



OPEN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

“GIVE UNTO THE LORD THE GLORY DUE UNTO HIS NAME” (PSALM 96:9)

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Worship Music Philosophy

A Key Pillar of OBF: [Lifting high the name of Jesus through worship](#) (Mark 12:20)

OBF worship music seeks to honour and please God first. We use contemporary worship styles, but also value the depth that hymns bring to worship. Hymns can be incorporated into OBF worship services.

Our Purpose in Worship. We seek to:

- Lift high the name of Jesus Christ. *John 4:22-26; John 12:32; John 14:6*
- Lead God’s people to lift their hearts and voices to Him, giving Him praise and thanks in music and lyric. *Nehemiah 12:45-46; Psalm 66:1-4; Psalm 95:1-2*
- Prepare hearts to hear the Lord speak through the proclamation of Scripture. *Psalm 95:6-9; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:41-42*
- Emphasize fresh and contemporary expressions while retaining traditional elements that recognize the richness of our heritage in the faith. *Deuteronomy 32:7; Psalm 33:3; Isaiah 46:8-9*
- Pursue excellence in worship because God is worthy of our best. *Exodus 12; Deuteronomy 17:1; Psalm 33:3; 1 Timothy 4:14-15; Hebrews 11:4*

We do not believe that singing praise to God in a church service is, in and of itself, worship. However, we do believe that singing praise to God is a command to all (PSALM 66:1-2) and is a powerful way to respond to our God and King.

Our Worship Ministry includes singing and playing instruments—and the message that our music and songs communicate is of utmost importance. Whether our music is loud or soft, fast or slow, new or old, with a full band or without matters little in comparison to the message of the song.

It is important that our songs accurately reflect the Scriptures, and we hope to express the Triune nature of our God as we respond to the gospel of His Son. Worship is the term we use to cover all the acts of the heart and mind and body that express the infinite worth of God. In our worship services we sing songs, bring tithes, hear and obey God’s Word, and reorient our lives based on His eternal nature.

The worship ministry of Open Bible Fellowship exists to help our people experience the sufficiency and express the supremacy of Christ in all things.

[Our Worship Values at Open Bible Fellowship](#)

Bible Saturation: The content of our singing and praying and welcoming and preaching will always conform to the truths of Scripture. God’s Word is the ground of all our appeal to authority. [Isaiah 40:8](#)

Head and Heart Our services will appeal to clear thinking about spiritual things, and seek to kindle hearts with deep, strong, real emotions towards God with these truths. [Matthew 22:37](#)

Reality Our services will have the atmosphere of a radically personal encounter with the God of truth. We will avoid all pretense and posturing, all flippant, superficial frivolity. We will pursue reverence, passion, and wonder. [Psalm 96](#)

Transparency We want all stage participants to disappear and allow the greatness of God to shine through. Our trust is in our Message, not ourselves as messengers. We actively avoid shoddiness and lack of preparation as well as distracting finesse or refinement. Psalm 115:1

Contemporary and Traditional We celebrate different time periods of musical expression, not for the sake of appeasing demographics, but to show how the glory of God transcends personal taste. Matthew 13:52

To Serve in the Worship Ministry:

- You must be a believer in Jesus Christ and OBF must be your home church while at school in Kingston. No exceptions.
- You must be able to take honest feedback during your initial meeting with our staff.
- We need faithful players and singers who are willing to serve at least once a month.
- Though we may place you in a certain ministry, it doesn't guarantee you will stay there. It is up to that ministry leader to decide whether you are capable and trustworthy enough to serve in that specific role.

As a member of the worship team you make the following commitment...

... to fulfil my part on the worship team.

With occasional substitutions, I will serve as often as I can. I will know my music and come prepared for rehearsal and worship on Sunday, in the right spiritual attitude.

... to prayerfully support the worship ministry.

I know that what we wish to see happen in our services is only possible by the movement of none other than God Himself. I will pray that He does for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

... to submit my gifts to the direction of the worship ministry.

I am ready to serve. I will serve however and wherever asked by the worship ministry. I know this means doing things that aren't convenient, thrilling, or immediately rewarding, but my heart is to serve Christ.

... to discuss matters of concern about the worship ministry with leaders of the worship ministry.

Whenever conflicts, disagreements, or misunderstandings happen between us (and I realize they will happen), I agree to speak with the worship ministry leadership first.

... to take seriously my own spiritual growth.

I know that everyone on the stage is seen as a leader. I take that seriously and purpose to be continually growing spiritually. Specifically, I will grow in both my prayer life and devotions.

... to come spiritual prepared before the Lord.

If there is a spiritual problem in my life, I will deal with it and resolve it before worship. If it involves another person, I will resolve and find forgiveness prior to serving. If I cannot do that, or am unable to, then I will not serve and I will step aside from ministry until the issue is resolved.