



Leading worship

Steps for improvement

For over sixteen years Nick Alexander has been immersed in the dynamics of charismatic prayer groups. He has seen all sorts of music-leading: good, bad, and ugly. Nick has seen it done with a full dynamic worship team and a cappella with a tape player. Regardless of where your group is at, Nick would like to share ten simple steps to assist worship leaders in improving their worship leading skills. Below are four steps from his article entitled “Ten Steps to Better Worship Leading.” The complete article can be downloaded from www.nsc-chariscenter.org or you may ask for a copy from Chariscenter USA.

Live a holy life

If you are leading worship, you are, whether you like it or not, on full display. You have become a model Christian. You have all the more incentive to run the race, so that you could not be stumbling block for others. Believe me, when you're on fire for God, it shows in your music. If you have studied the scriptures, tithed, prayed for anointing, loved others, and made sure that

your lifestyle changes are in accordance with Scripture-living, it will show. If you received Communion on the day of your performance it will show. If you are lacking in any area—and who isn't—then resolve to better yourself, go to confession, and take steps to remedy the situation.

Become open to the Holy Spirit

Far too often, I've noticed that many worship teams lead music like it's the radio show “America's Top 40.” They go into songs with no rhyme or reason, no understanding of flow. The purpose of the flow is to allow a person to shake off the dust of the concerns of the day. It allows someone to slow down and enter into the presence of God. A general approach for this to happen is to start off with fast and fun songs, and slow it down over the time allotted; allowing extended strumming times to occur between songs. When the song is slowed enough it allows an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to minister to people in the audience individually, whether through tongues, prophecies, laughter, or his quiet presence.

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**The
Holy Father's
2004
Eve of Pentecost
Message**



Spread the spirituality of Pentecost

by Bishop Sam Jacobs

Over the past thirty-seven years Pope Paul VI and John Paul II have on numerous occasions encouragingly addressed the members of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Movement. Addressing the church in one of his most recent statements the Holy Father had this to say:

“Thanks to the Charismatic Movement, many Christians, men and women, youths and adults, have re-discovered Pentecost as a living and present reality in their daily life. I desire that the spirituality of Pentecost be spread in the church, as a renewed thrust of prayer, holiness, communion and proclamation” (May 29, 2004).

Notice he did not say the “spirituality of the Charismatic Movement” but the **“spirituality of Pentecost,” which is the spirituality of the whole Church.** The Church is charismatic by its very nature, as well as hierarchical. The Pope sees that the Charismatic Movement has been raised up by the Lord to help bring into clarity of understanding and into lived experience full life in the Spirit. This full life in the Spirit is the reason why we

were baptized and confirmed. The revealed vision of God is that we, like so many in the scriptures, be filled with the Holy Spirit, so that led by the Spirit we may do the work of the kingdom of God.

The quoted words of our Holy Father continue to reiterate his prophetic message to the world “At the Beginning of the New Millennium.” In that exhortation John Paul II focused his and our attention on a number of areas: holi-