

True Worship

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

True worship requires that we worship God in spirit and in truth. It is intentional and purposeful. It won't just happen without purposefully planning for it. With true worship:

- People must experience God in a tangible and powerful way
- People must experience emotional and physical healing
- It causes people to want to come back and to tell others about it

According to the House of Glory corporate vision, Worship has been highlighted as an important aspect of the church's character. The Worship department has a vision that is in line with the vision of House of Glory.

The vision of the worship department or ministry of House of Glory is to serve as the main channel for everything related to music within the church; to be an effective force when it comes to offering praise, worship, special song renditions, and being an example to the congregation of what effective worship is.

"The Glory Voices" (GV) is the core worship group that is responsible for providing praise and worship in House of Glory. The glory voices is made up of vocalists and instrumentalist, gentlemen and ladies from their teens and upwards, all performing their services to the church purely on a volunteer basis.

GV as a group actively participates in all major church activities and the members are one of the strongest members of the church in terms of discipline, commitment, participation, service, sacrifice, punctuality, availability and leadership.

Most gathering of GV begins with prayer and ends with prayer. As a group, the Glory Voices prays together every Saturday. GV prays for the group and the work that they do, as well as interceding for various aspects and issues that concern the church and the church family. On Sundays, GV prays before going up to minister and usher the church into the presence of God — asking that God takes total control of worship experience.

RECOMMENDATION

The following is the recommendation for Glory voices. These recommendations can be applied from a short-term to long term basis.

Recommendation	Goal	Execution Path	Range (short-, mid-, long-term)
Glory voices should address all known opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocal Improvement Young Adults in the church Organize programs 	To improve the quality of Worship experience in the church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize a minimum of one concert every year that is geared towards the younger generation (who are heavily influenced by music) Active participation and attendance of worship events that other churches have, so they can network with peers across different organizations 	Long-term
GV should actually seek out new and qualified people to join the department and render the kind of service that is in line with the vision of the department and the vision of the church.	To mitigate the issue of attrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Craft announcements that are voiced during church service that encourages members to join Organize audition events that that sell the department to people invited to audition for the department Incorporate flex scheduling into the rules and regulations of the department (for those who cannot participate fulltime due to factors proven to be outside their control) that does not undermine the current quality of the department 	Short-term Long-term
Glory Voices should increase focus on training activities, that address the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better understanding of effective praise and worship How to engage the audience How to provide variety in the church service through music Building of confidence Vocal and music instruction as needed Better understanding of the word of God, and what God expects a true worshipper to exhibit 	To take the effective worship in House of Glory to another level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procure worship training materials online publications, videos and otherwise Invite seasoned ministers to educate, train, or share their experiences on effective worship a couple times in a year GV should continue to attend leadership training events GV should attend workers' training events 	Long-term
Glory voices should continue to incorporate activities outside of church that encourage the building of interpersonal relationships between members	To develop stronger solidarity and Team building activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GV plan to have occasional house calls where practical GV plan sporting activities, summer activities that occur outside the church (subject to availability of funds). These can include – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restaurant visits Bowling 	Short-term Long-term

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Games/Arcade ○ Visit to the zoo ○ Sightseeing activities 	
GV should play a more active role in mentoring teenagers in the church particularly in the area where praise and worship can be enhanced. These teenagers form the next pool of resources for the worship department	To prepare the next generation to be effective worshipers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GV begin (or continue) mentoring activities with teenagers • GV strengthen the “young teens” choir so they learn necessary skills ahead of time • GV should encourage an “open house” on particular Saturdays where people can come to see and learn drives the team, learn how practices are coordinated and managed, and understand the work and effort that goes into preparing for any given Sunday service. 	

WORKSHEET

Strengths	Sub headings		Notes
	Good Worship / God is here	Dedication	<p>Members of Glory voices are a very dedicated set of people. GV members have learned to push themselves beyond their comfort zone on many occasions with the purpose of achieving our vision, mission, goals and objective.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to enforce strict barriers for entry • People can only effectively join our group if they are willing to abide by all rules and regulations set forth • Continue to encourage a sense of belonging with the group
		Commitment	<p>In GV, we understand that the rules “are the rules”. No exception. Everyone’s situation is unique and taken into consideration, but at the end of the day we still move towards an outcome and that cannot be compromised.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to enforce strict barriers for entry • People can only effectively join our group if they are willing to abide by all rules and regulations set forth • Continue encourage a sense of belonging within the group

		Motivation	<p>HOG members are driven by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our motivation to be part of a good and effect department/group. • Our desire to offer effective worship at any given service. • To be used by God, believe we believe we are reaping the rewards and will continue to do so. IJN.
		Our Leadership	<p>Glory voices leadership is strong. Within glory voices, there are a number of people that can step into leadership positions at any time. Glory Voices spends adequate time cultivating members to become leaders at one capacity or another. Each and every one in GV is seen and treated as a potential leader.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to encourage leadership characteristics within the group • Continue to create the awareness that anyone can step up to lead at any time • Continue to encourage members to support any appointed leader at any given time
		Discipline	<p>Discipline has taken years to foster. We continue to strive for discipline to be the culture. Anyone that joins us is influenced by this culture (not the other way around). GV is ready to eject members who deteriorate the standard of discipline that is already operating within the group.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to do what we are doing by making rules and regulations clear on the onset. • Continue to enforce rules and regulations
		Work Ethic	See combination of above bullet points
		Zealousness/ Willingness	See combination of above bullet points
		Humility	See combination of above bullet points
		We take corrections well	<p>Glory Voices take corrections very well. It is amazing how well this is done. This is something acknowledged by members and corroborated by head of department.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important that we continue to have a teachable spirit • It is important that people understand that it is the issue that is being addressed, not necessarily the person (this is only learned over time) • It is important that giving/taking corrections is always on a two-way street. Anyone can be called out with reason (including the leader) • It is important that relationship amongst the member and leader(s) is cultivated at all times, and everyone understands each other, and where each person is coming from
		Talent	<p>Varying talents come to GV. It is our goal to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make use of everyone's talents • cultivate talents and work on continuously improving them
		Passion	See combination of above bullet points
		Persistence	See combination of above bullet points

