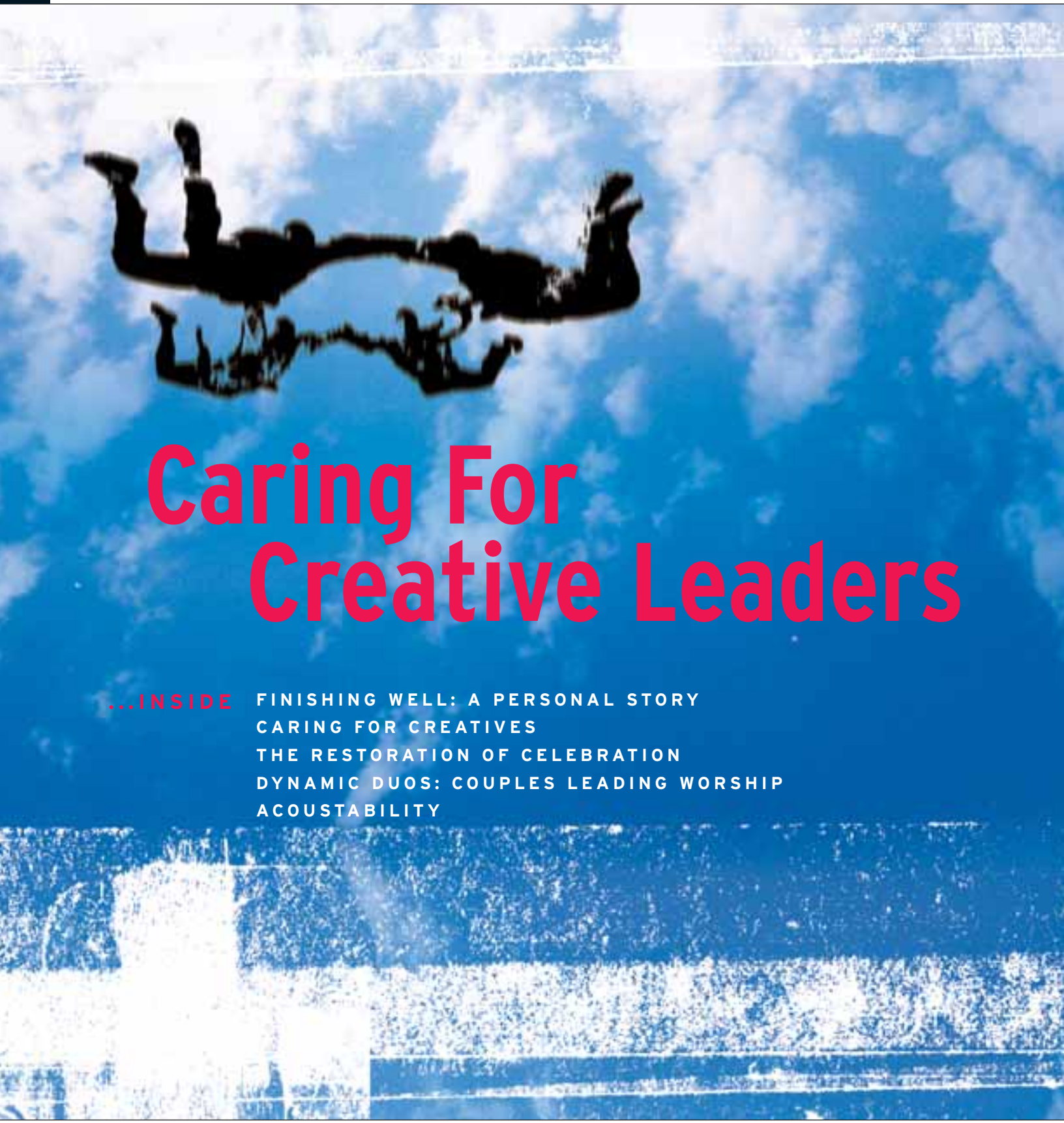
vineyard music™

VOLUME 51 | OCTOBER 2003

inside worship™

A DEEPER LOOK



Caring For Creative Leaders

...INSIDE

FINISHING WELL: A PERSONAL STORY
CARING FOR CREATIVES
THE RESTORATION OF CELEBRATION
DYNAMIC DUOS: COUPLES LEADING WORSHIP
ACOUSTABILITY

PLUS: INTERVIEW WITH TIM HUGHES

Creativity As Commodity

To an artist, one of the most offensive phrases that can be heard is "I don't get it!" We live in a world where creativity is "consumed" in many settings, including church and commercial settings, and creative people struggle to understand why more people do not appreciate their more innovative, artistically nuanced efforts.



Just Creativity and Useful Creativity

It is difficult for creative people to understand that not all of their creativity is directly "beneficial" to others. This perceived lack of receptivity does not make a particular creative expression "bad," but rather not applicable in a given context.

In other words, the biggest blind spot any creative person will have is in understanding the difference between what is *just creativity* and what is *useful creativity.*

In the commercial world, the creative process is divided into two parts: Creativity and Innovation. Only 10% of creativity is ever considered real innovation and integrated into useful commodities. While just creativity is important to the creative person, and maybe to a few others, creativity is valueless in the commercial world unless it can be widely consumed (useful creativity) in some way.

The truth is the average churchgoer/consumer has a simple palate. For example, classical music is some of the finest, most complex and creative musical work humans have ever made. Yet in the Western world, not more that 15% of the populace consumes it.

It is vital for creative people, struggling to offer their contributions to the local church, and longing to be affirmed in church settings and commercial settings, to perceive why certain aspects of what they create may reach a wider demographic, and other expressions may only reach a few people (yet often in a very deep way). A change of expectations is in order both for the artistic person and for the local church.

