and encourage the body of Christ within this church as part of the helps ministry (1Cor 12:28). Our goal is to praise and worship God, not just in meetings, but also with our lives so that 'the words of our mouth and the meditations of our heart' are acceptable to the Lord (Ps 19:14). Within a meeting, the goal is to bring the congregation into the presence of God (2Ch 7:1,2; 1Pet 2:5) and set the stage for the preaching of the Word of God with the ultimate goal of changing lives into the image of God (Rom 12:1,2; 2Cor 3:18). Music is a tool for achieving this purpose.

### Qualifications

1. Committed member of this church - Music ministry is not the right of the talented but the privilege extended to the committed and faithful. - We are open to receiving special music from those who are not committed to this body of believers but the regular, ongoing and leadership nature of this ministry requires a strong commitment to the people and leadership of this church.
2. Spiritual maturity - As stated, this is a leadership-type ministry and, hence, is ordinarily not a place for new or immature Christians.
3. Musical expertise - The musicians and vocalists need to be skilled enough to follow a service which is "led by the Spirit of God." We don't want to limit what God will do simply because we can't handle it musically.
4. Time commitment - Practice sessions, Sunday and Thursday preparation and ministry are mandatory. In addition, there are seminars, special retreats and events, and more. Involvement in this ministry needs to take high priority in your life next to family and work.
5. Support of family - It is important that the individual's immediate family members are willing to accept the necessary time commitment and be a support to the individual.
6. Ability to flow with the team - Some people are very gifted musicians and /or vocalists, but for one reason or another (vocal range, musical style, etc.) they have trouble flowing with the team. These individuals are highly encouraged to share their musical gifts in other ways (special music, choir, small groups of similar interest, etc.) with the body.

### Guidelines

1. Probationary period - There will ordinarily be a **minimum** of a six week probationary period during which the individual will attend practice sessions but will not play or sing with the team on Sundays. The purpose of this directive is to ascertain who is genuinely interested in helping lead worship for the glory of God, and who wishes to be in the team for other reasons. In addition, this period allows time for the individual and the rest of the team to gel musically. After such time it will be at the discretion of the Worship Leader, with the input of the team, as to when the individual will begin singing or playing in the services.

2. Weekly practice sessions - All team members are required to attend the weekly practice sessions. Musicians and singers are required to be at the church prior to the services for rehearsal and sound checks. If you are not able to make a rehearsal or be there for the worship service you need to contact the Worship leader and inform him/her. If you cannot make the mid-week rehearsal you will not be able to participate on the following Sunday with us. However, this rule can be modified at the discretion of the worship team. Because we are always introducing new music it is important that you are at the rehearsal prior to that weekend.
3. Other functions - The team will be expected to lead worship for seminars and other special retreats and meetings if needed.
4. Commitment to being spiritually prepared to minister - Our spiritual preparation has a direct effect on our effectiveness as a worship and music ministry team. We need to come ready not only to sing and play music, but to worship the King and minister to His people.
5. Commitment to musical expertise - We need to work at our instrumental and / or vocal ability to become the very best we can be. This means a great deal of individual practice (maybe even lessons) as well as playing with the team. Keep in mind that the team will only be as musically proficient as the individuals that make it up.
6. Punctuality - Accurate timekeeping will assist the goals of the worship team. Team members who continually disregard starting times for rehearsals and meetings will be put on probation. If it is not possible to make a rehearsal on time, it is considered polite to notify the worship leader in advance.
7. Commitment to growing spiritually - This too is as important on an individual basis as it is with the team. As a leadership ministry, we need to be committed to maturing in Christ.
8. Commitment to “flowing” with the team - More than individual expertise, our musical goal needs to be the ability to “flow” with the team. We need to look at our team as not just a collection of separate musicians but as a single unit with a single purpose. Our heart attitude should not be to shine forth our own technical skill but to use that skill to enhance the team as a whole.
9. Commitment to being a witness outside of church walls - Should at any time during your involvement in the music ministry and / or worship team you feel that your personal life is not reflecting what we are about or what Christ would have, we ask that you voluntarily step down so that His name and work would not be publicly mocked.

Adapted from Tom Kraeuter's "Developing an Effective Worship Ministry" and Nathan Howard (Music Director) Gerry Hudson (Senior Pastor) <http://www.experiencingworship.com/articles/general/2001-7-Worship-Team-Guidelines.html> and <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Delphi/9823/guide.html>