

# BOOK REVIEW/SAMPLE

## SONGS OF DELIVERANCE

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### FOREWORD

I'm coming back to the heart of worship  
And it's all about You,  
It's all about You, Jesus  
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it  
When it's all about You,  
It's all about You, Jesus

This excerpt, taken from a well-known worship song, "The Heart of Worship", which was composed by Praise and Worship leader, Matt Redman, expresses the heart of Tania Berrangé's message in *Songs of Deliverance*: Make Jesus the focus of the worship team. Tania Berrangé understands what worship is about. As an ordained pastor and experienced worship team leader, Tania presents in this book a perceptive analysis and Scripture-founded guidelines for the successful and Spirit-filled functioning of the worship team in the local assembly.

The assembly's worship team plays a vital role in the gathering and service of believers. The worship team has the tremendous responsibility, by means of singing and instrumental playing, to take believers on a journey to the throne room of the Lord, to a place of meeting with the triune God. Tania wants to help and motivate the worship team to undertake this journey in faith and with complete confidence and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

*Songs of Deliverance* has the potential to transform the worship team, no matter how complex or challenging the present condition of the team may be. May the Lord use this book to take assemblies in South Africa — and even outside the boundaries of this country — to a new level of intimacy with our Abba-Father.

*Ad maiorem Dei gloriam! To the greater glory of God!*

***Pastor Marno Retief***

*Cape Town, July 2011*

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## CHAPTER 1

# MEMBER'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO WORSHIP REHEARSALS

## PART 1: DOING ONE'S PART

*(1 Corinthians 14:26) What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.*

Music rehearsals are more than just an activity of the church. It is not enough to simply learn and rehearse songs. Tradition should be broken at rehearsals, because what happens at music rehearsals has a direct impact on the atmosphere and success of services.

The purpose of rehearsals is to bring DIRECTION, GROWTH and HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS into the team and into the life of every individual through INVOLVEMENT and PARTICIPATION in every facet that is discussed in this book.

### 1.1 ARRIVE ON TIME

#### Questions for discussion by the team

- (a) Can it be said that a person, who regularly arrives late without making an excuse, reveals an attitude of contempt towards the leader and the rest of the team? Motivate the answer.
- (b) Can it be said that such a person reveals the fruit of the Spirit when (s) he regularly arrives late, is irritated and does not pay any attention when the leader reprimands him / her?
- (c) Are the actions of that person, to the advantage of the team or

the assembly? Does that person subject him / herself to authority? Motivate the answers.

- (d) Should disciplinary steps be taken against that person? If that is how it is felt, what would be the suggestions?

***(1 Corinthians 10:31) So, whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:33) Even as I try to please everyone in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved.***

It is the small, undisciplined issues, such as punctuality, that spoil the effectiveness of the team. Attitudes toward rehearsals should be that the talents and relationships are going to be promoted with each other and JESUS, so that members cannot afford not to attend, nor arrive late for rehearsals. It is with **ZEAL, PASSION** and **ENTHUSIASM** toward JESUS and His work of redemption on the cross that one could come together to share the fruit of their salvation with one another. Therefore, the focus should be on the contribution that one can make to the spiritual atmosphere by way of their music that will in turn edify the members of the team during rehearsals.

### **Practical advice**

- (a) Have purposeful attitudes — and make priority changes in case any one of the team members continually arrives late. When members live in the conviction that their relationship with God and their music abilities can make a definite contribution to the development and success of the team, they simply will not arrive late or miss rehearsals. When members are convinced that they need the *fellowship* and that the *fellowship* needs them, then faithfulness and loyalty will be a natural product.
- (b) Members must realise their impact on the whole team and the effectiveness of the ministry when they continually arrive late for and do not attend rehearsals, and decide to be loyal.

- (c) Members must arrive on time for rehearsals and appearances and apologise to the team leader when they know they are going to be late.
- (d) Do not point fingers when one is on time and rehearsals start late. Sometimes the leader allows people to fellowship to promote healthy relationships, which are considered part of rehearsals. Music rehearsals are not simply another church activity; it should be considered as **“assembling together”** (*Hebrews 10:25*).

