



Project #3

CREATE SONG LISTS FOR YOUR CHURCH

OBJECTIVE: To establish and maintain a curated master song list for your church's worship planning, divided into three distinct lists, to enhance congregational participation and facilitate transformational worship. This system aims to help worship leaders engage their people in worship and enable new believers to quickly find a voice for their praise.

Read pages 146-154 in *The Worship Ministry Guidebook*. Check out the resources at WorshipMinistryGuidebook.com in the group study section, including a Google Sheet that provides a great template and advanced functionality for worship planning and song transitions.

- » **Create three song lists** that work for your church as described in the book--*current*, *under consideration*, and *retired* lists.
- » **Create your lists with a companion resource**, a preformatted Google Sheet that will sort your songs by key and also provide help for musical transitions (a planning tool you'll be learning about next). You can access the sheet at the study guide resource section of WorshipMinistryGuidebook.com and save a copy to your Google Drive account. Using this sheet for your song lists will provide an excellent tool for your next project and future worship planning.
 - Important: Only change the information on the tabs marked with an asterisk (*).
 - Do not change the name and key fields in columns A-E; just replace the example songs and keys with the ones from your list. You can change, delete, or add to any columns beyond column E.
- » **Instructions for creating the list**
 - **Current songs** (well-known songs plus a strategic number of new songs)
 - This is your **primary list** that you will use for planning weekly worship services. It should be carefully curated with the correct number and types of songs (discussed below) to ensure both variety and familiarity for your congregation.
 - Determine **the number of songs** that should be on the current list after consulting the information in the book. (pp. 146-154)
 - Carefully **select a variety of songs** *that your congregation knows well*. Try to include modern worship songs (including modern hymns), hymns, and classic worship songs.
 - If you're unfamiliar with the songs your church knows well (perhaps you haven't been part of the church for long), consider gathering a few long-time worship team members to help you evaluate the songs and determine which ones are well known.
 - If you use an online worship planning tool, look at the data indicating when songs were sung at your church. This may give you insights into better-known songs.
 - When you select a song, **determine the appropriate congregationally-friendly keys** to enter in your list database. Only enter keys that are in the correct vocal ranges for the congregation. The spreadsheet allows you to enter two choices.
 - Depending on the number of months you plan to use this list before revising it, you may **include up to one new song per month**.
 - **Fill out the columns** in the downloadable spreadsheet (shown on p. 153 in the book) **with the additional data** that you want to reference. *Song title*, *key(s)*, and *category* are the most critical data points and should be included. The other data, while optional, may prove helpful to you in future planning.

- **Under consideration songs** (future new songs)
 - This is your list of songs that you will eventually introduce to your congregation that **have met all the requirements for a new song**. These have been **carefully filtered musically and textually**, as discussed earlier. Songs on this list will likely end up on the current song list in the future. You may add to this list any time you discover a new song that you might want to introduce to your church. Keep the list limited to 10-12 songs or fewer. Remember to choose only the best songs.
 - When you select a song, **determine the appropriate congregationally-friendly keys** to enter in your list database. Only enter keys that are in the correct vocal ranges for the congregation.
 - **Fill out the columns** in the downloadable spreadsheet (shown on p. 153 in the book) **with the additional data** that you want to reference. *Song title*, *key(s)*, and *category* are the most critical data points.
- **Retired songs** (well-known songs that may be used in the future but not on the current song list)
 - **When you remove a song from the current song list**, you can place it on the retired song list unless you feel it does not warrant using it again in the future. This list can become very large going forward, so you may need to weed out songs as the list grows too large.
 - **As you create this list for the first time**, include well-known songs that were not able to make the cut for your current songs list, but you may want to use them in the future.
 - When you select a song, **determine the appropriate congregationally-friendly keys** to enter in your list database. Only enter keys that are in the correct vocal ranges for the congregation.
 - **Fill out the columns** in the downloadable spreadsheet (shown on p. 153 in the book) **with the additional data** that you want to reference. *Song title*, *key(s)*, and *category* are the most important data points.

Turn in your project as a written report with all the details described here.