

HEART ATTITUDES FOR THE WORSHIP TEAM

- Bob Kauflin -

I. The Foundation - God's Grace, God's Call, God's Glory

A. God's **grace** is the foundation for our worship.

1 Cor 4:7 "For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?"

1. It is by grace we have been saved. (Eph. 2:8-10)
2. It is by grace we are gifted. (1 Pet. 4:10)
3. It is by grace we bear fruit. (2 Cor. 9:8)

B. God's **call** is the reason we are on the worship team.

1. Not first a matter of our desire, but of God's calling.
2. Members of the team may be called to serve on the team for a season, but then move on to something else.

C. God's **glory** is our primary goal in serving on the worship team.

1. We serve on the team to draw attention to God, not ourselves.
2. We are committed to confronting and overcoming the idol of man's approval.

II. Our Main Problem

A. Idolatry, exalting or seeking to be satisfied in objects other than God, is an ever present enemy of true worship.

Jer 2:11-13 "Has a nation ever changed its gods? (Yet they are not gods at all.) But my people have exchanged their Glory for worthless idols. 12 Be appalled at this, O heavens, and shudder with great horror," declares the LORD. 13 "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water."

"We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."
C.S. Lewis

B. We can assume that unless we're going through difficult times, worshipping God will be easy.

C. We can worship idols internally while worshipping God externally.

2 Ki 17:41 "Even while these people were worshipping the LORD, they were serving their idols.

D. Idolatry and worship of God are mutually exclusive.

Jonah 2:8 ""Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs."

E. Common idols include man's approval, pleasure, self-sufficiency.

F. God has promised to transform our hearts.

Deu 30:6 "The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.

III. Key Heart Attitudes to Develop

A. GOD-WORSHIPPER

(Psa 34:1 NIV) I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

1. My passion is to see God glorified in all areas of life, not simply in a meeting.
2. I worship as wholeheartedly in the midst of the congregation as I do when on stage.
3. I express praise to God freely and naturally, whether alone or with others

B. FEAR OF GOD

(Psa 86:11-12 NIV) Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever.

“The fear of God and the worship of Him feed each other. The more we fear God – bowing before Him in reverential awe – the more we’ll be compelled to worship Him. But it’s also true that spending time worshipping Him will stimulate and increase our fear of God. (Jerry Bridges, *The Joy of Fearing God*, pg. 239)

Evidences of fear of man include:

1. Insecurity about how others might perceive us, sometimes leading to fear of stepping out.
2. Being distracted by other’s gifts.
3. Comparing myself to others.
4. Frequently asking people “How did I do?”

C. HUMILITY

(Isa 66:1-2 NIV) This is what the LORD says: "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be? Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?" declares the LORD. "This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.

Evidences of pride include:

1. Heart preparation is minimized or ignored altogether. There is no sense of a need for God.
2. I am threatened by the ideas of others, rather than wanting them to succeed. I am not suspicious of my own motives in presenting ideas.
3. I am bitter or depressed about not being chosen or used more.
4. I constantly reflect on how God used me.
5. I receive critique or no feedback and I’m offended.

D. TEACHABLENESS

(Psa 32:8-9 NIV) I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

1. Recognizing my need for correction and appreciating it.
2. Asking for input
 - a. Don’t ask others for input hoping to hear good things.
 - b. Our motive for requesting input should be to serve others more effectively and bring God greater glory.

E. GRATEFULNESS

(Psa 50:23 NIV) He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God."

1. For the mercy of God revealed in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.
2. For our relationship with God and all that it entails.
3. For countless blessings God has bestowed.
4. For your church, your leaders, and those on your worship team.
5. For EVERYTHING. (1 Thess. 5:18)

Evidences of ungratefulness include:

1. Being more aware of changes that need to be made than evidences of God's grace on your worship team.
2. A critical, judgmental, or gossiping spirit.
3. An absence of encouragement.

F. FAITHFULNESS

(1 Cor 4:2 NIV) Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

1. Keeping commitments
2. Being punctual
3. Maintaining an organized notebook
4. Practicing my instrument
5. Caring for my instrument

G. ENCOURAGEMENT

(Heb 10:25 NIV) Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

1. Of the leader
2. Of those you serve with on the team
3. If there is an absence of encouragement in our lives, we should discover why.

H. CONTINUAL LEARNER

(Phil 3:10-12 NIV) I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

1. About God
2. About your instrument
3. About how you can best serve in the church for God's glory

(2 Chr 16:9 NIV) For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him."

Recommended Resources

When People are Big and God is Small by Ed Welch

Sin and Temptation by John Owen, abridged and edited by James Houston

Desiring God by John Piper