## PART 6: WHAT DESTROYS A TEAM?

### 6.1 UNRIGHTEOUSNESS CANNOT BE IGNORED

#### Questions for discussion by the team

- (a) When every member wants to have their own way and insists that the team follow their style, how will this destroy the team?
- (b) Is it the responsibility of the leader to speak to members of the team and attempt to assist them when they are struggling with sin in their lives? Motivate the answer.
- (c) What effect will it have on the team and the ministry when people are left to continue in their unrighteousness?

***(Psalm 24:3) Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in His holy place? (Psalm 24:4) The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god. (Psalm 24:5) They will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God their Saviour.***

Unrighteousness cannot simply be ignored ***(1 John 3:8, AMPL) [But] he who commits sin (practises evil doing) is of the devil – takes his character from the evil one; for the devil has sinned (has violated the divine law) from the beginning. The reason the Son of God was made manifest (visible) was to undo (destroy, loosen and dissolve) the works the devil [has done].*** Sin on many occasions has brought disruption and division within worship teams. The greatest cause of division is unrighteousness, selfishness and the egotistic attitude.

An individual must desire to break from sin by asking JESUS to assist them in doing so. There must also be a declaration of war



against unrighteousness from the side of the individual. The answer to victory is contained in the following two verses: ***(Colossians 2:6, AMPL) As you have therefore received Christ, [even] Jesus the Lord, [so] walk (regulate your lives and conduct yourselves) in union with and conformity to Him. (Colossians 2:7, AMPL) Have the roots [of your being] firmly and deeply planted [in Him, fixed and founded in Him], being continually built up in Him, becoming increasingly more confirmed and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and abounding and overflowing in it with understanding. (1 John 5:6 AMPL) No one who abides in Him [who lives and remains in communion with and in obedience to Him — deliberately, knowingly, and habitually] commits (practises) sin. No one who [habitually] sins has either seen or known Him [recognised, perceived, or understood Him, or has had an experiential acquaintance with Him]. (1 John 5:18).***

***(Ephesians 4:30) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*** Team members who allow unrighteousness into their lives will never experience the satisfaction and fulfilment of Jesus in their day to day walk with Christ. They will seek to fill the emptiness in their lives with worldly things such as achievement to be the best musician / singer; to possess more of worldly possessions; to be seen and noticed by others; to cause division so that they could become prominent in their position, etc.

***Ephesians 4*** is clear that one must leave all covetousness and impurity behind oneself, because this is not how a person can come to know JESUS. The person's previous way of life must be laid down before they can walk in holiness and righteousness. A child of GOD must not lie, neither work for fleshly desires nor steal. Our mouths should not entertain filthy languages, but only that which is to edify, granting grace to those who hear, laying down all bitterness, anger,

strife, being friendly, caring and forgiving even as JESUS forgave us for our trespasses.

### **Practical advice**

- (a) Team members should guard against using artistic temperaments as an excuse providing themselves permission to exhibit bad attitudes, *mood swings* and other sinful tendencies, therefore causing the entire team to suffer as a result. Every member of the team is a child of God and should not be led nor controlled by their artistic temperament(s), but by the Spirit of God. The unavoidable results will therefore be the fruit of the Spirit and self-control that would be exhibited in their lifestyle. The member should identify the negative emotions and immediately deal with it in their spirit when it desires to come to the fore. Choose to do what is right, even when it is difficult. As one progress through these exercises, doing the right thing will become the individual's standard for life and will come naturally as they exercise themselves in godliness.

## CHAPTER 2

# CONTRIBUTION TO THE TEAM'S SUCCESS

## PART 1: CO-OPERATE WITH THE TEAM

It is by the means of songs of praises that truth is proclaimed (*John 8:32*); prayer is made cohesively and the desire of the church is that all may be filled with the Spirit (*Acts 4:31*) so that people can speak the Word of God with liberty. The team's desire is that there will be total deliverance, and freedom is prevalent when the team leads the congregation in songs of praise (*2 Corinthians 3:17*). This is what the attitude of every member in the team should be.

