



Leading Elementary & Preteens to Worship Like David

by Yancy

1. We connect to kids using music by having great songs and worship leaders they can relate to, opening a door in kids lives to tell the truth of God's word.
2. When we sing songs that are full of God's word in our classrooms we are planting those truths deep down in kids hearts and spirits for years to come.
3. Music is a powerful thing. It connects us to people and places in time.
4. We were made to worship.
 - a. Matthew 21:16 "Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him. "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, 'From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise'?"
5. David is our prime example of worship in the Bible.
 - a. "Man after God's own heart".
 - b. Why? David learned to worship no matter what.
 - c. Help kids find their refuge and sense of belonging in God's presence.
 - d. Spiritual warfare is fought through our worship.

6. Lessons we can learn from David:

#1 WORSHIP MATTERS

- a. *Psalm 66:4 Everything on earth will worship you; they will sing your praises, shouting your name in glorious songs."*
- b. Make time in your class to worship
- c. "The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles but to irrigate deserts." –C.S. Lewis

- d. Psalm 8:1&2 God, brilliant Lord, Yours is a household name, nursing infants gurgle choruses about you and toddlers shout the songs that drown out atheist babble.
- e. **Lead, teach and model worship**
 - i. Pushing play on video does not lead worship for you.
 - ii. Leading worship is more about your leadership ability than your musical ability

#2 HE TEACHES US HOW TO PARTICIPATE.

- a. Look at David's example in the Bible of "worship leading".
 - a. *Ps 47:1 Come, everyone! Clap your hands! Shout to God with joyful praise! NLT*
 - b. Teach kids each week the "why" and "how" of worship.
 - c. Leading worship is a lot like an aerobics instructor, we are there to cast the vision and coach them to finishing.
 - d. "Teaching kids to worship is not the issue They know how to, directing their worship to Jesus is the issue. Help them put God first."
- So often we feast on the world and snack on the Word. Is it any surprise that we don't feel well? Time for a diet change.
- Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
- We like to sing about how God has captured our hearts, while we continue to allow the things of the world to capture our attention.
 - e. Repetition matters
 - a. Psalm 136 "His love endures forever"
 - b. It's not enough to tell them how to engage once. Do it throughout the song and throughout the set.
 - f. Engage by asking questions that demand a response.

#3 HE EXPRESSES HIS WORSHIP WITH ACTION

- a. Psalm 95:6&7 Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord our maker, *for he is our God. (NLT)*
- b. *Psalm 63:3-4 Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise (shâbach) you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.*
- c. Posture matters: Why Posture Matters in Worship

<http://ftc.co/resource-library/blog-entries/why-posture-matters-in-worship>

d. Creating motions for songs

- i. What is the obvious motion that comes to mind when you listen to the song?
 - Simple
 - Jump, wiggle, movement of arms and legs, spinning
 - General dance moves are always great so more can participate
 - You want the motions to enhance the song not take away from the song
 - Don't worry about having a motion for the entire song. Absence makes the heart grow fonder ☺
 - When doing motions: ask yourself if a 10+ boy would want to do that?
 - Have fun!
 - Use props: Find ways for them to participate on stage
- ii. If you're receiving push back or lack of participation then you need to evaluate what you're doing.
 - a) Pray and talk to God about what you need to do!

#4 HOW TO FIGHT OUR BATTLES

- a. 2 Samuel 8:6 The Lord gave David victory wherever he went.
 - b. When you're facing something hard you may not feel like praising but declaring truth about who God is and what He can do is where your victory lies. Help kids learn this!
 - c. Sing songs that will remind hearts what is true about God! Prepare them for the battles of life.
- *You can live in worry or live in worship, but you can't do both.*
 - *The password to your miracle is the sound of your praise.*
 - *Worship overwhelms the thing that's overwhelming you.*
 - *"Worship stops the noise of life." –Darlene Zschech*
 - *In the movie "Sing" they said "Your song is your weapon?" What weapon are you sending forth by the song you sing?*
 - *"Worship is a weapon that pierces the darkness and leads us into light." – Louie Giglio*
 - *"Worship is a declaration of war against everything that says God can't." – Louie Giglio*

- *“Praise will lift your perspective to see God's promise in your problem.” Steve Futrick*
- *“Worship isn't merely a yes to the God who saves, but also a resounding and furious NO to the lies that echo in the mountains around us.” –Mike Cospers//Rhythms of Grace*
- *“When you praise through your darkest hours, you turn your prison into a pulpit.” –Alex Seeley*

#5 EVALUATION AND CHANGE IS NECESSARY

- a. Psalm 149:1 Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of his faithful people.
- b. When was the last time you introduced something new?
 - a. **Tips for teaching new songs**
 - Teach the chorus
 - Simply telling them it's a new song
 - Doing it twice in one service
 - Two weeks in a row, a week off and then a week on. The next month do it twice in the month.
 - Put on preservice playlist.
 - Surround it with a “Homerun” song.
 - Find different arrangements of the same song.
 - b. Plan and allow for time to be creative: daily, weekly, monthly.
- c. Evaluate.
 - a. What songs do you need to stop doing?.
 - b. **Think about your ministry and answer these questions:**
 - How do you teach kids each week why we worship? (whether that's reasons we sing, clap, lift our hands, show honor to God, etc.)
 - How do you have people model how to participate?
 - How do you get the boys in your class get involved?
 - How have you seen growth over the past six months in how your kids worship?

7. What are some next steps for you?

- a. Define your vision and goal of worship for each age group of your kidmin.
- b. Become a student of worship:
 - i. **Books**
 - Holy Roar (Tomlin/Whitehead)
 - The Air I Breathe (Giglio)

- Extravagant Worship (Zschech)
- ii. Listen to teachings**
 - Aaron Keyes. PursuitofGod.com (sermon search)
 - Steven Furtick “Bars & Battles” series
- iii. Go to concerts/events in your area.**
 1. What do you see you could apply to what you do?
- iv. Become a great worshipper.**
 - c. Encourage your worship leaders to build relationships with the kids.
 - d. Define the win.
 - i. What is something you'd like to see happen in your kids worship next weekend?
 - e. Pray
 - Pray for direction as you lead worship
 - Pray for the right people for your team
 - Be specific in what you ask for personnel wise
 - Read the word

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