A Word to Creative People in the Church

To conclude, I would like to direct a word to the creative people within the family that is the Vineyard movement, and I welcome others to listen in.

Deep within you is a gift that is precious to you, and precious to God. God placed it there and He placed you in this movement to care for you. Not all you create is consumable, but ***it is all valuable.*** *What we have been given in the Vineyard is a spirit of worship, and just as God gave it to us, He can take it away. As with any gift, we must protect it, nurture it, love it, celebrate it together and give it back to Him at every opportunity. Neither you nor we can sell it for selling's sake, but we can distribute it for the Kingdom's sake. Be found faithful with what God has given to you, and to our community – if we do that, we will be found faithful together.*

Blessings,

JEREMY COOK
President

insideworship™

Volume 51 | October 2003

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Letter From The Editor

A few months ago I sat in a large room in Rome, Italy, with Vineyard leaders from around the globe. One of these very seasoned pastors of pastors asked a very simple, yet desperate question: "Are there any tools to help our pastors deal with creative people in our congregations?"

This issue of ***Inside Worship: Caring For Creative Leaders*** follows up on our previous issue, *The Creative Heart*, and is designed to provide you with helpful perspectives on what Kingdom discipleship means for those called into the arena of the arts.

Casey Corum discusses practical ways worship leaders can pastor the creative people God has given to them and their congregation, while Joy Best reminds us that "finishing well" is the mandate for every true disciple of Jesus Christ. South African theologian Derek Morphew brings helpful insights on the importance of creative, celebratory worship in part one of his article, "The Restoration Of Celebration." Tips for couples leading worship, acoustic guitar players and other useful tools fill this issue, while more laughs with "Bold's Fold" will help you keep church life in perspective.

As well, rejoice with us in the birth of the new Vineyard Worship Resources and our new training DVDs, *Leading Worship* and *Songwriting For Worship*, available now from your national Vineyard Music. We are committed to providing you resources from the Church, for the Church. Let us know if we are having an effect in your world.

DAN WILT
Editor, Inside Worship

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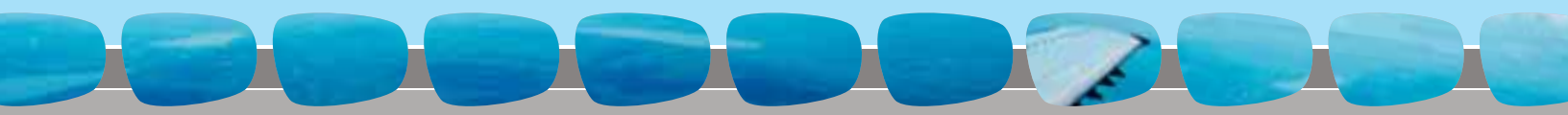
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Finishing Well: A Perso

JOY BEST

Beginning At The End Looking down at the ground, it all looked to be black and white. You couldn't see any color from that far up. The earth, the place where I had been so focused and involved pouring out my passion, just seemed to be...boring. My life seemed to be gray as I looked down at the world from that airplane window. God gave me just a small glimpse of my reality that afternoon on an airplane.



My life seemed to be gray

Then something incredible happened. I had an overwhelming sensation that I was somehow between earth and heaven, that my life was over, and that I was on my way to eternity. My hopes rose. For just a few seconds I wondered if I had done well enough; if I had finished well. Then I realized, "Oh well, it's over now," and I prepared myself to meet face to face with Jesus. Tears began to pour down my face, and I must have continued to cry for 20 minutes or so. I was so excited, so grateful, so full of inexpressible joy that I was finished, and now could go on to the best part! I was full of anticipation of the unimaginable things ahead. Face to face - just think of it - I'm coming home! Paul's words in 1 Timothy came to life in that moment:

"As for me, my life has already been poured out as on offering to God. The time of my death is near. I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. And now the prize awaits me— the crown of righteousness that the Lord, the righteous judge will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his glorious return" (1Tim.4:6-8).

Though I was sure I was going to join the heroes of my faith, God had other plans. As you may have guessed, I did not go home to be with Jesus. This revelatory experience occurred about five years ago – at the exact same time one of our most faithful intercessors was leaving this life and going to meet Jesus. I was left with a lingering question, "Would this be what it would be like when my life was over?"

Learning From Life

Let me take you back in the story even further. When I was 38, nine years before the above encounter, God mercifully showed me a picture of what state I could end my life in, should I choose to carry on in my present patterns. I felt He gave me the option of choosing the path I wanted to follow. My mother was in the last years of her life, and I had the opportunity to see the crop that had grown from the seeds that she had planted (Gal. 6:7). It was not an encouraging picture to me. I saw that I could be in exactly the same place she was in when I got to be her age, if I didn't allow God to change me.

What did her life look like? Outwardly, there was some excellent fruit. Three out of three children followed Jesus; two became pastors' wives and one became a missionary. All seven grandchildren were fully following Jesus. From the outside, everything looked good. On the inside, however, a wall of isolation, shame and marital dysfunction engulfed her. I needed to make some decisions. I realized that I could end up in exactly the same boat. Would I be any different when I reached her age?

At that time, God showed me some guiding principles that I needed to establish in my life:

- **Keep Only Good Secrets**
  I've made a choice to only have good secrets. For example, I might be secretly generous or kind to someone, or secretly pray for a person. As far as I know, there are no bad secrets that I haven't told someone in this world, where they have heard my confession of sin and prayed for both forgiveness and a changed heart within me. I've made some quick and unique new friends this way! Sometimes I've been in a place where I don't know a lot of people, but I've found that confession doesn't require a treasured, deep friendship - any Christian will do! I was even delivered from a spirit of rage through the prayers of my four-year-old. Keep no bad secrets.

