



The Choir Member's Preparation

Being a choir member is not only about singing songs to a congregation. The church choir member sings praises to the Almighty and communicates the love of Christ to the listener. As a member of the choir you are ministering to people. Just as a preacher prepares a sermon and himself prior to a worship service, you must prepare in order to be effective in your ministry. Are you a prepared choir member?

On these two pages you will find helpful preparation tips. They may seem elementary, but we all have things that we need to do to get our hearts ready for such a sacred time as worship.

PRAY ... (consistently, that is) *The effectual fervent prayer of the righteous man availeth much (James 5:16b).*

Many of the problems we face within the music ministry would decrease, or possibly cease, if only the members of the ministry, *musicians, singers, directors & leaders*, would pray (consistently & persistently). If we would be honest with ourselves, many within the ministry only pray in the "huddle". That is, we pray when we huddle together during rehearsal, and again on Sundays, in the choir room, before the worship service. Rarely do we spend meaningful one on one time with the Lord. Each day you should pray for at least one of your ministry's needs. Here are some things you can pray for:



- **Monday** - Your Pastor & the Message
- **Tuesday** - The Ministry's Leadership (Minister of Music, Directors, Officers)
- **Wednesday** - Soloist for the week
- **Thursday** - Special needs of ministry members
- **Friday** - God's Shekinah glory to fill your place of worship
- **Saturday** - People are saved, delivered, and set free....a life changing experience for all!!
- **Sunday** - Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit & that the music ministry will heed to God's directives.

GETTING READY ON SATURDAY

1. Sing through your choir songs and worship songs. Sing while you:

- ε Work outdoors
- ε Drive
- ε Are cleaning



Get the song in your heart. If possible, tape the rehearsals and sing along with it. This helps with memorization of lyrics. Get the music and spirit of praise in your heart.

2. Schedule your day's activity & outings so that you can relax, pray, and worship on Saturday evening.

3. Get all Sunday morning details taken care of on Saturday:

- ❖ Select clothes on Saturday. Make sure shoes are shined, clothing is ironed, etc., on this day. Make sure your children's clothes are also ready.
- ❖ Get transportation ready. Gas up the car. Don't wait until Sunday morning to wash your vehicle. Make arrangements to be picked up ahead of time.
- ❖ Prepare meals.
- ❖ Place keys, handbags, bibles, and other items you need to take with you to church at a central location. I have often found myself in a rush because of misplaced keys.

5. Go to bed with praying and praising God. Whatever is on your mind when you go to sleep will be on your mind when you arise.

6. Go to bed at a decent hour. Don't stay up too late. You will need your rest.

7. Be careful of the types of television programs you watch. Don't allow Satan an opportunity to poison your heart and mind.

IT'S SUNDAY MORNING



1. Get up early. Allow yourself an ample amount of time to pray, eat, dress and drive in.

2. Arrive at church early enough to pray with your choir. Avoid rushing.

3. Sing on the way to church. This is an opportunity for you to get your heart and your voice warmed up.

These are simple, common sense things that should not be taken for granted. We cannot enter into worship casually. God deserves and requires our wholehearted praise! Music preparation is a big deal, but heart preparation is of the utmost importance. Satan wants nothing more than to get our hearts distracted and to keep us from encountering God in worship. *SUNDAY'S COMIN'!* The words T.D. Jakes made famous are appropriate..... **GET READY, GET READY, GET READY!**