### 1.1 SUBJECTION OF MEMBERS TO LEADERSHIP

#### Questions for discussion by the team

- (a) What contribution does the member's attitude when attending rehearsals and making appearances, make regarding the working of the Holy Spirit?
- (b) How does the member's attitude and frame of mind affect the team, and does it contribute positively or negatively towards rehearsals and the services of the church?
- (c) How should team members that come to rehearsals, or even church services with a wrong attitude or frame of mind, be handled?
- (d) What is the function of the leader?

- (e) What are the reasons why some people are not submissive to leadership?
- (f) When some people are not submissive to leadership, how are they to be handled?

***(Hebrews 13:7) Remember your leaders, who spoke the Word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.***

A team member might think that their leader is not capable of leading or is leading incorrectly, do not add to the problem by behaving in an immature way. Consider unity as God considers it ***(Ephesians 4:3-6)***. Unity is very important and a serious matter to God. He does not take it lightly and His presence is powerful in circumstances where there is unity ***(2 Chronicles 5:13-14)***. God demands that there be unity when His people do something together in the name of JESUS. God reacts to unity and unity is a powerful witness to those that are lost.

***(2 Samuel 6:15) While he (David) and all Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sounds of trumpets.*** David's focus was entirely on the presence of God. David, together with the whole house of Israel, fetched the ark of the LORD with the sound of rejoicing and the flourish of trumpets. It is the responsibility of the whole team to bring in the glory of God into meetings with rejoicing. The whole worship team must know the sound of the LORD. Be part of this joyful experience and do not allow unnecessary rebellion and ungratefulness from any member of the team to keep any person from it.

### **Practical advice**

- (a) If a member disagrees with anything that the team leader does

or says, converse with him / her, and if there are still conflicting differences, that member should pray and request that the LORD either changes their own heart or that of the leader (**1 Thessalonians 5:12-13**).

- (b) Choose always to maintain the right attitude, irrespective of circumstances or people (**Galatians 5:22**). It is a step of faith. What a person surrounds themselves with in life and what (s) he allows or does not allow within their lives, it will play a huge determining role in respect of their frame of mind about the leader and the members of the team. The members should keep in touch with JESUS and surround themselves with praise and worship, and people who are spiritually mature.

## CHAPTER 5

# THE SELECTION, SINGING, PLAYING AND LEADING OF SONGS

## PART 1: THE SELECTION OF SONGS

Songs of praise that is sung in the assembly is an indication of the eternal songs of praise at the throne of God (***Revelation 4:8-11***). What the worship team does Sunday after Sunday really does change lives and makes a definite difference when they do it in spirit and in truth. As the body of Christ believers are called to honour God in the highest standard that they can obtain, and which is also reflected by their songs of praise.

Team members are called to create opportunities where people feel included, firstly because the team can experience the radical love among one another on the platform, and secondly because this love presents an invitation from God to everyone to be part of His body. The people on the platform can make the people in the audience feel either comfortable or uncomfortable. It is, therefore, important that the worship team maintains the highest possible standard that will not only make the redemptive work of JESUS understandable, but will also through their praise create the opportunity for people to become part of that redemptive work.

### **1.1 KEEP IN MIND THE POWER OF SONGS OF PRAISE**

#### **Questions for discussion by the team**

- (a) What effect should the songs that the team sings, have on the audience and the spiritual atmosphere?

- (b) How does the attitude with which the songs are sung, influence the audience and spiritual atmosphere?
- (c) How does the spiritual maturity of the team impact on the worship and spiritual songs of praise sung in the services?
- (d) Is the power of songs of praise, when selected for services, thought of or when they are sung in the services?
- (e) Are there any specific expectations of what God will do in the lives of people while the team is serving in praise and worship?
- (f) Is the power of praise being reflected in the lives of the team members individually and as a team? If not, what is being done to change that?

***(Psalm 97:11, AMPL) Light is sown for the [uncompromisingly] righteous and strewn along their pathway, and joy for the upright in heart [the irrepressible joy which comes from consciousness of His favour and protection].***

A consciousness of what God wants to do in the midst of the team will definitely influence their choice of songs and the way that they convey it to the audience. It will make them more purposeful in their songs of praise. When selecting songs they must bear in mind that in the spiritual atmosphere they are in faith making proclamations with what they are singing.

