

# MODERN WORSHIP SERIES: WORSHIP VOCAL WORKSHOP

w/*Paul Baloche*

**SONG:** *Hosanna*

## INTRODUCTION

### **Purpose:**

Connect the heart with our technique so that we can effectively communicate the heart of God.

### **Feeling Inadequate:**

Work on ways to build confidence because the enemy will continue to use that against you. *Confidence is not the opposite of humility.*

### **What's my role as a worship leading vocalist?**

As a worship leader, I need to have just enough voice to get the song started. *What's the implication? What does it say about our role? It's not about me.*

*I want us to have this mindset. When we sing, our goal is not that people are going to be blessed by how great a voice I have, or how wonderful I sound. We want people to participate - to engage.*

### **Performance vs. Worship**

When we are singing, we are making an offering to the Lord. We want His presence in the midst of our worship. Our focus is on touching the heart of God. At the same time, practicing and knowing the song lets us be prepared so that the Holy Spirit can have His way with us and the song.

### **Preparation Produces Confidence**

1 Chronicles 25:7 *They were trained and skilled in making music for the Lord*

### **Cultivate An Attitude of Worship**

We must have a heart for the people. We worship together and God is the audience. As worship leaders, we are just facilitating.

## PREPARATION/WARMING UP

### **Exercises**

- Humming
- 5 Tone Scales
- Bubbles (needs air)
- The Siren

### **Vocal Guidelines**

"Chest Voice" vs. "Head Voice." There are certain things we should sing in each.  
Relax Your Throat - Sound should be forward  
Proper Breathing (inhale quietly)

### **Warming Up Is Essential**

You wouldn't do any other kind of sport without warming up.  
We are also using our muscles when we sing.

**SONG:** *All The Earth Will Sing Your Praises*

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## SINGING AS A GROUP

### **Singing As A Group (with one voice)**

2 Chronicles 5:13 *The trumpeters and singers joined in unison, as with one voice, to give praise and thanks to the LORD.*

### **Humility Makes for a Good Blend**

Tone down a little bit. Add air to the tone to blend together. When we sing full-voice, all the time, it sounds like "Angry Worship."

### **Worship Is All About Engagement**

Are our people "engaged" in worship? What does that mean? What can we do to help people become "engaged"?

### **Know The Leader. Watch The Leader**

That's why Andrea and I sound good together. She knows me and watches me when we sing. If you take your vocal directions from to her, she will get you where I want you vocally.

### **Develop Your Ear**

Listen to one another. Listen to the Worship Leader for phrasing and pitch. Capture the tone of the song as determined by the Worship Leader. Shadow his/her vocals.

**Blend.** *Matching our timbre, style, tuning, and breath to make it sound like one voice.*

### **Problems With Blend**

- Tone - brightness or heaviness
- Vocal Style
- Tuning
- Vibrato
- Not too loud over the Worship Leader
- Timing - don't jump the gun
- Find the breaths - "lift" = a catch breath
- Pronunciation ≠ Enunciation

### **Different Songs Require Different Blends.**

Sometimes we shoot for different blends as a song builds.

### **SONG: Your Name**

### **Your Singing Voice and Speaking Voice Should Be Close**

If you are singing outside the range of your speaking voice, you are damaging your voice

### **SONG Sample: Above All**

### **Modern Vibrato**

Wide vibrato or traditional vibrato is not a modern sound. Limit your vibrato. Practice in a straight tone  
Exercise: "ee ay ah oh ooo"

**When We Sing, We're Singing Vowels.** *We're not singing consonants, but holding out the vowels*

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## VOCAL STYLING

**SONG Sample: *Open The Eyes Of My Heart* (Gospel / Folk Rock / R&B)**

**Pocket or Groove means "The Rhythm"**

Different styles and genres have different grooves. We need to recognize the groove.

## MORE VOCAL STYLING

**SONG: *I Will Boast***

**Our Pronunciation Changes to The Genre**

Different genres use different pronunciation. i.e. "Glory"

**SONG: *Revelation Song***

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**It's Okay Not To Sing All The Time.**

Notice the part when it is just Paul. Watch how he points to the rest of the singers to come in.

**Submitting to God (from new HSBC Praise Team Handbook)**

One act of submission that honors God is to submit ourselves to the overall sound or mix of the music. A lot of times we'll want to sing all the time, be loud, and be heard by the congregation. But singing like that can ruin the overall sound of worship. We have to realize that balance is what makes a good sound, and many times less is more. The simpler we keep the sound, the better. Sometimes the best thing for us to do as singers is to not sing during a certain section of a song. As an individual, you are one part of a group whose goal is to worship God. We all need to find out how we can work together as a team to create the best possible sound for our worship. It is never about one person.

**Hum The First Note**

Finding the first note can sometimes be difficult. Humming the first note can help if appropriate.

**SONG: *What Can I Do***

## MAPPING OUT A SONG

**Mapping Out A Song**

- First Verse: Solo
- First Chorus: 2-Part Harmony
- Second Verse: Unison + 2nd Part
- Last Choruses: 3-Part Harmony

**Every Good Song Has a Building Up and Then Coming Down The Mountain**

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## MUSIC THEORY MADE EASY

Harmony - [Do](#) [Re](#) [Me](#) [Fa](#) [So](#) [La](#) [Ti](#) [Do](#)

### Hearing Harmonies?

[Listen to Praise & Worship CDs](#)

[Listen to others that harmonize](#)

### **SONG: Praise Adonai**

- Verse: Unison
- Chorus: 2-Part Harmony + 3-Part Harmony
- Verse: 2-Part Harmony
- Chorus: 2-Part Harmony + 3-Part Harmony

## STAGE PRESENCE

Psalms 40:3 *He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD.*

- Smile - "Worship the Lord with Gladness"
- Shutting our Eyes Cuts Us Off From Everyone. *Don't do it for extended times.*
- Don't Hide Behind the Mic Stand or Music Stand
- Demonstrative Worship is Okay. *The people can't see you move from the back. Be authentic.*

## COMMUNICATING WITH THE SOUND TECH

### **Make The Sound Tech's Job Easier**

- Don't Be a Prima Donna
- The Sound Tech is Part of The Praise Team
- Get Comfortable With What You're Hearing
- Let the band get "dialed-in" first
- Look for an even blend in the monitor

### **Types of Monitors: "In-Ears" & "Wedges"**

- "In-Ears" = In-Ear Personal Earphone Monitor
- "Wedges" = Wedge Monitor

### **Sometimes We Need to "Sacrifice" our Monitor**

Hearing Ourselves As Loud As Others in The Monitor, Allows Us To Create That "One Voice"

### **On Sound Adjustments, Run Everything Through The Worship Leader**

## MICROPHONES 101

- Cardioid Mic = Uni-directional (super-cardioid)
- Dynamic vs. Condenser. *Dynamic mics pick up loud sounds. Condenser mics are very sensitive.*
- Stay on Axis Of The Mic. *Stay in Front. Stay Close*