How To Use This Guide

This guide is designed to be used repeatedly, as you and your church's needs change throughout the year. A first time reader will have different needs and uses for the guide than someone who is returning to use the guide for a research session to find more resources.

First Time Readers of The Guide

If this is your first time reading through this guide, please consider reading through the front sections, which include information on worship music resource history, an explanation of the resource reviews, and an explanation of the rating system. Each of these sections will help you understand how to use this guide well. The history section, especially, will give you a larger framework for worship resources – an understanding which may help place your own local church's needs and changes within the context of the extensive transition occurring across the broader church.

Experienced Readers of The Guide

Once you have used the guide, you can skip directly to the appropriate section of reviews that will help you research and acquire the songs or media content you need.

Researching Songs

For ease of use, we have divided the songs portion of this guide into two specific sections:

a) New Song Discovery: those who are looking for newly released songs (just released from songwriters, publishers and record labels),
b) Song Acquisition: those who are looking to acquire resources for specific songs. You will most likely already know the name of the songs and you just need to know the best places to acquire the resources.

New Song Discovery

If you are doing New Song Discovery, we have identified some resources that specialize in bringing fresh new content to churches in the section:

- *Where To Find New Songs: Search and Discover* (this section begins on Page 63)

Understand that you may find promotions of new songs in other locations as well. In fact, some of the website resources found in the Song Acquisition section will also be promoting new songs. The reason we have identified this separately here for new song discovery is for those who already have developed libraries of songs and want to find fresh new songs to augment their current repertoire.

Song Acquisition & Access

Once you know what songs you are looking for, and wish to purchase or access, there is an abundance of sources to acquire resources. We have a few sections for you to consider in your search, each with several resource reviews. Depending on what type of resource you would like to acquire your songs through (online, physical product, continuity club etc), these sections will accommodate your needs:

- *Where To Acquire Songs: Online Access And Purchase* (section begins on Page 71)
- *Software/Digital Files Song Sources* (section begins on Page 85)
- *Continuity Clubs – Contemporary Song Sources* (section begins on Page 93)
- *Continuity Clubs – Choral Song Sources* (section begins on Page 99)
- *Printed/Physical Product Song Sources* (section begins on Page 105)
- *Music Instructional Resources For Song Learning* (section begins on Page 117)