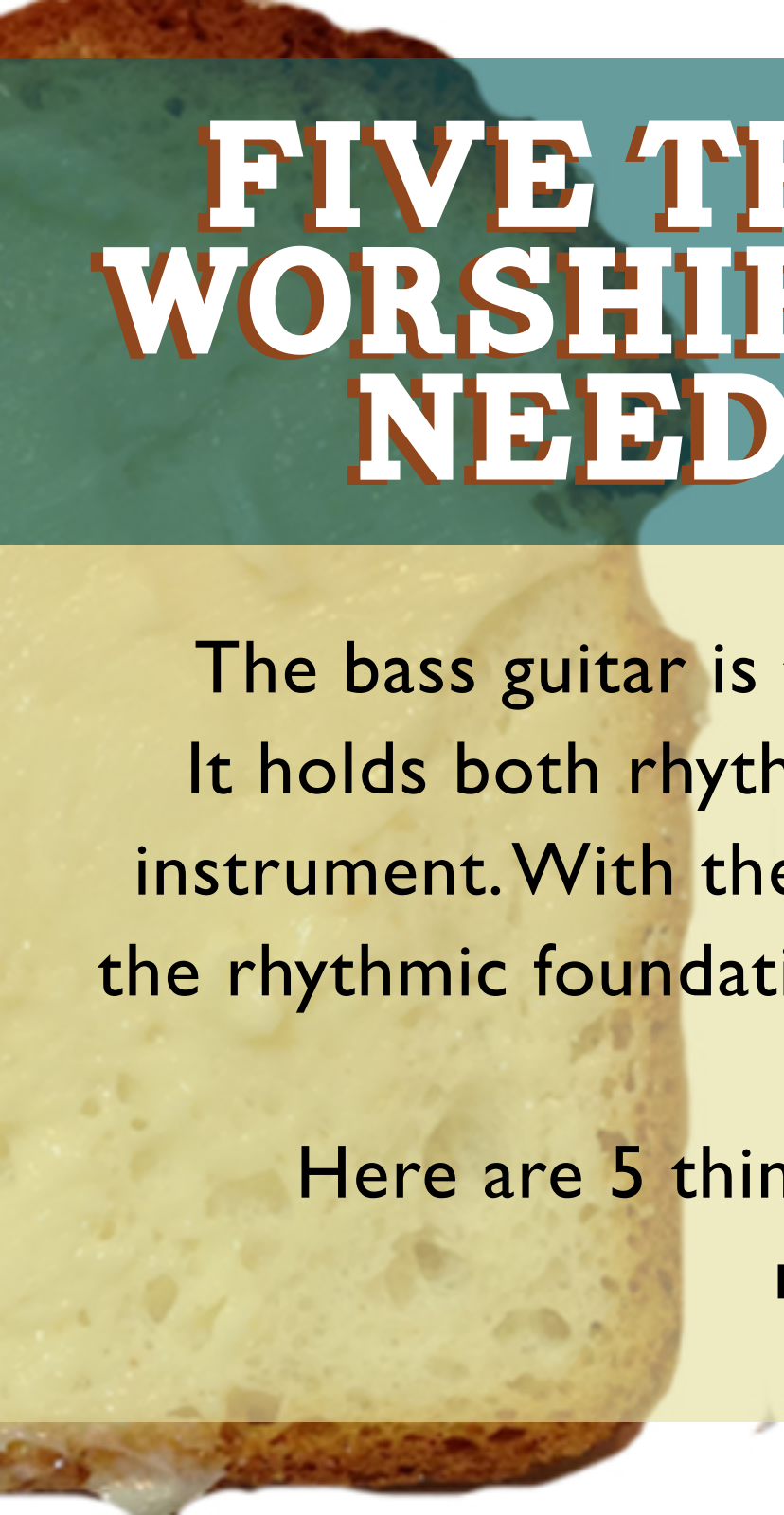


FIVE THINGS EVERY WORSHIP BASS PLAYER NEEDS TO KNOW

| CASEY CORUM |



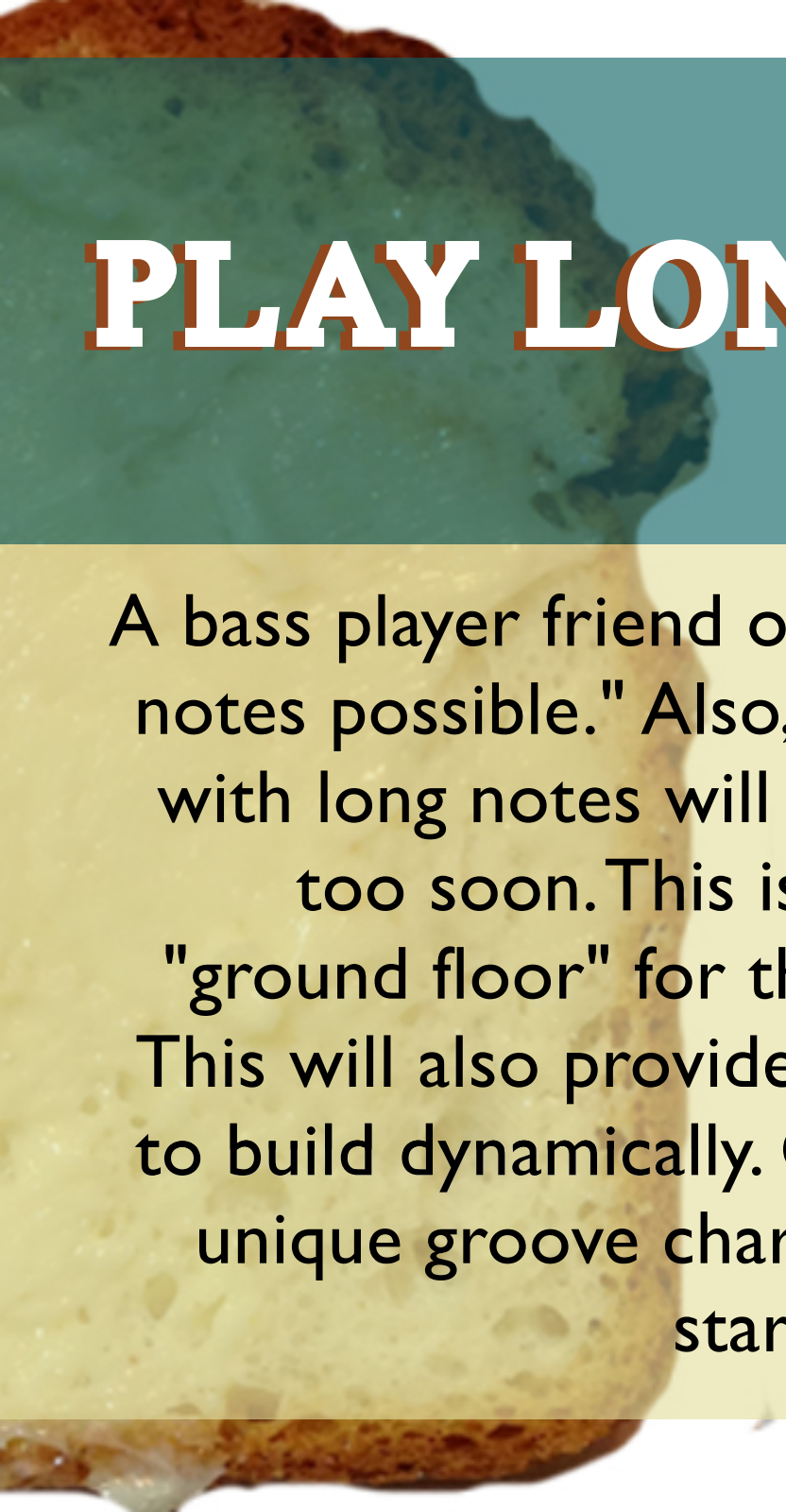
FIVE THINGS EVERY WORSHIP BASS PLAYER NEEDS TO KNOW

The bass guitar is the anchor of the worship band. It holds both rhythm and harmony together in one instrument. With the drums, the bass helps to provide the rhythmic foundation that everything else rests upon.

Here are 5 things every worship bass player needs to know:

THE DRUMMER IS YOUR BEST FRIEND LOCK IT IN

Your primary concern is locking in with the drummer. As a starting point, lock in with the kick drum pattern. Discuss with the drummer and the leader what groove best serves each section. Also, discuss any section where the groove breaks and work to play those sections together.