Weaknesses		<p>We are not original (when rendering songs by other artists)</p> <p>This issue is borne from the fact that songs rendered in GV are songs rendered by original recording artists and we tend to learn songs exactly how they are performed on the record track. (It has been explained to the group the reason why this is done as it is to our benefit. This is critical when uniformity is an issue, or there is a need to render at a moment's notice. If everyone is used to, and has learned a pattern, we are all sure of how the song is expected to play out when we render it)</p> <p>On the flip side, after detailed analysis, we also realize that this issue is not true in all cases as there are times during praise and worship where the worship leader sometimes has full autonomy to arrange the song as he/she sees fit.</p> <p>In conclusion, after group discussion this is not so much a weakness, but something we should be aware of, and thoroughly explain if it is a question on people's hearts.</p>
	Lack of practice	<p>We know that without practice we cannot be effective. Lack of practice refers to members' practicing outside of group practice times.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GV members should practice more away from church or other group practice times GV members should manage individual time in a better way that provides time to practice GV members to try to learn as many songs as possible (whether singing, or playing). List of songs/ video is available on a youtube.com channel used by the House of Glory and by extension, the GV
	Lack of opportunity for personal creativity	<p>After discussion, it is realized that there is opportunity for personal creativity, as this happens on a case by case basis. We learn that each worship service to some extent takes into account the personalities of the person leading at any point in time, down to the songs they feel led to select.</p> <p>We understand that this opportunity should be fostered on a continual basis, and that people in the group should also be made aware that this opportunity exists whenever they want to take advantage of it.</p>
	Late coming	<p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to enforce the rules and regulations which include disciplinary measures Continue to build dedication and commitment within the group as this does a better job at regulating our tardiness
	Lack of confidence	<p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in activities during praise and worship practice that build confidence Continue words of affirmation when excellent acts are done within members of the group Continue to train ourselves by watching videos (or learning from more experienced members within the group Ensure everyone understands that they are just as vital and important to the group – just like anyone else
	Reaching out to people to join	
	Lack of	GV needs to work with a wide array of instruments (including microphones). First and foremost every

		instruments	<p>member should learn about the care of their instrument because these instruments are expensive to replace. GV will continue to work with what it has, but occasionally identifies instruments that need to be purchased – prioritized by need.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to keep a running list of instruments that are needed • Continue to communicate with Pastor and administration what these needs are • Continue to encourage ourselves and people in church to donate money towards the procurement of these essential tools for worship • Learn to appreciate what we have and make the best out of it (as we currently do), knowing that if we are faithful with little, even more will be given unto us.
		Inability to connect with audience sometimes	<p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to pray that God will show us how to be better at this (during our weekly prayers and at other times) • Continue to learn from others through training videos and other utilities • Continue to learn about our audience and strategize ways to be more engaging • Continue to develop ourselves and our persons in the art of worship and the in the word of God
		Not knowing the hymns and/or Messing up the Hymns	<p>Hymns are not a strong point of the GV. This is something we are aware of and continue to encourage ourselves to develop on.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the hymns that are going to be song a month (or better yet, a quarter) in advance so we have adequate time to practice • Build hymn learning/ singing into our schedule/ curriculum • Encourage members on their own time to listen and learn hymns, just like we listen and learn other worship songs
Opportunities		Vocal Improvement	<p>GV believes in a process of continuous improvement. Part of this improvement includes vocal training/ instruction.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GV should work with the church administration to see if the budget can support vocal trainers on a part-time • GV should continue to work on vocal improvements in-house as well
		Young Adults in the church	<p>Young adults are more energetic and have a better tendency to exhibit zeal. Younger generation need to be cultivated and developed. Not just the young adults, but the teenagers as well. They form the pool of the next cadre of GV.</p>
		Organize programs	<p>GV should organize more worship programs. This is an opportunity that exists.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore what type of programs can fit into this “opportunity” category • Work with other music ministers to perform renditions that create a different flair to the worship service, or other programs GV organizes
Threats		Late coming	See under weaknesses
		All weaknesses are threats	See all weaknesses
		Not being like-minded	<p>This is critical for the continued development and success of GV. This is something we discuss on a frequent basis, and try to get new members to buy into.</p> <p>GV will continue to encourage like-mindedness by ensuring that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communication gaps are reduced • communications are passed to the group on a timely basis • members build interpersonal relationships with each other in the group • we operate like a family and thoroughly care about the work that we do
		Inability to connect with the audience	See under weaknesses
		Attrition	<p>Attrition continues to be a major issue for GV. In this department, attrition occurs when people move on to bigger and better things in their career (or education endeavors). It always occurs when people cannot keep up with the rigors and demands that the department places on people.</p> <p>SOLUTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GV should continue to seek out talent to join the department • GV should continue to effectively screen people before they become members (who leave because they can’t fully commit) because considerable time and effort is spent on bringing people up to speed • GV should continue to be that flagship department that naturally draws people with talent and disciplined character to want to be a part of what we do.