Nine On The Line

Good Medicine For Young Worship Leaders

BY BILLY SOMERVILLE

Every developing worship leader (which includes all of us) needs it "laid on the line" every now and then to keep us focused on God's priorities for us. Here is some good medicine for the soul, from one young worship leader to other growing worship leaders.

1 Don't Reinvent The Wheel If You Don't Have To

As you put together teams and pick songs, take advantage of resources that are available to help you – especially other worship leaders.

2 Take Your Personal Life As Seriously As Your Worship Leading

The bar is higher for leaders – invite accountability into your life and be diligent about maintaining it.

3 Don't Develop A "Martha" Complex Early On

Taking on too much responsibility creates a false sense of self-worth. Learn to say no when you need to.

4 Be Congregation-Conscious

Pick songs that will minister to the people, not just to you. Lead in such a way that helps people along instead of losing them in spontaneous jams.

5 Ask Your Pastor For Feedback On Your Worship.

Listen and make mental notes. Teachability is the secret to growth as a worship leader.

6 Know The Hearts Of Your Musicians

An average bass player who really worships is more of an asset to you than a self-absorbed virtuoso.

7 Learn How To Say "Thank You"

When people brag on you, make eye contact and graciously thank them. They are affirming God's work in you.

8 Don't Let Pride Run Away With Your Calling

The combination of youth and God's anointing can be a powerful and dangerous mix. Walk in humility and the fear of the Lord.

9 Let Hope And Truth Rule Your Song List

Watch out for angst-ridden worship songs that allow people to wallow in negativity. Say, like David did, "Bless the Lord, O my soul!"



Billy Somerville is a featured worship leader on the new CD from Vineyard Music USA, *1000 Generations*. In 1997, he co-founded a service for young adults called Vineyard Sunday Night (vsnAtlanta) and is currently helping launch a new Vineyard church plant in downtown Atlanta. Billy and his Macintosh computer are temporarily staying with friends on the Northwest side of Atlanta.

1000 generations

New from
Vineyard Music USA



Powerfully expressive and full of energy, 1000 Generations weaves the songs of a new generation into the grand garment of praise!

Enjoy the fresh new sound of modern worship for all generations!

enhanced CD

Enhanced CD features chord charts, tablature, overhead masters, photo gallery and more!

Companion songbook also available

Check it out today at vineyardmusic.com

vineyard music™