# ATLANTA GOSPEL PRODUCTIONS PRAISE AND WORSHIP WORKSHOPS

The primary objective for Praise and Worship Workshops offered by ATLANTA GOSPEL PRODUCTIONS is to explore and convey a Biblical understanding of music ministry principles, the purpose for worship, and excellence in God's kingdom building process. The workshops range from single-day seminars to week-long conferences culminating in worship and praise concerts.

We believe that it is extremely important for all song leaders, choir members, directors, and musicians to understand their individual roles and collective responsibilities as worship leaders. Therefore, these times of workshop are intended to have a focus of reflection, application, and direction regarding God's will and purpose for His music ministry.

To accomplish this mission, we conduct lectures and open discussions for the participants regarding choir business, leadership, and responsibility from a Biblical perspective during each workshop. Depending on particular ministry needs and desires, a full range of topics and activities can be included to inspire and encourage greater personal commitment to God's kingdom building process.

Several past topics (as requested by ministry leaders and directed by the Holy Spirit) include:

- The Absolute Need For The Anointing
- The Real Purpose of Worship
- Worship Is A Verb
- Misplaced Priorities
- Choir Decorum What God Expects
- Discipline Means One Hundred Percent

Further, as time permits, vocal technique and training will be included as songs are presented during the longer workshop sessions. And, songs are selected that will prayerfully be encouraging as well as meaningful to the participants and the listeners.

Workshop materials include itineraries, song lyrics, and notepads for any notations individuals may want to make for themselves during discussion time. As well, music score, lead sheets, and tapes/CDs of the workshop songs will be provided for the musicians and soloists in advance. All workshop attendees are encouraged to bring their own Bible to each session.

In the past, many original compositions have been professionally recorded in studios and during workshop concerts. If you are contemplating a recording project, that possibility can be considered as an extension of this endeavor.

## PRAISE AND WORSHIP WORKSHOP - Day 1

The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.

- John 4: 23-24

- Time of preparation, reflection, and consecration (prayer, worship/praise songs)
- Defining "workshop" Defining "worship"
- The purpose of worship
  - What worship is
  - What worship is not
  - The goal of worship
- The "church service" dedication of the Temple built by Solomon
- Testimonial: Seeing worship and God's music make a difference (ref: I Samuel 16:23)
- Hindrances to "true worship"
- Prayer, Worship, and Praise
  - How they are similar
  - How they are different
  - Why we need all three
- Conclusion/Benediction

# PRAISE AND WORSHIP WORKSHOP - Day 2

Therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

- Matthew 6:9-10

- Time of preparation, reflection, and consecration (prayer, worship/praise songs)
- Re-capping Day 1
- Defining "worship"
- The purpose of worship
  - What worship is
  - What worship is not
  - The goal of worship
- Hindrances to "true worship"
- The Tabernacle model of worship (ref: Exodus 25)
- · Bible examples of praising/blessing God
- Preparing for daily worship -- "setting the table"
- Biblical example of the *perfect* church worship service (ref: Mark 2:1-12)
- Conclusion/Benediction

# PRAISE AND WORSHIP WORKSHOP - Day 3

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

- Matthew 6:11-12

- Time of preparation, reflection, and consecration (prayer, worship/praise songs)
- Re-capping Days 1 and 2
- Preparing for daily worship
- Biblical example of the *perfect* church worship service
- Definitions of "worship"
  - o Obedience
  - Commitment
  - Service
- Praying and receiving from God
- The ultimate worship hindrance: unforgiveness "Dealing With Your Enemies"
- (ref: Psalm 37)
- Conclusion/Benediction

#### ADDITIONAL NOTES -- PREPARING FOR A LIFESTYLE OF WORSHIP

God's worship program is a daily one -- seven days a week.

- Matthew 6:9-10

### Ten things that should be done <u>daily</u>:

- 1. Perform vows (Ps 61:8)
- 2. Pray (Ps 86:3; 88:9; Mt 6:11)
- 3. Seek God (Isa 58:2; Lk 18:1-8)
- 4. Praise God (Ps 72:15)
- 5. Take up the cross (Lk 9:23)
- 6. Live in holiness (Lk 1:75)
- 7. Continue in one accord (Acts 2:46)
- 8. Read the Scriptures (Neh 8:18)
- 9. Search the Scriptures (Acts 17:11)
- 10. Exhort one another (Heb 3:13)

# Ten reasons to worship (Ps 95)

- 1. Jehovah is a great God, and a Great King above all gods (v 3)
- 2. He holds all the deep places of the earth in His hands (v 4)
- 3. The strength of the hills is His (v 4)
- 4. The sea is His (v 5)
- 5. He made the sea (v 5)
- 6. His hands formed the dry land (v 5)
- 7. He is our Maker (v 6)
- 8. He is our God (v 7)
- 9. We are His people (v 7)
- 10. We are the sheep of His pasture (v 7)

(i.e. The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein.)

#### ADDITIONAL NOTES -- WAYS TO WORSHIP

The Lord's Prayer opens and closes with praise, yet so many people are ignorant of how to praise God. Praise is commanded all throughout Bible, yet it seems that it only takes place in corporate church service.

Praise should be incorporated in the prayer time of believers, but even more it should become a lifestyle for the believer. The Bible states that the unrighteous refuse to offer praise to God (Romans 1:21, Revelation 16:9), but God's people always have been and always will be a people of praise (Ps 30:4, Ps 149:5).

The Word of God reveals numerous ways to express our love, gratitude, and worship to the King. Throughout out scripture it mentions that we are to praise God with our MOUTHS, through our BODILY MOVEMENTS, and through the playing and singing of MUSIC.

There are some Hebrew Words in the Old Testament which illustrate these ways of praise.

- 1. Praise with the mouth (Ps 51:15, Ps 63:5)
  - Hallal to be vigorously excited; to boast, rave, to celebrate
  - Barak to bless, to declare God the origin of power for success and prosperity (praise is quiet and hushed)
  - Shabach to commend address in aloud tone, to shout.
- 2. Praise through body movements (Ps 134:2, Psalms 107)
  - Todah to extend the hands in thanksgiving.
  - Yadah to worship with extended hands to throw out the hands, enjoying God
- 3. Praise through music (Ps 150, I Chron 16:41,42)
  - o Zamar to pluck the strings of an instrument, to praise with song
  - Tehillah to sing in the spirit or the singing of hymns or psalms

During your time of Prayer, you must not be afraid to yield to the Holy Spirit, and let Him show you how to praise God and when to praise God. Let your heart go out to God in praise and thanksgiving, magnifying and thanking him for all his benefits; especially the benefits of prayer.