- **Don't Isolate Yourself**
  When I'm in situations where I feel insecure, it is most natural for me to pull away and retreat from people. I would love to have the same best friend for a lifetime. God's word says something different. We're in a body where each part is different and necessary, and we're placed as He wants us to be (1 Cor.12:18). I've chosen to embrace being a friend to whomever I'm with. High or low position makes no difference. Because I need friendship, I need to give it away.

- **Be Flexible And Balanced**
  I've always reacted to change very slowly. When our children were growing up, I often felt that by the time I had figured out one stage of their development, they were on to the next! God has made sure that I can't cling to the security of thinking that I "know what I'm doing."

onal Story

When I'm off balance, the only option that I have is to run to Jesus. He holds perfect balance.

Flexibility and balance must also be exercised in the physical. I've worked hard at getting into better physical shape over this last year, and it has made a huge difference in my life. Just being stronger in body helps on all levels. The discipline that I developed physically has helped me stay on track with pressing through obstacles and persevering spiritually.

- **Forgive Everybody**
Because I'm what would be called a hyper-sensitive person, I could easily be hurt 500 times a day! I can't always have the relational "heaven on earth" that I long for, and I can't truly know anyone's heart but my own. Therefore, I must choose a path of constant forgiveness - forgiveness of everything and everybody. There is no one from whom I can afford to withhold forgiveness. For this reason, I've had to get better at worshiping with a bowing heart and a kneeling body. It helps me stay low to the ground, and humble.

Age With Grace

I do want to finish well. I want to encourage everyone who knows me by eventually becoming an old woman who still thinks it's a privilege to serve Jesus, and the ones He loves (including the least of these). So often as we age we become people that allow emotional sludge to build up and clog our arteries. Bitterness, anger and disappointments that make us sour, impatient and inflexible can all collect inside us - and weigh us down. I've seen people become older and not wiser. I don't want to choose that road.

We affect each other so profoundly. When one individual doesn't finish well, but instead gets old and cynical, so many people are influenced negatively. Whatever the cost is, I want to reach the finish line like Paul, having given away everything I have to give, and having taken off the baggage that weighs me down and keeps me back. This means changing sinful habits.

The Lord in his kindness showed me about one such habit through TMJ (Temporomandibular Joints) that were very painful, and only allowed me to open my mouth about one-inch wide. Surgery was recommended, but I had a couple of friends with horror stories who recommended I not take that route. Elders prayed. The Lord gave someone a word for me to be very careful with what came out of my mouth. I asked God to change my heart so that I would not speak with judgment and cynicism. I still don't know exactly when it happened, but one day I just noticed the pain was gone, and I've been able to open my mouth as wide as anyone else ever since!

I want to reach the finish line at the end of my life bringing as many people with me as I can. Whenever I have a chance to give to someone, or tell them about Jesus, I try to stretch myself to take the opportunity. Even if I'm tired, I know that when I meet Jesus I'll rejoice over every time I chose to obey him. I think about that often, as I make daily choices to age with grace.

Follow The Leaders

I've been personally blessed with some fine examples. I have my grandfather's story of finishing well. In spite of being orphaned at two-years old, because of his mother's death and his father's alcoholism, he chose Jesus and raised his family as Christians. My father is finishing well. He chose Jesus as a teenager and raised his family "in the Jesus way." At the age of 91, all of his children, grandchildren, and now great-grandchildren love his Lord Jesus. It cost my parents so very much not to get bitter when their house burned down, not to lose faith when three of their children died, nor to become bitter when a friend they tried to help swindled their homestead away from them.

I want to run as freely, and as faithfully. I want to be like them - one who finishes well.



Joy Best is a national leader in Vineyard Canada with her husband Gary, and an artist by nature. With a specific call to pray for leaders and the worship community across the Vineyard internationally, her insights in this personal story have powerful significance for creative people in the local church.

He gave me the option of choosing

CASEY CORUM

Caring For Creatives

Creativity, by nature, does not like to accept the status quo



I begin this article with a bit of inner conflict. As a creative person myself, I really do not like to be categorized and labeled one way or another. This tension of my own reflects some of the unique challenges involved as we approach effectively pastoring and discipling those who we'll call *creatives* in our midst.

Gathered here are some helpful hints I have come across as I've had both the privilege and the challenge of working with many creative people over the years. I encourage you to consider these if you are a leader of creatives and/or a creative leader of creatives.

Understand The Nature Of Creativity

Creativity, by nature, does not like to accept the status quo - it looks at things as they are, and then imagines/seeks for a new perspective or way of doing something. This can appear to some to be a form of rebellious attitude, and left unchecked, it can become exactly that. Our challenge is to understand the nature of creativity, and to give room for our creatives to explore their new ideas without the fear of stifling micromanagement and control. We must also stay connected relationally with them so that we maintain the right to speak into things when they wander too far off the map.

Encourage Them To Embrace Community

As a result of their pioneering spirit, creatives can find sometimes themselves on the fringes of our church communities. This can happen for a number of reasons. There is a tendency toward isolation in creative personalities because of a sense of being misunderstood by the rest of the church body – whether that misunderstanding is real or imagined.

