



NEW HOPE LAS VEGAS

WORSHIP TEAM MINISTRY GUIDELINE BOOK

2 Chronicles 5:13-14 NLT

13. The trumpeters and singers performed together in unison to praise and give thanks to the Lord. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals, and other instruments, they raised their voices and praised the LORD with these words: **“He is good! His faithful love endures forever!”**

At that moment a thick cloud filled the Temple of the Lord.

14. The priests could not continue their service because of the cloud, for the glorious presence of the LORD filled the Temple of God.

Praise and Worship Vision Statement

The New Hope Praise and Worship Ministry, as one body unified in spirit and with a heart of purity and purpose to glorify God, to humbly serve Him in a spirit of excellence as ministers of music, hope, and agape love. To lead others into His divine presence through thanksgiving, praise worship, and adoration.

Praise and Worship Mission Statement

To inspire, encourage, train and direct those whom God has called into the Praise and Worship ministry with a spirit of service, excellence, sensitivity, purity, humility and strength.



We Need To Build Big Hearts, Not Big Singers & Musicians

There should be no songs that emphasize solos. No hogging the mic, swaying the mic stand or using instruments provocatively. We want to moderate to soft rock worship - no “specials” or “show stoppers”. There is a time for all that. We want the atmosphere to be one that points to Christ, not the individual singer or musician. No songs with groans or other sounds that might be interpreted as sexual. We want music that is familiar and easy to sing along with.

Please realize - we want the participant to worship - not just listen. This is not a concert where the message is in the music as much as a revival where the music is preparing the participants for interactive “jam sessions” to follow. We want their hearts to be open to the Gospel - not excited by only the music. D.L. Moody (the great American evangelist) had one of the most successful music bands in history leading worship at his revivals. But if the participants became excited by the music and a “party atmosphere” resulted, he would immediately shut down the meeting - knowing that continuing with the revival with people in that excited state would be futile. We need to be excited about God and His goodness and not how good the song is! We need to keep our eye on the Harvest rather than the congregants. Remember, we serve an audience of One and not an audience of people.

Adoration-Entering the Holy of Holies

There is perhaps no more unnerving sight for the awakened sinner or nominal Christian than Saints adoring Jesus, their spiritual Bridegroom. In order to reach this exalted state of worship, the music and song lyrics should be carefully chosen and woven together into a seamless flow. Make sure that all songs in the set flow well with one another (Preferably no breaks in between certain songs). The idea is to help the worshiper focus on Jesus instead of the surroundings or even the band. Choose songs that are easy to understand the meaning, and that are easy to sing along with, and be sure to pronounce the words carefully so they can be easily heard. If the meanings of the words are not easily understood, there can be no effect other than confusion, thus hindering worship.



What is Worship?

Worship is not music and song - rather music and song can help in worship. (A sinner or even a saint can sing Amazing Grace without worshipping). The goal of worship should be to help the Saint worship God in *Spirit and Truth*.

YOU ARE THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Imagine the believer as the Temple of the Holy Spirit. He is composed of Body, Soul, and Spirit. For the sake of simplicity, let's say there are three levels of worship; Praise, Worship, and Adoration. The believer through worship wants to get to the Holy of Holies or the Throne room where God's Spirit is. He first has to walk through the outer court (his physical body) through the inner court (his soul), and finally to the Holy of Holies (His spirit where the Holy Spirit dwells).

Worship Attire

As worshippers, we must always remember that we represent our leadership and the church. What we say and how we say it is important. Included in that thought should be the way we dress. Sometimes, what we wear can speak louder than our actual words. As ambassadors of the church, we must do our best to keep the focus on the information we are sharing instead of what we're wearing. Because we want to present the Kingdom well, we do not want our manner of dress while on stage to be a potential distraction or stumbling block for non-believers and believers. Here are a few guidelines we must strive to follow:

Ladies:

- No low cut blouses.
- No short skirts or dresses. Skirts and dresses should be below knee length.
- No shorts.
- No see-through clothing
- Jeans are permissible, but no holes, cut outs, or cut offs.

- No flip flops. If you decide to wear heels, please consider a height that is comfortable (not so high that you are afraid of tripping or falling over). Sandals are acceptable.
- Fitted pants must be worn with a top that reaches below the hips.
- Tights and leggings cannot be see-through, and must also be worn with a top that reaches below the hips.
- No clothing with offensive slogans or pictures.
- No midriff baring tops.
- No visible spaghetti straps, must be worn with cardigan and blazers over it.
- Please wear proper undergarments.
- Please avoid tucking in tops, t-shirts, and blouses.

Gentlemen:

- No clothing with offensive slogans or pictures.
- No flip flops.
- Jeans are permissible, but no holes, cutouts or cut offs.
- No fitted pants
- Please wear collared shirts and or vests. T-shirts are fine under a blazer or vest.
- Please avoid tucking in collared shirts and t-shirts.
- Please avoid wearing hats that have brand name logos on them. You can wear a hat that's based on Christianity.

Food For Thought:

Think about the following points when choosing what to wear when you are on stage:

- If you are questioning your choice of outfit, it's probably best not to wear it.
- Will your outfit speak louder than you?
- Is what you're wearing a distraction?
- Am I dressed appropriately for my size and shape?