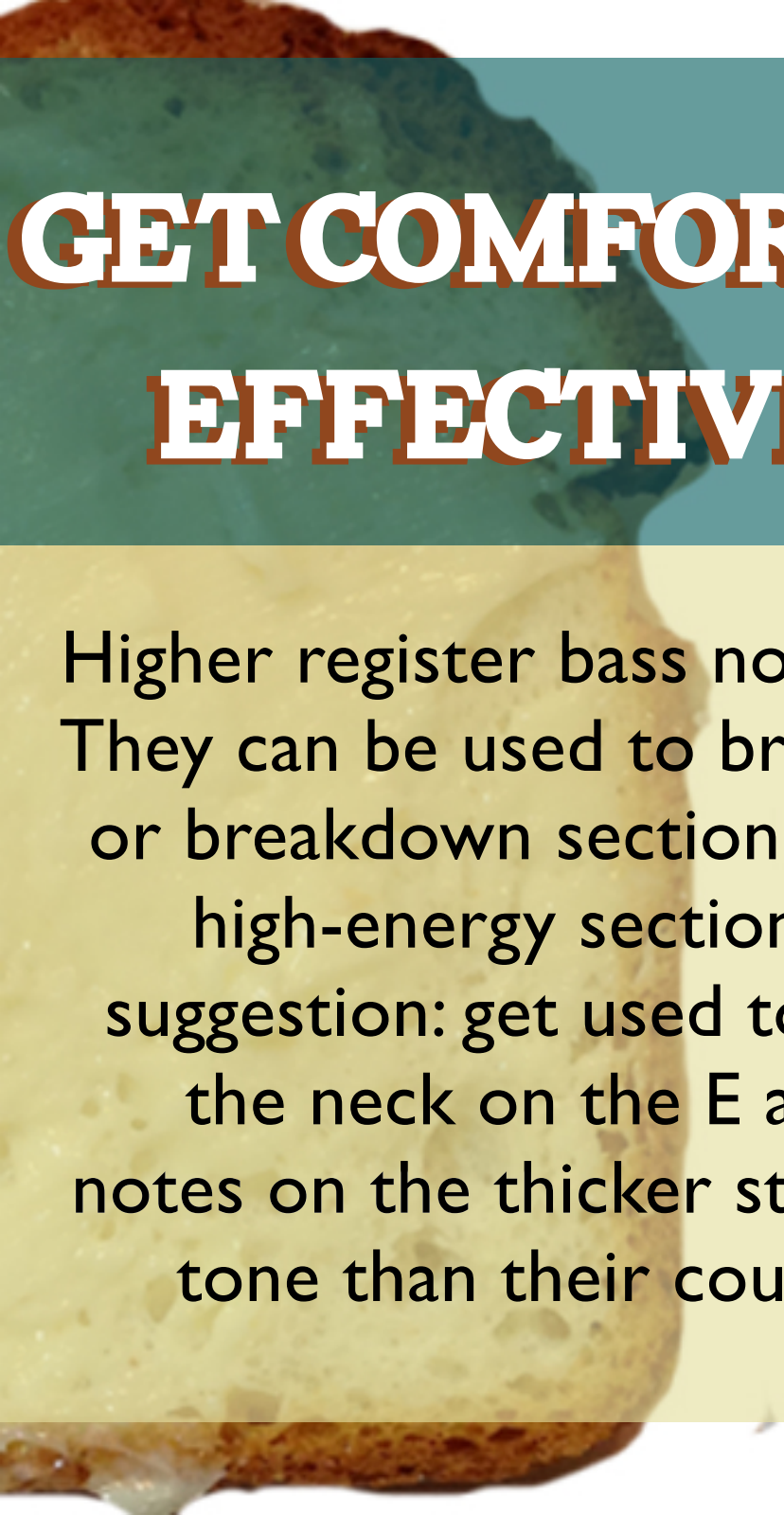


PLAY LONG LOW NOTES

A bass player friend of mine used to say, "play the lowest notes possible." Also, spreading out the musical density with long notes will help things from getting too busy too soon. This is a quick way to establish the "ground floor" for the rest of the band to build upon. This will also provide a good starting point from which to build dynamically. Of course, every song will have its unique groove characteristics but, as a general rule, start simple and low.

MAKE GOOD USE OF SLASH CHORDS

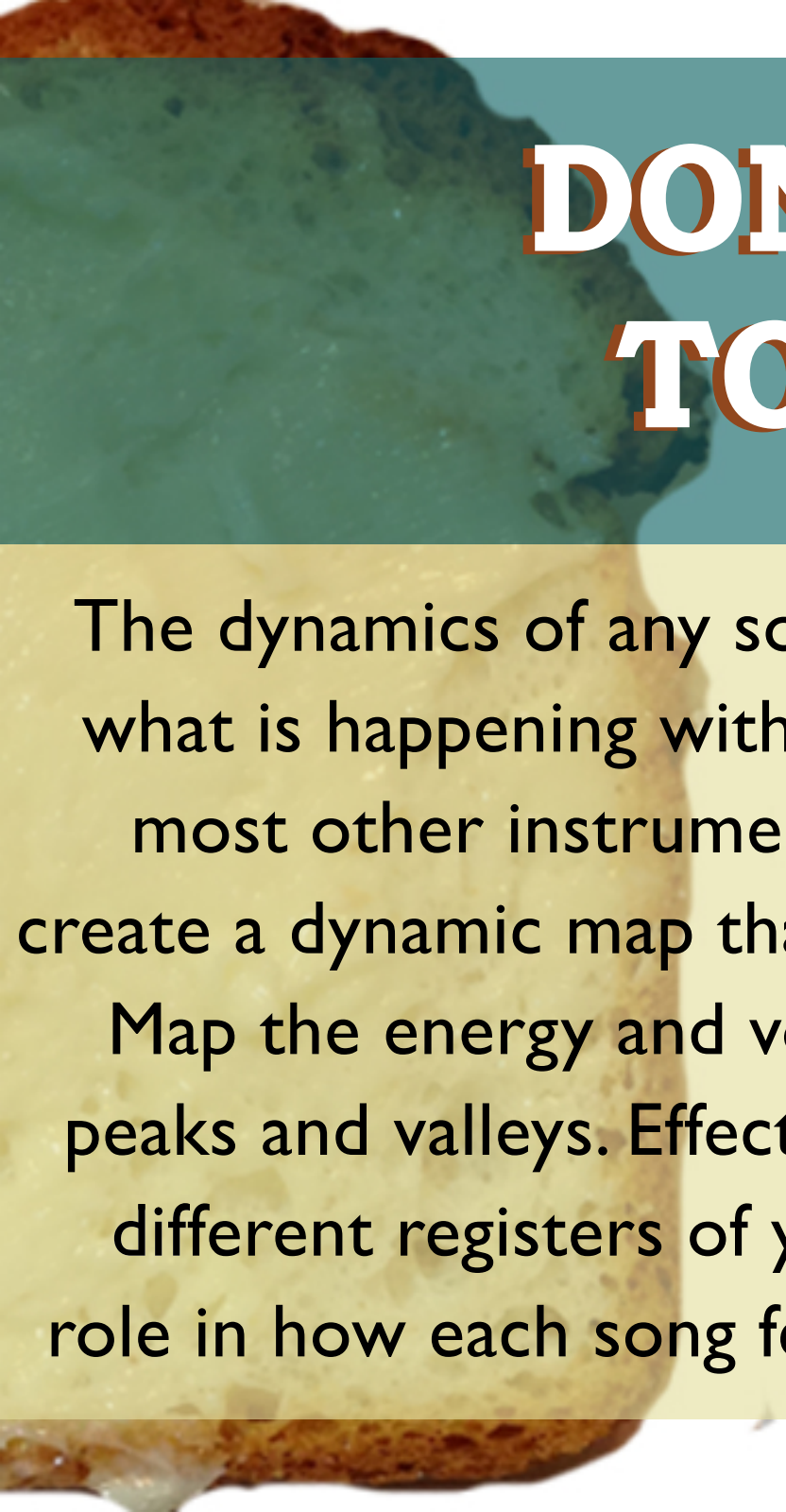
Slash chords can be tricky business. When effectively used they can bring new interest and dynamic momentum to the various sections of each song. When overused they can make songs sound cluttered and dated in style. Make note of any and all slash chords on your lead sheets. Discuss with the leader any thoughts toward adding in additional slash chords or removing some of them. When a slash chord is intended, help to ensure that every one is playing it together.