There can also be a frustration in creatives with those in the body who, in their mind "just don't get it," or seem stuck in the traditions of the past. We, as leaders, should be bridge-builders back to community for our creatives. For me, this means making place for relationships to be built among the creative community in our local churches - for people of like mind and calling to encourage one another in Christ. This also means encouraging creatives to be plugged into relationships with people who are outside of their particular bent or gifting. The church is built with unity in diversity. We need each other in all our similari-

ties and differences to properly grow into the people that God desires us to be.

Help Them Foster A Pastor's Heart For The Church

Connected to the previous thought, we must take one step more beyond just encouraging our creatives to embrace community. We should help them move past this more self-sustaining need, to fostering a genuine love for the church of Jesus Christ. As Matt Redman said in an address to songwriters earlier this year, our call is to be poets, prophets and pastors. Our creatives should be able to operate in all of these roles. As leaders, we should help our creatives to see beyond their gifting and vision to where God could be leading us as His people – the church. We must lead them all the way to a pastoral love for the church; loving and serving people through their gifts. Understanding *creatives'* weaknesses, we must love them anyway, and model true pastoral care.

Help Them See Beyond Their Gifts

Help your creatives find their identity as a child of God, rather than viewing themselves exclusively in light of their gifts. Their life in God must be the focal point, and their creative gifting must be seen as secondary to this relationship. This is a particularly tough distinction for creatives, as part of the creative process can be so wrapped up in worship expression that it can be confusing from an identity standpoint. This is our challenge as leaders - to get them to see past their gifting.

Also, encourage them to broaden their view of the Kingdom of God, and to become involved in other expressions of God's heart, such as mercy ministry, working with children, etc. Besides deepening their understanding of the Kingdom of God, these means can serve to further develop their artistic vision/expression as a side benefit.

Help Them Find Like-Minded Mentors

It is important for all of us to have examples to follow; to have people like us who have gone before us to encourage our own journey in the Lord. Sometimes, this may involve helping our creatives seek and find these "mentors." It may involve handing them a book, sending them to an event or personally connecting them with someone who can help them develop more specifically than you can.

Don't Squeeze Them Into Your "Ministry Boxes"

As we've been saying, creatives don't always fit neatly into our church programs and definitions of ministry. In fact, many times they seem to be trying to find ways to intentionally not fit in. This can prove to be a significant problem as our churches grow, and we struggle to find more effective means for pastoring a growing number of people. It is imperative that our churches have room for those with gifting outside of what may be considered more "useful" in the administration of our churches (such as someone who is equipped to lead a small group or prayer ministry).

Can we broaden our definition of ministry to move beyond just our current list of church programs? Find ways for your creatives to serve with their gifts *where they fit.* This will cause us as leaders to be highly creative about finding new expressions for creatives to effectively serve through. Resist the urge to force them into our pre-established boxes. The church is in the disciple-making business, not just in the business of running efficient programs. Can we pioneer new ways of embracing, resourcing and supporting our people's true "vocations" (or callings) without the tendency of trying to fit everything into our "ministry boxes?"

Allow Them To Be Themselves And Not A Copy of Someone Else

This may involve some grace and patience on your part and on the part of others in your congregation - especially if you are involving someone in an upfront ministry such as worship. It is a human tendency to resist change. Learn to appreciate the unique things each person brings to the table, and avoid measuring them up against someone else's gift mix.

Believe In Them

For *creatives*, encouragement goes a *long way.* Vocalize your appreciation and encouragement – often.

Encourage Them Toward Excellence

God accepts our worst, but is worthy of our best. Don't let your creatives compromise and settle for second-rate work.

Give Them Your Time

Allow for time to really hear the heartbeat of our creatives in the church. Let them hear your heart as a leader and/or fellow creative - then collectively seek to hear God's heart. We will all benefit from the creative expansion of God's kingdom. It is an expansion that can come from the creative heart of God expressed through us, His people.

Creatives don't always fit neatly into our church program

Casey Corum is the director of production for Vineyard Music USA. He has been featured on numerous Vineyard Music recordings through the years and has written songs such as "Better Than," "Your Love Is Amazing," and "Dwell" - from the upcoming Vineyard Music USA release of the same name. Casey, his wife Angie and their four daughters recently relocated to Sugar Land, Texas from Boise, Idaho where he had served as worship pastor of the Vineyard of Boise for eight years.



The Restoration Of

DEREK MORPHEW



"Man's chief end is to enjoy God and serve him forever."—The Westminster Confession

Sweeping changes are occurring in the body of Christ around the world. Changes in forms of worship continue to occur, both in the older churches and in the new styles adopted by the new churches. During the renewal movement of 1994-96 there was much laughter manifest in the church. The word "celebration" has become a popular term. Some of the newer approaches to church structure make use of this term where a cluster of congregations works together on a fixed basis to form a larger celebrating community. The "church growth" departments in theological seminaries and universities have helped to explain how "celebration" assists the witness of the church. Much could be said along this line (see for instance Eddie Gibbs' *I Believe In Church Growth*).

One of the things that is particularly appropriate at such "celebration" level gatherings is the celebration of the dance. Dancing is similarly one of the phenomena one finds on the increase in the newer churches or in the older churches where renewal has been influential.

While those who enjoy new things tend to be delighted by all of this, others are appalled. Some conservative evangelical and classical Pentecostal believers sometimes wonder whether this is really biblically acceptable. Is this not another expression of the "world" appearing in the Church? Where will it all end?

A simple answer is that it will all end with the Second Coming. But such simple answers need a little more explanation and the remainder of this article is designed to answer the question a little more comprehensively. It is important to examine constantly what we do in the church in the light of biblical teaching and Church history. While the particular focus is the issue of dance, the actual subject will be the broader biblical concept of celebration. Celebration is a concept that embraces a whole attitude to life, to joy, to music, to fellowship; in fact, to God Himself. So we will begin just there, with God Himself.