At New Hope, we are incredibly blessed to be able to worship in an environment that encourages freedom. We should never take that freedom for granted, or use it as an excuse to be careless in our dress when we stand in front of the congregation.

Remember, we are here as ambassadors to serve. Let's do it with the love of the Lord in our hearts, and a properly covered vessel!

HIS PRESENCE CHANGES EVERYTHING

Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth. Serve the LORD with gladness *and* delight; Come before His presence with joyful singing. Know *and* fully recognize with gratitude that the LORD Himself is God; It is He who has made us, not we ourselves [and we are His]. *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with a song of thanksgiving And His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, bless *and* praise His name. For the LORD is good; His mercy *and* lovingkindness are everlasting, His faithfulness [endures] to all generations.

(Psalms 100: 1-5)

In order to ensure a standard of worship that glorifies God and is consistent to the guiding principles of New Hope Las Vegas Christian Fellowship, the following guidelines have been adopted:

- Mandatory meetings and practices are to be held as priority above all. Unless family emergencies, Doctor orders, feeling unwell, and working late.
- Regular attendance and commitment to New Hope Las Vegas for a period of at least three (3) months.
- You must display a true heart of worship and love for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
- We are a teachable team, so please do not take offense when being corrected. Remember that we all balance one another.
- Prepare to give God your utmost best when it comes to rehearsals and services, this means staying focused in rehearsals. For it would be unfair to those that are trying to stay focused and you being a distraction and hindrance because you are not being wholeheartedly focused on the time that the Lord has provided.

Regardless of the circumstance, we're here for God and not ourselves. It's all about HIM.

- You must be aware of the commitment to rehearsals and worship schedules for Wednesdays and Sundays.
- An observation period: involving being present at rehearsals to observe and become familiar with the ministry and music aspects of the team prior to participating. Leadership will determine participation during Wednesday/Sunday services after the probation period.
- A prolonged absence from the team will require a re-evaluation with leadership and a period of time (as determined by leadership) to attend rehearsals in order to become familiar with new material.
- Team members should arrive promptly according to call time and be ready, willing, and prepared to run through any material as deemed necessary by the worship leader. Wednesday services are tentative due to your work schedule.
- Late arrival for sound check, Sunday morning rehearsals or worship services will necessitate sitting out for that time of worship or for that Sunday to avoid any delays or interruption of the service.

ARMOR OF GOD

It is very important that we stay true to God's voice and ALL get into His word for we are the very first to go forth into [spiritual] battle for the church. We are the first to receive the flaming arrows of the devil and if we are not fully equipped and prepared, we are going onto the battlefield with no weapons. The bible says that we should arm ourselves with the ***Helmet of Salvation*** to protect our minds from any other voices that the devil tries to use as influence against God's kingdom. Staying in God's word helps us to stay accountable to God's voice, the voice of truth. ***The Breastplate of Righteousness*** which protects our heart and lungs that we can live and breathe a Christian lifestyle, and we need to live a Godly lifestyle everyday, not just on Sundays. When someone knows that you have a relationship with God, they'll look for it in the way you live and the things you do. You are the only Bible that some people will ever read. ***Shield of Faith*** which will block any weapons formed against us. For it is our faith that presses into the battle, knowing that we have God on our side. And we may drop our shield and lose faith, but God wants us to pick it up and keep pressing. ***Belt of Truth*** in which gives us balance

of truth against lies. The word of God (The Holy Bible) is truth. Also in which the sword of the Spirit hangs at our side. And with God at our side, who can stand against us.

Sandals Ready and Fit for the Gospel in and out of season and that we may trample over snakes and scorpions and walk on the narrow and rocky roads of Trials and Tribulations. God will shine his light onto the path in which He reveals as much as we need to see to move forward and not backwards. ***Sword of The Spirit*** is the word of God and we can fight the enemy in spirit and in truth. Everytime we sing praise and worship songs, we pull out the sword of the spirit through scriptures from the bible. Confusing the enemy and breaking through strongholds and help open the hearts for the message that God has for them.

PREREQUISITES:

1. Completion of “Catch The Heart”, church membership class. (Note: Classes are held seasonally, so please be sure to sign-up).
2. “Tithing” Member

Because part of the mission of New Hope Las Vegas is to “Equip” the saints for the work of ministry, we will do our very best to recognize the potential in each person who aspires to be part of the worship team. We will do our very best to embrace, strengthen, and train you. However, keeping in mind that “desire seldom means readiness” [2 Corinthians 8:11].

CHARACTER AUDITIONS:

1. We believe that Godly character must prevail above any desire, talent, and skill.
2. We believe that a consistent lifestyle that pleases God is the highest pursuit above talent and skill.
3. We believe that “serving” on New Hope Las Vegas’ worship team is an honor and privilege no matter what capacity of service. Therefore cleaning backstage, on stage, behind stage, and equipment is part of the responsibilities one must be willing to assume.

Thank you for taking the time to read this guideline book. Please sign this as an acknowledgement that you have fully read and understood the guidelines.



Date:

Print & Sign Your Name: