

The Studio

EPISODE // THE SPIRITUAL LIFE OF THE WORSHIP LEADER

A healthy spiritual life for the worship leader is essential to long-term effectiveness in ministry. Spiritual development is not a one-time process; it is a dynamic journey rooted in relationship with God. As worship leaders, our spiritual development must have life-long attention. Just as relationships with people take time and effort, so our relationship with God must have a priority in our lives.

So what can we do to give our spiritual lives the priority they need for effective living and effective ministry? Across the centuries, Christian leaders have practiced spiritual disciplines that have provided nourishment and transformation to their spiritual lives.

Here are some spiritual disciplines that can help your spiritual life.

- ✦ **Solitude and Quiet.** Our lives are often hurried, busy, and full of distractions. We are addicted to noise, words, activity, technology and other stimuli. We need to step aside and be quiet before God. Psalm 46:10 says “Be still and know that I am God”. The gospels tell us that Jesus regularly went off by himself to spend time with His heavenly Father. Find a place of where you can be alone and quiet. Make it your “sacred space” and go there often to meet with God.
- ✦ **Scripture** God speaks most often to us through the written word. From the Bible we learn the grand story of God’s plan of redemption for humankind. From the story of creation and the fall of man, through God’s covenant with people, and including the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we learn of God’s great love for the people of the world. Through the greatest commandments we learn to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves. The Psalmist said, “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.” Each day, spend time reading the Bible. Let it speak to your heart.
- ✦ **Prayer.** Simply put, prayer is all the ways in which we communicate and commune with God. The fundamental purpose of prayer is to deepen our relationship with God. We talk with God and He talks with us. We are both speaking and listening. Our prayers should include words of praise, adoration, and thanksgiving. We must also confess our sin and ask forgiveness. There should be requests for the needs of others and of ourselves. Our prayers may be silent, or spoken, or even sung from our hearts. Make conversations with God (prayer) a meaningful part of your daily life.
- ✦ **Worship.** Worship is our response to God for who God is and what God has done. We express our worship by what we say and by the way we live. To truly lead others to worship, we must first be worshippers ourselves. Through worship we give ourselves completely to God in order to be mastered by Him. We nourish our minds with His truth, open our hearts to His love, and surrender our wills to God’s purpose. Worship, both private and with others, must be a part of our lives if we are to grow in our relationship with God.
- ✦ **Fellowship and Service.** God’s purpose in creation was to form a community of people who love God with all their hearts and love each other as themselves. Sharing life with other followers of

Christ gives strength and encouragement to each of us. As we join our hands together to serve God and our fellowman, we share the love and light of Christ with the people of the world. Surround yourself with a circle of Christian friends whom you can encourage in their walk with God. Join with them in acts of service that demonstrate the love of Christ.

As you include the spiritual disciplines of solitude and quiet, scripture, prayer, worship, and fellowship and service, you will greatly enhance your spiritual life as a worship leader.