God Is The Greatest Celebrant

The way people see God determines the way they see everything. A negative view of God produces a negative attitude to life. A positive view of God produces a positive attitude to life. Those who disparage "theology" or doctrine reveal their own impracticality. Good doctrine produces a healthy lifestyle. Bad doctrine produces the reverse. Fundamentally, those who lose their joy when they see dancing or hear laughter in the church have a faulty understanding of God. Subjectively, they cannot truly enjoy such things because they do not really believe that God would enjoy such things. A radical change in one's view of God should take place at the point of conversion, because celebration is part and parcel of salvation. Unfortunately many teachings and attitudes continue in the church that should have changed with the experience of salvation. Misled Christian leaders and teachers often spoil new believers. We must begin then by allowing the true God of Scripture, the living God, to be re-established in our hearts and minds.

We are going to find that:

1) God is the greatest celebrant. He alone knows how to celebrate.
2) Jesus is the center and focus of all celebration. Really to know Jesus is to know celebration.
3) The Holy Spirit is the one who releases that true inner joy which alone can lead to celebration.
4) The Christian life is a life of festivity



Part One

and celebration.

5) This truth is evident from the biblical doctrines of creation, redemption and eschatology (the last things).

God Celebrates His Creation

We know from Genesis that God not only rested after the creation, but also rested in total satisfaction (Gen.2:1-3; 1:31). Proverbs goes further and describes how God rejoiced in his creation. The wisdom of God, a prefigurement of Christ (Matt.11:19), was there beside God as His craftsman (8:22-30): *"I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in his presence, rejoicing in his whole world and delighting in mankind"* (8:30-31). It was only sin that removed this sense of satisfaction and joy. But redemption more than restores what was lost (Rom.5:15-21).

God Celebrates His Redemption

Zephaniah was certainly a prophet of judgment. God will *"sweep away everything from the face of the earth"* (1:2). The day of the Lord will be *"a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish"* (1:14-15). *"In the fire of his jealousy the whole world will be consumed"* (1:18). Not only will foreign nations such as Philistia (2:4-7), Moab and Ammon (2:8-11), Cush and Assyria (2:12-15) be judged, but also Jerusalem will be singled out first and foremost. She will be searched with lamps (1:12). *"I will stretch out my hand against Judah and against all who live in Jerusalem"* (1:4).

As deep as God's wrath against sin is, so deep is God's joy in His redemption. *"Sing, O Daughter of Zion, shout aloud, O Israel! ... The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you"* (or *'within you'* - 3:14-17).

Dance in a ring together with the angels

Many commentators believe that Luke 1:28 is an allusion to this passage and refers to Mary as the "Daughter of Zion." The Lord in the midst refers to the incarnation of Christ. Be that as it may, the most remarkable thing about this passage is the description of God and His behavior. As God beholds His redeeming work, He begins to rejoice. *"He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you in his love, he will rejoice over you with singing"* (3:17). The last phrase is rather weakly translated in the NIV. The RSV has: *"I will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival."*

The question is this: Can you see God behaving like the Israelites used to behave at festivals? Can you see God singing loudly over you and your redemption? God is perfect in all He does. When He has wrath, it is full, holy wrath. When He celebrates, it is full, perfect celebration. In fact, all true joy and celebration begins and comes from God. This is an aspect of the Hebrew view of God that has been largely lost in the Western church. Philo, an ancient Hellenistic Jewish writer, maintained that God alone could truly celebrate, but that He allows the righteous to be included in his celebration (*NIDNTT*, 1, p 627).

The Future Kingdom Is Inaugurated With Celebration

Bear in mind that the way the world to come is said to begin reveals how God's perfect world is set to continue. The final culmination of God's redemption is the marriage supper of the Lamb, a time of true celebration (Rev. 19:6-8). The gathering of all His people to this great moment is described in Revelation 7:9-12.

The future kingdom is already present to us through the Spirit. If there is to be celebration in the future, there should



be anticipated celebration now. Consequently, Hebrews tells us that we have already come to the heavenly Jerusalem and to *"thousands and thousands of angels in joyful assembly"* (Heb. 12:22-24). The actual term for "joyful assembly" refers to a festival occasion (panegyris – "a solemn gathering at a festival" - Samuel Bagster, *The Analytical Greek Lexicon*).

True joy and celebration begins and comes from God

The kingdom of God is that reality where God reigns supreme. If celebration is part of that kingdom, it must reflect something inherent in the character of God. This basic biblical understanding of God is one of the things Judaism has never really lost. One may have thought that all the legalism of the Pharisees would have wiped it out. Certainly the inner joy behind the theological truth is always destroyed by legalism (2 Cor. 3:6; Lk. 15:25-32). It is therefore remarkable that despite the inevitable tendencies of legalism, Rabbinical Judaism continued to bear testimony to God as the greatest Celebrator. Obviously the impression God made on Israel was quite explicit.

Rabbi Eleasar said, "Some day the Holy One, blessed be He, will give a dance to the righteous, and He will sit among them in the garden of Eden, and each one will point his finger at him saying, as it is written, 'Lo, this is our God, we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord, we have waited for him, let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation'" (*Jewish Encyclopedia*, Vol. 4, p. 426).

The Rabbi quotes from Isaiah 25:6-8. In his view, for God to make a feast is for God to make a dance, because the Hebrew word for feast, "machol," is to circle or dance.

