

WORSHIP AND SKILLS

PASTOR REVIN VASALLO

“Skills matter to God” - this is one of the Biblical principles I often remind our worship team about. Let me share three (3) reasons why:

1. Skills produce excellent worship for God.

Yes, God looks at the heart, but we must also remember that He deserves excellent worship. In Psalm 33:3, the writer's exhortation is to play skillfully on the strings. Whenever I remember that passage, I am reminded that as a guitarist, I cannot afford to offer God a mediocre level of music. The Lord has given me the passion and privilege to improve, so I have no excuse not to be excellent whenever I express my worship to Him through music.

2. Skills help the congregation to worship God.

Excellent music will not just please the Lord but will also help people worship Him. Our goal as the worship team is to provide an environment conducive for worship: an environment that will help people focus on God and express worship through songs. In other words, our goal is to provide excellent music with zero distractions! That is where skills come in. Only a skillful musician can

produce excellent music. And only an experienced sound engineer can deliver excellent output to the congregation onsite and online! Excellent music can only be attainable through skillful musicians and technicians!

3. Skills help worship leaders to worship God.

1 Chronicles 15:22 says that Kenaniah was chosen as the choir leader because of his skill. One sure reason is because he was capable of providing excellent music. And I believe the other reason is that because of his skill, he could protect his personal worship while leading others in worship! To play or sing excellently is not easy. To lead people in worship is also a heavy task. And to do both at the same time while striving to worship God on a personal level is truly a very difficult responsibility for a worship leader. The key to accomplish that difficult task is skill! With skill, playing the guitar or singing high notes will become second nature, and the worship leader can focus on God more.

Those are the practical reasons why skills are important in the worship team. However, these principles apply not only in the music

ministry, but to all disciplines and fields, as well. Skills play a major part in our worship to the Lord!

Exodus 36:1 says that the Lord gifted Bezalel, Oholiab, and the other skilled craftsmen with wisdom and ability to perform any task involved in building the sanctuary. Then, God assigned them to construct the place where people could worship.

We must do the same today! Wherever God assigns us, let us make it a place where we can worship Him and point others to Him. God has gifted each one of us differently and purposefully. We must develop our God-given gifts, whether preaching, music, arts, computers, construction, engineering, law, education, or medicine. Let us be skillful in what God has appointed us to do. Let us keep on improving, for God hates stagnancy! Then, as we become excellent in our craft, we then become good models to people around us and it will be easier to influence them to worship God, the giver of gifts and talents!

Truly, skills enable us to worship God and point others to Him. Skills are, indeed, essential in worship! ✨