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CRAFTING WORSHIP

Isaiah 29:13

We must stay true to the calling God has given us to create moments of worship that engage the heart.

I. Areas to consider when trying to engage people's hearts in a worshipping relationship with God

- a. Time – don't rush it. It takes a little while for people to settle down and connect with God.
- b. Image – we must remind people who God is. Are we giving them a true picture of God?
- c. Dynamic – keep it changing. We have to avoid being repetitive and predictable.
- d. Worship is not just music. Prayer, reading scripture, dance, drama, offering, etc.

II. Distractions that cause people to disengage and disconnect

- a. Lack of excellence – *Malachi 1:6-14* – This is not perfection – but it is offering the best Lamb.
- b. Preparation – Being unprepared turns worship leading into performance
- c. Appearance – how we look and what we wear can cause people to focus on us and not God.
- d. Song Selection – see attachment

III. Tools to help you craft engaging worship – ELEMENTS FOR THE BOX

- a. Prayer – be specific and ask God.
 - What do you want to do in our lives and in the life of our church?
 - What do you want this worship time to be about?
 - What songs do you want us to sing to You?
 - Is there a need in our church that you want to address?
- b. Know and define your parameters - what has to be included in this worship time?
 - Baptism
 - Communion
 - Movie Clip
 - Announcements
 - Offering
- c. Brainstorm – Once you have a sense of the theme and what God wants to do, brainstorm all elements that could possibly help to communicate it.
 - Worship Songs
 - Prayers
 - Scripture Passages
 - Performance Songs
 - Stories or Testimonies
- d. Build the Order – Take the pieces that have been defined and put them in an order that makes sense, engages people and moves them to the desired end.
 - At the end of each piece, ask yourself "Where does my heart long to go from here?"
 - There should be a reason each piece is included other than it's the right tempo or key.