The sub-apostolic period and subsequent church history also witnessed a blurring of the gospel of grace. Moralism tended to increase. Again, however, despite this, the Fathers did not lose the original New Testament sense of celebration as proper to God himself. Heaven was conceived of as a place where the angels danced around the throne of God and they believed the church should emulate their example.

Notice the words of Clement of Alexandria: "Then shalt thou dance in a ring together with the angels, around Him who is without beginning or end" (Arnold L. Haskell, *The Story of Dance*. 1960, p. 45).

Basil the Great (330-379), one of the most famous of the Cappodocian Fathers, wrote to Gregory: "What could be more blessed than to imitate on earth the rhythm of angels?" (Troy Kinney, *The Dance*. 1936, p. 31).

As an indication of how these Fathers thought about dancing, Gregory of Nazianzus (329-387) reproved the emperor Julian for allowing pagan festivals and said, "Rather perform the dances of King David before the ark. Dance to the honor of God. Such exercises of peace and piety are worthy of an emperor and a Christian" (Kinney, p. 31).

There is therefore such a thing as holy celebration. It befits the throne of God and is given by God as a gracious gift to the righteous. These general remarks have established at least that one's attitude to celebration derives ultimately from one's understanding of God. The subject now requires further grounding in Scripture and history. (Ed. Note: Watch for other parts of this article in ensuing issues of *Inside Worship* magazine and online at www.vineyardmusic.com)

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equip
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Vineyard Worship Resources (VWR) has just released its first two equip DVD training resources, ***Leading Worship*** and ***Songwriting For Worship.***

Featuring Brian Doerksen, Brenton Brown, Kathryn Scott, Matt Redman, Andy Park, Tim Hughes and host Dan Wilt, these DVDs are powerful, high-quality "how-to" training tools – resources tailor-made for today's worship leader and songwriter.

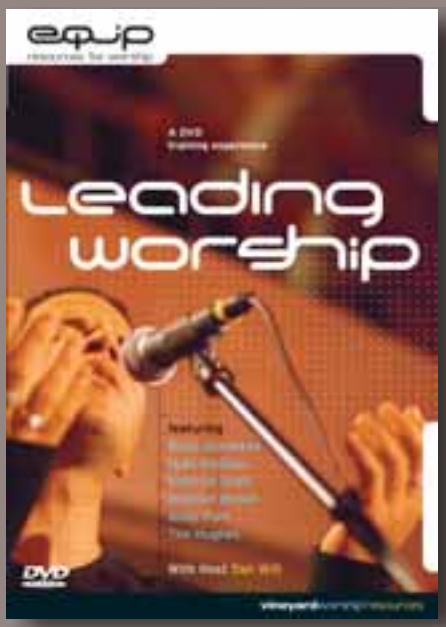
Vineyard Worship Resources is the newly-dubbed resource arm of Vineyard Music, and exists to bring you the best of the Vineyard's years of experience in worship. Drawing from decades of experience as an innovator and leader in contemporary worship expression, Vineyard Worship Resources are from the Church, for the Church.

Our mission:

"To equip the local church in providing meaningful worship opportunities for people to encounter God intimately."

Through *Equip* (multi-media resources), *Club Vineyard* (new songs), *Inside Worship Magazine* (print resources) and *vineyardmusic.com* (Web resources), we seek to be a full-service worship resource to local churches around the globe.

This issue we highlight some new **equip** worship resources. This line of resources includes training DVDs, videos, audio CDs and books, crafted to build the local church worship leader.





// LEADING WORSHIP

Imagine having the opportunity to sit at the feet at some of the most influential worship leaders of our day drawing from their experience and insight. *Leading Worship: A DVD Training Experience* allows you to do just that. Watch, listen and discover how, step by step, these worship leaders address such issues as planning a worship set, selecting songs, creating flow and rehearsing with their bands. Engaging interviews offer a useful blend of practical and theoretical content that is sure to equip, encourage and motivate the growing worship leader.

// SONGWRITING FOR WORSHIP

Learn the craft of worship songwriting from some of the most influential worship writers of our day. *Songwriting For Worship: A DVD Training Experience* invites you to explore how these songwriters address such issues as song inspiration, the writer's responsibility, song structure, lyric writing, melodic development, rewriting and much more. Insightful interviews offers more cutting edge training that is sure to motivate both the seasoned and emerging worship songwriter.

Raising the standard for effective worship resourcing, each VWR Equip resource is designed with your growth in mind. Resources from the Church, for the Church. That's our goal at Vineyard Worship Resources.



MICHAEL FRYE

Acoustability

Many worship leaders lead from that heavenly instrument, the acoustic guitar. Most worship teams welcome the sound of an acoustic guitar into their mix, as it brings a warm and rhythmic element to the musical worship experience. Here are some tips I've picked up over the 25 years I've been playing the acoustic guitar (I started young!):

Choose Your Pick Wisely

Find the right pick (plectrum) for your guitar. Ask others who play better than you. You will be surprised what a difference to volume and tone the right pick can make.

Cut Your Nails

Keep the fingernails on your left hand short (or right hand, if you play left-handed), and you will find it easier to play clear sounding chords.

Play Well Within Your Ability

When you are leading worship with your guitar, play well within your limits. Don't try that "new chord" until it feels natural, and you can do it without thinking about it. By playing at 75% of your ability instead of stretching yourself to 100%, the overall quality of your music will be higher, more consistent and you will feel much more confident.

Improve Your Timing Skills

To improve your timing and strumming technique, play along to a CD, drum machine and/or metronome. Playing with other people who are better than you is also a very helpful way to develop your skills.