GET COMFORTABLE UP THE NECK

EFFECTIVE USE OF OCTAVES

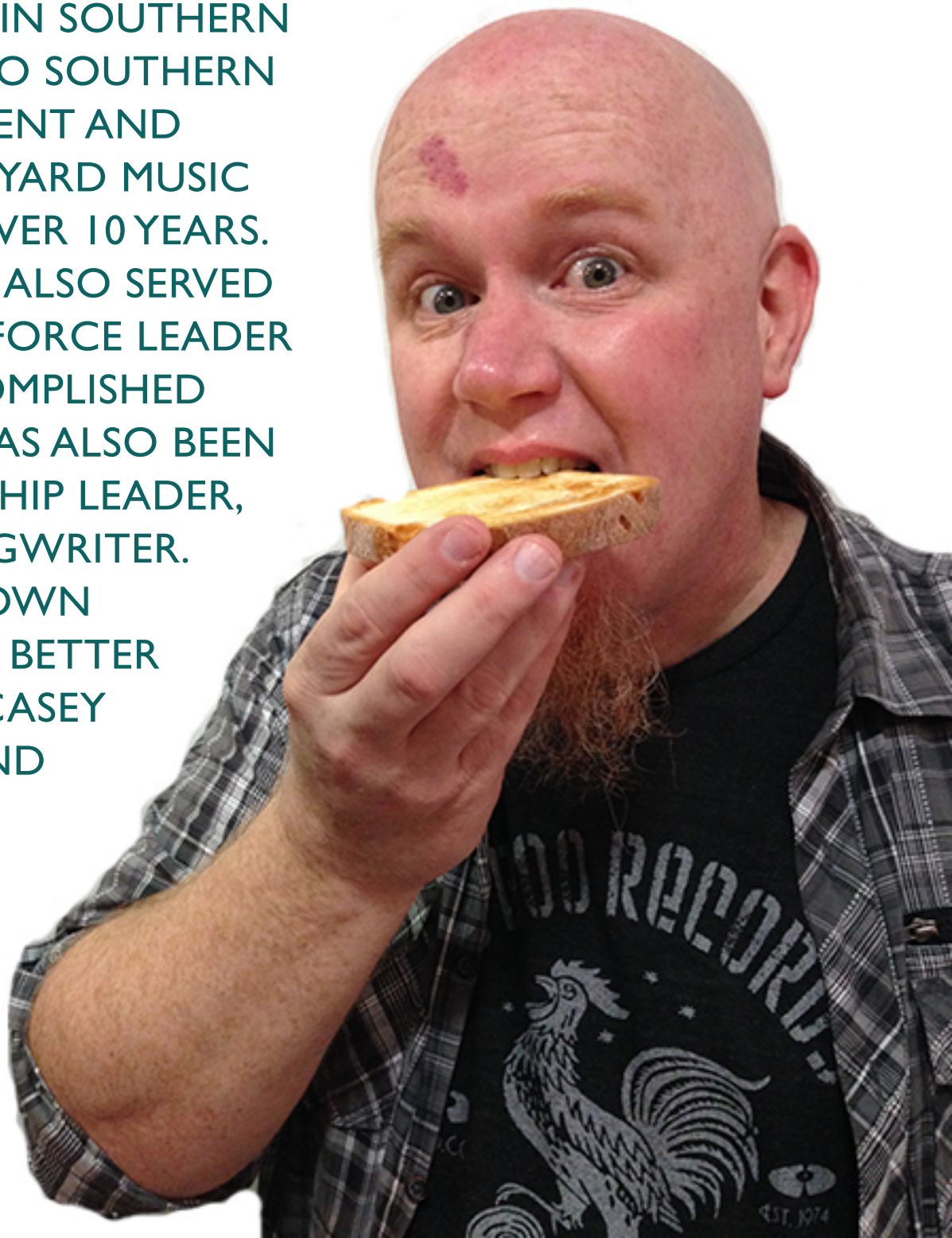
Higher register bass notes can pack a strong dynamic punch. They can be used to bring a lighter artistic touch to an intro or breakdown section. They can also be used to ramp up a high-energy section to an even higher pinnacle. One suggestion: get used to playing the higher octave notes up the neck on the E and A strings. These "up the neck" notes on the thicker strings have a much fuller and rounder tone than their counterparts on the D and G strings.



DON'T PEAK TOO SOON

The dynamics of any song can be dramatically influenced by what is happening with the bass guitar - more so than with most other instruments. In your approach to each song, create a dynamic map that allows you to build at the right rate. Map the energy and volume level section by section - the peaks and valleys. Effectively use silence, musical density, and different registers of your instrument to play a significant role in how each song feels dynamically. Don't peak too soon!

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.




© 2014 Alabaster Creative
All Rights Reserved

Copy Editor | Darren Varieur
A.Rose | Designs



FIVE THINGS EVERY WORSHIP BASS PLAYER NEEDS TO KNOW

| CASEY CORUM |