



Getting Boys to Sing and Problem Solving Your Worship Challenges

By Yancy

- 1. A lot of people's challenges are universal issues that others also struggle with.**
 - a. I asked questions on facebook to get feedback on what to put in this session.
 - b. Sometimes problem solving is talking about the issue out loud and working through it.
 - i. Often the answer is in between the lines.
 - ii. Ask questions in "the gap"
 - c. James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.
 - d. Pray and ask for help!

STARTING POINT

- 2. Grade yourself. Ask yourself these questions about what you're currently doing:**
 - a. What does your music sound like?
 - b. Who do you have on stage leading worship?
 - c. Do your leaders look like they like to worship?
 - d. Do you teach why and how we worship?

- 3. Do you know what you're trying to accomplish?**
 - a. Define your vision for kids worship for each age group/class.**
 - b. It's much easier to give your volunteer leaders a vision for what you want them to do.
 - c. All they say and how they lead can point back to accomplishing that vision.

4. I have kids that have never experienced a worship service or don't see many adults engaging in worship. How do I help them get it?

- a. Play "Hillsong Kids" concert DVD's and "Bethel Kids" before class to show them other kids worshipping. Paint a picture for them to see it happening.

5. How do I find volunteers?

- a. Pressing play on a video does not lead your worship.
 - i. It's a wonderful tool but you need
 - ii. People to lead and navigate your worship time
 - iii. Who to recruit:
 - 1. Student ministry
 - 2. College students
 - 3. Talk to Worship Pastor at the church
 - 4. Find those who have great potential but need experience, Give them experience
 - 5. Moms that may have had stage talent/experience but has been busy "momming".

MAKING IT HAPPEN

6. How do I get leaders on board and engaging kids?

- a. Behavior is contagious in an audience. Sometimes all you need is a spark. Adult leaders can help spark engagement!
- b. The adults must be engaged and taking part in what's going on. (whether in aisles, the back of the room or amongst the kids.) Do life with them!
- c. They are modeling to the kids the kind of behavior you want to see.

Camp story/testimonial of the power of men engaging the boys.

7. Boys can sing??? Boys can sing!!!

a. Reasons for why they don't want to participate:

- i. What are you asking them to do?
 - 1. Generic, simple, selective

ii. What do your songs sound like?

- 1. A lot of kids music is KIDDY sounding.
- 2. It may be time for an evaluation of songs.

3. Talk to key kids and get feedback
- iii. What have you taught them and explained to them about how and why we worship?**
- iv. Who do you have leading your worship?**
 1. Is it someone that boy would want to be like?
 2. Positive peer pressure
- v. What are you inviting them to take part in?**
- vi. Who have you been focused on catering worship to?**
 1. Wide span of ages
- vii. Have you made recent changes and are still struggling?**
 1. Removing weeds and rocks and replanting in softened hearts takes time and is a process. Don't give up.

8. Leading worship for a wide range of kids (ages 5-11)

- a. Aim high!
- b. You have to win some cool points and engage the older ones to give you the leadership "change in your pocket" to do something for the younger ones.
- c. Talk with the older kids
- d. Put oldest kids in the front (not the back)
- e. When you need to do a song for the young kids make it obvious so the older ones know you know it's not "for them" but they can have fun with everybody.

9. How do I connect kids hearts and get beyond the movements?

- a. Stop making it be all about the movements
- b. Too many in Kidmin have defined kids worship to be this one thing. It is a tool and it can make for some wins but when it becomes your focus you started worshipping the wrong thing.
- c. Give multiple options of how to be involved. Up your engagement.
- d. Every week give them a nugget that's about the "what, why, where, when or how of worship"

10. Tips for pulling in reluctant kiddos, those not as naturally inclined to sing out loud in a group setting.

- a. Put new songs on preservice play lists. Let them become familiar before you start introducing them in services.
- b. Lead them in worship like David.
 - i. He gave them specific instructions of what to do and how to do it.
 - ii. Why Posture Matters in Worship –Stephen Miller “The fruit of our outward expressiveness reveals the root of our hearts.”

BEING STRATEGIC

11. How do I help kids understanding the purpose of worship? Especially older kids, who haven't been taught to engage in worship from an early age.

- a. Elements of the past few things we've been discussing.
- b. Why I made “Heartbeat” curriculum.
- c. Have a heart to heart teaching moment.
 - i. I Love You
 - ii. Thank you notes
 - iii. Make it personal. Sharing about lyrics and stories from your life

12. How do I engaging kids with songs that have a repetitive chorus they can easily remember?

- a. “Hit songs”. Talk about a “hook”
- b. Give a few examples of songs you can start singing quickly:
 - i. Super Wonderful
 - ii. Look At Me
 - iii. Better Than the Best Thing
 - iv. Strength & Shield
- c. When in doubt play the song for others on your team and even some kids you can trust. Get feedback before you try to do the song in a service.

13. How do we allow for authentic worship to happen within time constraints? So often, in adult worship, there's time for people to warm up and engage, but at least in my setting, we only get 2-3 songs with the kids. How can we create an environment for them to

engage with God within limited time (and attention spans) from the first note?

- a. There is freedom in preparation.
 - i. To lead the songs well you have to know the songs.
- b. Plan your song sets with purpose.
 - i. Where do you want to take them?
 - ii. What do you want to reinforce? (teaching)
- c. Talk through my worship sets from a preteen retreat and why I chose the songs I did and how I lead them strategically.

14. How do I lead worship when it is not my forte? I can teach a Jesus lesson with no prep. Worship time? I feel like a fish out of water. The kids can tell. We are smallish- so the teachers lead the worship time.

- a. Leading worship is more about your leadership ability than your musical ability.
- b. It's breaking it down and helping kids understand and engage. That has nothing to do with music -you can do it
- c. Believe in yourself.

15. Thank you for being here! Go help kids experience God's presence in worship. May they taste and see that He is good!

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