Use A Capo

A capo is a great tool for:

• Avoiding tricky chords: a song with Eb, Ab, Bb and a Cm chords is a bit tricky to play on the guitar. Put a capo on the 1st fret and you can play D, G, A and Bm shapes, or put the capo on the 3rd fret and play with C, F, G and Am shapes.

• Changing the key of a song: don't panic if you need to change the key of a song. Just use a capo and you should be able play the same chord sequences (unless you need to lower the key, in which case you will have to play different chords).

• Changing the feel of a song: all chord shapes have a unique sound and a unique relationship to other chords. Try playing a song in E with a capo on the 2nd fret, and play it with D chords. Or play a song in G with a capo on the 3rd fret, and play E chords. If you have two guitars playing together, it sounds great if you each play different chord shapes by one of you using a capo.

The Picking/Strumming Switch Trick

If I want to finger pick and strum all in one song I have a little trick I use. Hold the pick in between your index and middle fingers about half way up (between the knuckles). You should then be able to finger pick and not drop the pick. When you want to switch to playing rhythm you put your thumb on the pick, lift up your index finger and use your index finger to slide the pick into a playing position. With some practice you can actually get quite slick at this. You can also switch back to finger picking mode by using a reverse action.

Choosing A Capo

The Kyser Quick-Change capo is a popular choice, as it can clip on to the end of your guitar when you are not using it. If you find your guitar sounds out of tune when you put a Kyser on, try a Shubb capo, as they are adjustable and more accurate. If it still sounds out of tune, you might need a guitar shop to check it for you - or get a better guitar!

Tuners

Invest in a stage tuner you can use while you are playing. Learn to tune by sight as well by ear. If the tuner has a "bypass" and/or "mute" function, that's even better. You can tune silently and plug/unplug your guitar (to save batteries) without upsetting the soundman (and wrecking everyone's ears).

Effects

I typically have a little reverb on my guitar, and use delay some of the time. I occasionally use chorus as well, but the key is to be subtle.

Playing With A band

Play less when playing with a band!

Improve The Sound Of Chords

Be aware of the bass note of the chord and start your strum from there (i.e., don't always use all 6 strings). If you are playing an A chord the bass note is the A string (2nd from bottom) – i.e., you might want to avoid playing the bottom E string.

Michael Frye, along with his wife Helen, leads worship at the Taunton Vineyard in the UK. He is the author of the song "Be The Centre," and has played acoustic guitar on various Vineyard Music UK recordings. Mike is presently developing a project to encourage people into musical creativity through learning an instrument, songwriting, recording and performing.



Dynamic Duos

Couples Leading Worship

HELEN FRYE

My husband Mike and I both lead worship – together. This unique, shared leadership has been a journey that few other worship leaders seem to share! Starting with a healthy marriage is a definite plus, and ongoing communication is the key to effectively leading as a couple.

Lessons For Leading Together

Mike was leading worship for years before I was, and I would sing in his band. I would sing the song as laid out in advance, and then step away. As I naturally grew into spontaneous singing, and prophetic singing now and then, there was a growing frustration because I wasn't able to move the worship on from there without an instrument, while my husband was leading from the guitar.

When we finally worked out that we could "do this thing together," there was a relief, and a new tension. We could pick the songs together, but what about changing direction during worship? I didn't want this to be Mike's responsibility alone, and I did want to share in what God was saying to us.

Mike's tendency from so many years of leading on his own was to take charge and leave very little space for me to make mistakes. Having talked this through, he realized that he had to let go and allow me the freedom to fail.

Mike has also had to change the way he plays to some extent. If I am leading a song and he senses I'm not going to lead it in the usual way, he will hang around musically between sections of the song waiting to see where we're going. If he guesses wrong, he quickly changes the chords to fit. He now leaves musical gaps for me, so if I have something from God or simply something on my heart to sing out, I have room to do that. He's had to be very flexible and give up the reins, as it were, which hasn't been easy - but has brought so many blessings, such as:

- Spending more time together
- Appreciating each other's giftings
- Practicing at home
- Sharing responsibility for worship
- Diffusing worship "limelight syndrome"
- Modelling preferring one another

When men and women lead worship together, whether married or not, I feel they model a fuller sense of the character and likeness of God. We have seen quite a few couples start to lead worship together in the last five years. There are lots of people who have the ability to lead alone, but lack the confidence. Leading as a couple may provide a sense of safety as you shoulder the worship together, and bring a whole new dimension to your relationship, and to those who encounter you worshiping together.





Helen Frye leads worship with her husband, Mike, at the Taunton Vineyard in the UK. They have been married for 19 years and have two children, Jodie and Daniel. Helen has a passion to see broken young people experience the grace and forgiveness of God.



Keep It Real

AN INTERVIEW WITH TIM HUGHES



How Do We Maintain Our Heart Values As A Worship Leader?

As a worship leader, the most important thing is your heart, your attitude and your values. There is the danger that if you're doing a lot of upfront "stuff," the upfront stuff becomes the focus, and the hidden life can be neglected. That's a very dangerous thing.

I think for leaders generally, it is so important to have those people in your life to whom you're accountable, who can speak into the things that you do, and who can ask those tough questions. Personally, I'm so grateful for those friends who will sometimes ask me the hard questions, like "Tim, what's your motivation?" They may say, "Tim, what you're doing now – I'm not so sure that's a such good thing."

It's tough to take but it's wonderful because it keeps you real and reminds you what it's all about. Accountability helps you to focus on the important things – focus on God, and on maintaining your relationship with God. I'm a child of God first, and that's the most important relationship to me. That's the difference.

