

Worship Team Qualifications

This manual will help answer your questions as to the guidelines and expectations we have to serve with the Northwood worship ministry.

1. Integrity- leading with relationship

Because worship is all about God, people who lead others in worship must be committed to follow God and lead His people.

- a) **Personal Relationship** - You must have a personal relationship with Christ.
- b) **Personal Life** - Is there anything in your life that would keep someone from following your lead in worship? We must be consistent in our daily lives face to face with others and even in social media.
- c) **Private Worship** - Our public worship should never exceed our private devotion. If worship does not flow from our hearts (Matt. 12:34), then we are in danger of trying to put on a show.
- d) **Physical Appearance** - In our attire, we must show that we respect God, our bodies, and others while leading in our services.
 - Neat- We don't want to look sloppy.
 - Non-distractive- Our clothing should not distract people from their worship.
 - Modest- Clothing should be such that at minimum no legs above knees should be shown (guys and girls), not tight, and not revealing. The length of the clothing is directly related to how high our stage is. If clothing is worn that doesn't meet these standards you will be asked to change or sit out that Sunday.

2. Excellence- leading with quality

- a) **Audition**- To be a member of this ministry team, once you fill out the online application, you will have an informal audition.
 - You will have a tryout for each instrument or voice you would like to play you will then be interviewed on a spiritual basis. It will be very laid back, but we do need to make sure that your gifting is in music and that you are actively pursuing Jesus.
 - Things we will be looking for in the audition are: musical and/or vocal ability, stage presence, leadership qualities. You will be given approximately 1 week to prepare a few songs that will be assigned to you.
 - The worship ministry is open to those 18 years old and above, except at the discretion of the worship pastor.
- b) **Ability** - We are not performing for others, but rather offering our voices and talents to God, which means that we must develop our skills.
 - You must demonstrate the ability to learn new music quickly.
 - You must be comfortable playing with a team of other vocalists or instrumentalists
 - Vocalists:
 - Find harmony parts during rehearsal.
 - Sing lead whenever necessary.
 - Sing straight tones. Excessive vibrato stands out more than any other quality
 - Drummers:
 - Play with a click track
 - Keep a steady tempo
 - Be confident with intros, filler, and outros
 - Play full without playing busy
 - Instrumentalists:
 - Follow a basic chart
 - Know what other instruments are playing so you don't play over them
 - Learn special parts or solos on certain songs when necessary

- c) **Practice** - While this is a volunteer position, the weight of this ministry holds a high level of accountability concerning preparation.
- We use **planningcenteronline.com**. If you make the team, the worship pastor will send you and email with instructions on how to use planning center. From there you will be scheduled for whatever date you are playing and have the flow of service. You will also have access to all the music sheets and media to learn the songs before practice. You can either accept or decline the offer thru planning center. You will be expected to use planning center to accept or reject each scheduling and block out any dates that you are unable to attend.
 - Practice starts Wednesday nights promptly at 6p.m. for our 9am service and 6:45p.m. for our 11 am service. You will need to have all instruments, mics, in-ear monitors, etc. in place before practice begins as the situation permits.
 - We expect all members to be prepared for rehearsal time on Wednesday Nights. If someone is repeatedly unprepared they may be too busy to commit to this ministry at that time. If the problem persists the person will be asked to step down from the team.
 - On Sunday Mornings, each scheduled member of the team is expected to be at the worship center no later than 10min before each service. This gives us time to get in ear monitors, mics, relax, and prepare our hearts for service. If you have an instrument to set up, get there early enough to tune and warm up.
- d) **Performance**
- Execute Skillfully- Pull of well what we have practiced. That doesn't mean that we don't make mistakes, but it means that we are focused on our parts and offering our best.
 - Express Passionately- We show that we mean it when we worship. People in our presence need to believe that we believe it! Don't be fake in expressions, but realize that our passion and expression set the standard.
 - Be professional- Don't acknowledge when mistakes happen. If something goes wrong, keep your stage face on. Keep on, don't talk about it, don't frown about it, but just continue for the good of the Worship to God.

3. Availability- leading with presence

We need to be invested in the mission and vision of our church and committed to sharing life with the Body of Christ.

- Church Member** - To participate as a regular team member, you must be a covenant member of Northwood Baptist, committed to the mission and vision of our church.
- Life Connection Group** - You will be expected to be part of one of our life connection groups on a regular basis.
- Service Attendance** - It is expected that you sit in at least one service on the weeks that you lead worship. On weeks not leading it is expected that you maintain a consistent attendance in our Worship service.

4. Unity- leading with others

We will work as a unified team to develop the necessary skills to lead others in worship. Our desire is to please God in the way that we treat and respect one another.

- Conflict** - If there is a disagreement, members should work it out with each other or have a third person help resolve the issue.
- Discipline** - If someone is rude or consistently negative it will be addressed. If rudeness to team members or church members continues, that person will be removed from leadership.
- Selflessness** - We do not accept "divas". Those seeking a spotlight do not need to be part of the worship team.
- Maturity** - It is important to be at a level of maturity where you can accept coaching and critique from our leadership and not take it personally. All lead worshipers are expected to live with spiritual characteristics that include a teachable spirit, a positive attitude, a servant's heart, and a call of God to be a part of this ministry (Romans 12:1,2).