



**MORNING STAR  
WORSHIP &  
PRODUCTION  
CULTURE  
GUIDE**

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# **MORNING STAR WORSHIP & PRODUCTION CULTURE GUIDE**

*Culture and team values give us a blueprint for healthy qualities and habits to aspire to in order to create an amazing team environment! **Creating an incredible ministry team starts with you!** While grace is always readily available, each and every one of us must strive to serve the best we can for the glory of God and the benefit of those around us!*

# **WORSHIP & PRODUCTION TEAM VALUES**

*As individuals responsible for leading God's people in worship, we are committed to:*



[\(mstar.church/our-core/\)](http://mstar.church/our-core/)

We strongly believe in the core values of Morning Star and we join our church family in leading people to pursue a Jesus-first life.



We believe that worship happens both on and off stage. *Praise is an action, worship is a lifestyle.* In our actions and interactions, we strive to honor God! We maintain a consistent devotional life, ground ourselves in Christ-like community, and allow the Spirit to refine us. Sunday service is an outpouring of a life devoted to Jesus . . . .not the end goal. Perfection is unattainable; humility and growth are essential.

*Scripture References:* [1 Chr. 16:23-24](#), [Eph. 2:10](#), [Gal. 2:20](#), [2 Cor 5:17](#), [Ps. 52:9](#), [Ps. 42:1](#)



## **HUMILITY**

Worship and praise are not designed to highlight our abilities and talents. We serve with humble hearts and value each person on the team equally. What we do does not define our worth! We bring glory to God with the gifts we have been given, and we realize that every good thing we have comes from him.

*Scripture References:* [Pro. 3:34](#), [Jas. 4:10](#), [Pro. 26:12](#), [Pro. 11:2](#), [Pro. 15:33](#), [Lk. 14:11](#), [Phil. 2:3](#), [Rom. 12:3](#), [Phil. 2:3-4](#)



## **COLLABORATION AND SERVITUDE**

Our team is better together! We honor and value each other's ideas and we go out of our way to help and serve those on our team and in our congregation. Big egos are not allowed. We work hard, respect our leaders, collaborate well, and serve humbly.

*Scripture References:* [1Pet. 4:9-11](#), [Eph. 4:1-6](#), [Eph. 4:11-13](#), [Eph. 4:29](#), [Phil. 2:1-8](#)



## **EXCELLENCE AND PREPAREDNESS**

We strive for excellence, creativity, and craftsmanship; not for the purpose of being the greatest, but to bring glory to Jesus. We believe in honoring each other by being on time, committed, and prepared. "Winging it" causes unnecessary stress, conflict, and lack of quality, and creates barriers to praise. We do our best with what God has given, push

ourselves to learn and grow, and eliminate all possible distractions. *Jesus gave his best for us, so we give our best for him.*

Scripture References: [Col. 3:23-24](#), [Pro. 22:29](#), [Pro. 3:9](#), [Dan. 6:3](#), [Gen. 4:4](#) (Abel brought his best to God), [Ecc. 9:10](#)



We try new things, innovate, and avoid stagnancy and repetition. We long to provide new perspectives of God's character for our church and show the gospel to non-believers in a way that makes sense to them. We will be uniquely creative because our God is creative and we are designed in His image.

Scripture References: [Ex. 35:30-35](#), [Ex. 36:1](#) (God gives us skills to use for him), [Gen. 1:31](#) (God's creativity) [Gen. 1:27](#) (we are made in God's image), [Eph. 2:10](#), [Act. 17:22-25](#) (Paul used their culture to relate the gospel to them in a new way)



We value community! We are committed to getting to know each other and loving our teammates and our church. Being involved in the worship team means being involved in our church family. We believe in the power and importance of corporate worship. We attend services (even when we are *not* scheduled to serve) and strive to learn and grow through, and submit to, the pastoral leadership God has placed in our church.

Scripture References: [Romans 12:10](#), [Heb. 10:23-25](#), [Mat. 18:19-20](#), [Ecc. 4:9-10](#), [Act. 2:42-47](#), [1 Cor. 12:12-31](#)



# ***LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT***

Our gifts are not given to us to keep! We believe in training up the next generation of leaders and passing on our skills and wisdom to help others grow in their craft and in their faith. We make an intentional effort to teach others and invest in their lives in order to create a thriving team built of passionate people!

*Scripture References:* [Ex. 18:21](#), [1 Pet 4:10-11](#), [Jn. 13:12-17](#), [Mk. 10:42-45](#), [Rom. 12:4-8](#), [1 Thes. 5:11](#), [1 Tim 4:12](#)

# **EXPECTATIONS & COMMITMENTS**

## **REHEARSALS**

Two-hour, mid-week rehearsals are a part of our culture. Accepting a request to serve on a Sunday means committing to a mid-week rehearsal.

- *WHY?: This helps us to be prepared, have time to try new exciting things, and make sure we're set up for success.*
- (If the time of mid-week rehearsal is difficult or impossible to make, please speak to the worship leader for that week. There are exceptions.)

## **CLICK/LOOPS**

We play with click track and/or loop track for almost every song

- *WHY?: With teams and schedules switching regularly, this helps us to stay together, not rush or drag songs, and pushes us as musicians to become stronger at our craft.*

## **IEMS**

In ear monitors (IEMs) are used regularly at Morning Star. We have IEMs for worship team use at the church, but you are more than welcome to order or bring your own as well.

- *WHY?: Playing with IEMs allows each of us to create and control our own monitor mix, alleviates audio problems created by wedge monitors, cleans up the stage and future proofs our team.*

## **PLANNING CENTER**

Planning Center is our hub for everything worship! Charts, practice tracks, schedules, teams, and service orders will all be found there. Every team member will need to have a basic understanding of how to confirm schedule requests, look at the service order, and practice music through this amazing resource!

- *WHY?: A great service starts with everyone being on the same page. Planning Center allows us to operate in unity and plan things in advance so that we can make things as smooth as possible!*

## PERSONAL PRACTICE

**Mid-week rehearsal is not our own personal practice time.** We listen to songs in advance, practice with material listed on Planning Center, and come ready to rehearse together as a team.

- *WHY?: We value the time and busy schedules of our teammates. We also value giving our best to Jesus. We have an hour and a half each week dedicated to getting on the same page as a team, unifying our dynamics, and nailing down fun and creative ideas. If we show up unprepared and unpracticed, we slow down practice time and limit ourselves in what we can accomplish.*

## CALL TIME VS DOWNBEAT

A **Call Time** is the time we show up to set up our instrument, tune up, start up, and get ready. **Downbeat** is the time we actually start our prayer time and rehearsal. We are all set and ready to go at the downbeat time.

- *WHY?: We value the time and busy schedules of our teammates. Time spent setting up during our rehearsals means delayed ending times, rushed rehearsals, and less time to actually rehearse. Having everyone ready to go by our downbeat time respects others time and keeps things efficient.*

## FLEXIBILITY AND COLLABORATION

***Our responsibility to lead worship and operate as a team is bigger than our own preferences and personal styles.*** We will constantly be collaborating, trying new things, and engaging in different styles of music and performance. It is important that we all show up with willing hearts to listen to ideas, follow leadership, and implement changes as they are needed.

- *WHY?: God gave us creativity to use for a reason! In every team and every congregation, there will be a huge variation in stylistic preference and background experiences. It's so important that we operate together in unity, leave our pride and preferences behind, and come ready to collaborate and create for the benefit of the team and our church!*