### **Practical application**

- (a) Remember that a song of praise is a spiritual weapon (Psalm 149:6-9).** Songs of praise brings deliverance to those that are in bondage, destroying the works of the enemy as the

glory of God breaks through in the team's praise and binds the enemy. Do not select a song just because it is beautiful; but rather choose a song that releases the truth and power of God.

**(b) Songs of praise makes the Gospel of JESUS a reality (Luke 4:18-19).** Many times in services this author has seen unbelievers coming to salvation and being filled with the Holy Spirit, and as demons manifested themselves the people were completely set free during the singing of praise. Testimonies of people who were healed while this author sang songs of praise to God keeps inspiring her to sing with purpose and with an expectation that God is going to do something great in the hearts of people, and that the Gospel of JESUS will become a reality in the lives of people.

**Songs of praise change people's attitude (Isaiah 6:13).** Songs of praise are garments that either clothe the believer or are left



## **PART 3: THE LEADING OF THE SONGS**

### **3.1 TEACHING NEW SONGS TO THE ASSEMBLY**

#### **Questions for discussion by the team**

- (a) What causes the assemblies to not be receptive to new songs?  
What can be done to change this?
- (b) Why is it important that assemblies are taught new songs?  
What contribution do new songs make toward fruitful times in the LORD's presence?

***(Deuteronomy 31:19) Now write down this song and teach it to the Israelites and have them sing it, so that it may be a witness for Me against them. (Psalm 98:1) Sing to the LORD a new song; for His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.***

New songs mean new ways in which people can express their love to God. Sometimes it takes the church out of their comfort zone of tradition and brings freshness in their communication with God. To write and learn new songs are gifts that people receive from God through His Spirit and are not for personal interest or glorification, but for the edification of the body ***(Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12)*** of Christ.

#### **Practical advice**

- (a) Ensure that the whole team knows the song well, that the song can be easily sung, and that the team understands the message of the song and can react to it before it is taught to the assembly.
- (b) Work hard to memorise the songs. It makes it easier to flow and lead the people with confidence.

- (c) Sing the new songs for two to three weeks prior to the service and then integrate it into a service. The assembly will take to some new songs immediately, stand and sing with, while other songs may take time to learn.
- (d) When it is integrated into the assembly, have it placed with easy songs that the assembly knows well.

### **3.2 THE LEADING OF SONGS**

#### **Questions for discussion by the team**

- (a) What causes the songs that the team sings to sound all the same?
- (b) What are the reasons that causes it to sometimes feel as if some songs are being repeated over and over again till the congregation begin to grow tired of it, instead of the songs progressively making an impact in the atmosphere so that God can speak to the assembly?

Music is a powerful form of expression. It not only conveys ideas, but also feelings. Music can make people to feel cheerful, make them to feel like dancing, or can even cause them to shed a tear. It is difficult to lead people when there is no definite rhythm, inspired playing on the key-board, dynamics and progression in the song.

#### **Practical advice**

- (a) Musical growth and development starts with the team members practising at home and putting time aside to worship God on their own instruments and with their voices. By playing and singing over and over at home, it helps the members to become acquainted with the songs and to flow easier in the Spirit. Members should strive playing until playing their instruments becomes second nature. It will also assist them to flow and accompany more easily during times of praise and worship.
- (b) Do small musical steps weekly by practising and going for extra classes. There is no time to teach musicians and singers at rehearsals on how to master their instruments or how to sing. The initiative must come from their side to do this in their own time. Also listen to as much praise and worship music as possible. Members must sing with it and play their own instruments to the music so that a feeling for the music grows. They must go for extra singing lessons in order to help the control and projection of their voices.

