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WORSHIP TEAM FOUNDATIONS

MUSICIANSHIP

FOUNDATION, FOOTING, UNDERPINNING, BEDROCK. OUR WORSHIP TEAMS CAN ONLY BE AS STRONG AS THE FOUNDATIONAL VALUES AND PRACTICES UNDERNEATH THEM. WITH THIS IN MIND, WHAT ARE THE PRACTICES PRESENT IN A HEALTHY WORSHIP MINISTRY THAT HELP TO BUILD A STRONG MUSICAL FOUNDATION?

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BE INSPIRED

LISTEN TO LOTS OF DIFFERENT MUSIC. DEEPEN THE CREATIVE POOL FROM WHICH YOU DRAW UPON. THERE ARE SOME GREAT TOOLS AVAILABLE TODAY TO HELP JUMP START YOUR MUSICAL EXPLORATION - PANDORA, SPOTIFY, ITUNES RADIO, ETC.

BUY GOOD GEAR

IF YOU EVER NEEDED AN EXCUSE, I'M GIVING YOU ONE NOW. GOOD GEAR CAN INSPIRE OUR CREATIVITY. CONSTANTLY FIGHTING WITH YOUR EQUIPMENT IS A FRUSTRATING AND DRAINING EXPERIENCE. IT CAN ALSO BE A HINDERANCE TO WHAT WE DESIRE TO SEE HAPPEN IN OUR GATHERED WORSHIP TIMES. GOOD GEAR DOESN'T ALWAYS HAVE TO BE EXPENSIVE. DO SOME RESEARCH AND ASK PEOPLE YOU TRUST, BUT ALSO BE READY TO SPEND SOME MONEY.

KNOW YOUR GEAR

SPEND TIME AWAY FROM BAND REHEARSAL EXPLORING YOUR INSTRUMENT AND AUXILIARY GEAR. THE BETTER YOU KNOW AND ARE COMFORTABLE WITH THE CAPABILITIES OF YOUR GEAR, THE BROADER THE CREATIVE PALATE YOU HAVE TO DRAW FROM IN A BAND SETTING. PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE.

READY YOUR INSTRUMENT

NEW STRINGS, NEW DRUM HEADS, REPAIRED WIRING, WHATEVER IT IS. KEEP YOUR INSTRUMENT IN PLAY-READY CONDITION. MAKE IT YOUR GOAL TO SETTLE THE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS BEFORE YOUR REHEARSAL OR SOUNDCHECK TIMES.

DEVELOP YOUR SONG MEMORY

START TO VIEW EACH SONG IN ITS ENTIRETY. EXPAND YOUR SONG MEMORY BEYOND THE 4 BARS THAT JUST HAPPENED AND THE 4 BARS COMING UP. WITH PRACTICE, WE CAN EVENTUALLY START TO FEEL THE RHYTHMS AND DYNAMICS OF THE ENTIRE SET. THIS WILL HELP US IN OUR MUSICAL CHOICES MOMENT BY MOMENT.

PLAY BOLDY

WHEN YOU MAKE A MISTAKE, MAKE IT LOUDLY. DON'T HOLD BACK IN YOUR PLAYING DUE TO FEAR OR INSECURITY. WHEN IT'S TIME TO COME IN, COME IN BOLDLY.

PLAY SENSITIVELY

BAND DYNAMICS INVOLVE A LARGE DEGREE OF LISTENING. BE AWARE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE ARRANGEMENT AND ADD YOUR PART ACCORDINGLY. DISCUSS YOUR PARTS WITH THE REST OF THE BAND AND MAKE ROOM FOR EACH OTHER THROUGHOUT EACH SONG.

REMEMBER, EXCELLENCE IS A MEANS TO AN END

GOD ISN'T LOOKING FOR PERFECT EXECUTION. MUSICAL EXCELLENCE SERVES A HIGHER GOAL OF FREEDOM AND CONNECTION WITH THE LIVING GOD. REMEMBER, MUSIC IS A LANGUAGE BUT LANGUAGE SKILLS ARE ONLY USEFUL IF WE HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

CASEY CORUM

CASEY AND HIS FAMILY ARE BASED IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. PRIOR TO HIS MOVE TO SOUTHERN CAL, CASEY SERVED AS VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER FOR VINEYARD MUSIC (NOW VINEYARD WORSHIP) FOR OVER 10 YEARS. IN ADDITION TO THIS ROLE, CASEY ALSO SERVED AS THE NATIONAL WORSHIP TASK FORCE LEADER FOR VINEYARD USA. HE IS AN ACCOMPLISHED MUSICIAN AND PRODUCER AND HAS ALSO BEEN AN INFLUENTIAL VOICE AS A WORSHIP LEADER, CONFERENCE SPEAKER, AND SONGWRITER. SOME OF CASEY'S MOST WELL-KNOWN SONGS INCLUDE FORM US, DWELL, BETTER THAN, & YOUR LOVE IS AMAZING. CASEY HAS A PASSION TO ENCOURAGE AND EQUIP WORSHIP LEADERS FOR LIFE AND MINISTRY. CASEY IS NOW THE WORSHIP PASTOR FOR THE VINEYARD ANAHEIM. CASEY AND HIS WIFE ANGIE HAVE FOUR DAUGHTERS AND ARE VERY GLAD TO CALL VINEYARD ANAHEIM HOME.

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