How Can We Better Facilitate "Spirit-led" Worship?

In our churches, we have too many song leaders and not enough worship leaders. I think the difference between the two is that a worship leader is trying to see what God's doing, and follow that. A song leader just plows through the songs without thinking of much else. We've had times in our church recently where God's intervened in a time of worship - just poured out His Spirit - and the whole meetings been "hijacked" by God! It's absolutely amazing. We wish He'd do that more and more.

In those moments, God suddenly makes it clear what He is wanting to do among His people in that time of meeting together. That's an exciting thing, but there is also a responsibility for the worship leader and the worship band. It is the responsibility to prepare themselves, to get their hearts ready, to get the songs that they've practiced and rehearsed ready. Then they're ready to go for it in those powerful times, and to be open to what God is wanting to do.

Tim Hughes is a worship leader and songwriter with the Soul Survivor movement, and a good friend of the Vineyard. He hosts our featured AudioLab this quarter, Keep It Real, on www.vineyardmusic.com.

bold's fold



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All of our CDs are enhanced with a CD-ROM element with FREE guitar chord charts, overhead masters and more!



// HUNGRY LIVE

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Featuring worship leaders David Ruis, Andy Park, Marc James, Marie Barnett, John Barnett, Martin Reardon, Billy Somerville, Brian Thiessen, Rachel Milstead, Greg Hjelle and Casey Corum.

Celebrating 25 years of Vineyard Worship™, *Hungry Live* was recorded at an historic event that brought together over 4,000 worshipers and worship leaders from around the world. *Hungry Live* brings you many favorite worship songs recorded with live passion and energy. A special night, a special recording!



// ONE GLIMPSE

Featuring worship leaders Kelly Bennett, Adele Kane, Mark Millard, Michelle Nadja and Craig Wallis.

A unique recording birthed out of the Vineyard churches of New Zealand. All it took was one glimpse of the Father. In that glimpse, we found freedom in relationship with God and our heart response was worship. An offering of songs to God from the Church for all He has done for us, *One Glimpse* is a true expression of fresh modern worship!



// LORD REIGN IN ME

The best worship songs from the UK featuring some of the most influential worship songs in the Church today. Worship leaders include Brian Doerksen, Kathryn Scott, Brenton Brown, Marc James, Esther Alexander, Sam Lane, Michael Frye, Wendy O'Connell and Nigel Briggs.

Lord Reign In Me is the definitive collection of Vineyard worship songs that have been birthed out of the UK. Spanning five years of Vineyard UK worship (1998-2003), the song list includes such popular favorites as "Come Now Is The Time To Worship," "Hungry" and "Lord Reign In Me." Also included is a brand new song by UK worship leader and songwriter Brenton Brown ("Lord Reign In Me" & "Hallelujah Your Love Is Amazing") titled "Comfort Me."



// HOLD ON

Featuring worship leaders Nigel Briggs and Kat Regester.

Inspired by the past, but looking to the future, *Hold On* features fresh-sounding worship songs birthed out of the UK's Trent Vineyard, Nottingham. Drawing on influences such as Coldplay, Radiohead, U2 and the Doves, these songs are a contemporary cry to God to "take my hand and walk with me through this day." If you enjoy the current British music scene, you will love the sound of *Hold On*. Sit back and listen or join in and sing your praise to the Father.



// YOU AND YOU ALONE

Featuring worship leaders Dan Wilt, Kathryn Scott, Melissa Boraski, Curtis Kent, Christa Leis, Leanne Ackerman, Ellen Tremblay and Sarah Compton.

Discover 13 engaging, new, pop/rock Vineyard Worship™ songs featuring well-known Canadian Vineyard worship leader Dan Wilt and Irish guest Kathryn Scott. This worship project, recorded "live in the studio," injects new songs into congregational worship that will find a resting place in the modern worshiping church around the world. The tracks on this album are sonically exceptional and congregationally accessible.



// YOU WILL REMAIN

Live WORSHIP from the Newsong Festival featuring worship leaders Candy Mitchell and Stew West.

Once a year, in a quiet beach town, on the southern coast of Africa, over 1500 young people come together to worship. It's more than a festival – it's an encounter with God. The vibrant, passionate, new worship songs from *You Will Remain* remind us of God's unchanging love in a constantly changing world.



// WASH OVER ME

Live Worship featuring David Ruis, Chris Janzen, Iain Lovatt, Erica Sorensen and DJ Andy Hunter.

Experience the passionate, relevant and very authentic worship as it happened at the Industrial Revolution youth conference held at Muskoka Woods near Toronto, Canada. This album captures the sound and expression of worship of the emerging generation by fusing new and familiar Vineyard Worship™ songs with the passion and energy of hundreds of worshipers who gathered to believed for a new revolution where Jesus would have His rightful place in society.



// DWELL

Featuring worship leaders Casey Corum, Sheri Keller, Robbie Reider, Jessica Ketola and Dave Fife.

Recorded live at the Vineyard in Cincinnati, Ohio before a combined congregation of over 1500 worshipers, *Dwell* offers 14 fresh, modern, accessible worship songs that cry out for the Lord to "dwell in the midst of us." Marking a fresh start for Vineyard Music USA, the songs from *Dwell* were selected from a working pool of over 600 songs. This CD brings a fresh, young sound and a deep heart's cry that says to the Lord, "Come and have Your way."

Dwell Toolbox DVD *available.*

Equipping you

with essential training tools for your worship development.

Drawing from decades of experience as an innovator and leader in contemporary worship expression, Vineyard Worship Resources are from the Church, for the Church.

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