## CHAPTER 6

# ESTABLISH GOD'S REIGN IN THE TEAM<sup>1</sup>

*(Philippians 3:10, AMPL) [For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognising and understanding the wonders of His Person more strongly and more clearly], and that I may in that same way come the power outflowing from His resurrection [which it exerts over believers], and that I may so share His sufferings as to be continually transformed [in spirit into His likeness even] to His death, [in the hope].*

It is not a matter of whether God is 100% for His children, but whether His children are 100% for God. Songs of praise was never meant to be considered as something minor and to be relegated to the status of duty or a warm-up exercise in the church. Songs of praise is the believer's reaction to the character of God and not an experience or weekend service that is to be pursued. The hearts of the believers overflow with songs of praise and from the revelations of God in their lives as to who He is. When they think about the goodness of God that leads them to a change of heart, their reaction is praise.

Songs of praise is not something that the believers do because God needs it. Songs of praise comes from thankful hearts that grow in experience of who God really is and as God interacts, worship happens. It flows from a relationship of love for and dedication to God. Irrespective of how difficult the circumstances may be, believers bring their praise to God not on the grounds of who they are or their circumstances, but on the grounds of who they believe God is. What believers believe about God and how they view Him and feel about Him, will be reflected in their songs of praise.

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### 1. Bibliography for chapter 6

*The material in Chapter 6 was obtained by making notes of Chip Ingram's messages of Seeing God 20/20 Vision, and adapted them for the purpose of this book. Chip Ingram: Living on the Edge; Seeing God 20/20 Vision; [www.lote.org](http://www.lote.org).*

Songs of praise focus the attention on the heavenly, spiritual terrain that encourages the believers, empowering and healing them while they live in a world that is full of challenges. God puts up His tent where His name is lifted on high. He encamps with those who acknowledge Him, honour Him and desire His presence. Believers have need for Him to put up His tent in the midst of their weaknesses, fears and sufferings.

## **1. SONGS OF PRAISE ESTABLISH GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY**

### **Questions for discussion by the team**

- (a) Does anyone always want to be in control of circumstances? What are the destructive results thereof in each one's relationships? Why do they always want to be in control?
- (b) Does it feel as if God has forsaken a person when things go out of control in their lives, or does not happen as they desire it to happen? What are the reactions in word and deed?
- (c) How will reactions change when a person knows that God is always in control, even when things go wrong, and that He has arranged it in this way so that He can perform a miracle for that person(s)?

The sovereignty of God is the way He rules His entire universe, and to be sovereign God has to be all-knowing (omniscient), almighty (all-powerful) and absolutely free. This means that God is in absolute control.

### **Practical application**

- (a) When believers go through difficult circumstances, they must know that God is in control. Nothing will happen to them without God allowing it to happen, or God giving the command for it to happen. If they are prepared to trust Him with their lives, He will use the most difficult, evil and diverse things that enter their lives to their advantage and not to their detriment. He will allow all things in their lives to work out for their good when they trust Him with their lives.
- (b) The sovereignty of God means that He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Without equal, without limits and all-wise.

(c) God is sovereign because:

- He is before all things (*Psalm 90:2; Revelation 1:8; 1 Timothy 6:16*).
- He has created all things (*Genesis 1:1; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16*).
- He holds all things together (*Colossians 1:17*).
- He is above all things (*Isaiah 45:5-12*).
- He knows all things (*Isaiah 46:10; Psalm 139:4*).
- He can do anything (*Jeremiah 32:27; Luke 1:37*).
- He brings everything to pass (*Isaiah 14:24; Isaiah 46:10*).
- He rules over everything (*Daniel 4:34, 35; 1 Chronicles 29:11, 12*).
- He is in control of everything (*Job 42:2*).

## 2. SONGS OF PRAISE ESTABLISH GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

### Questions for discussion by the team

- (a) Many times it is sung: *Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong, forever God is with us, forever*. How is it that sometimes people react to things that happen daily and practically every day in their own lives and forget that God is faithful, strong and with them, always and in all circumstances?
- (b) Make a card that can be kept in the purse, on the fridge or even on the computer at work with the words: *Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong, forever God is with me, forever*. Confess and sing it for at least a month during the quiet times. Every time a member of the team faces a crisis, witness to the team the change it had brought about in their lives and spirit trusting God, and the work He had done through that in their lives and spirit.



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