

Worship & Songwriting Workshop

Types of Songs

If the song is **Revelation**

→ focus on **who God is**

If the song is **Response**

→ focus on **our surrender**

If the song is **Proclamation**

→ focus on **the gospel story**

If the song is **Invitation**

→ focus on **the presence of God**

Which type of song does your church need right now?

Maybe your church needs:

- more **proclamation**
- more **surrender**
- more **encounter**
- more **revelation**

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Good songs:

- ➔ Verses show
- ➔ Chorus tells
- ◆ Feel something, show something

Bad Songs:

Verses tell
Chorus tell

Examples:

Good

Verse (show):

Morning light breaks through the hills
Mercy falls like summer rain
Empty hands begin to lift
Hope is rising once again

Chorus (tell):

You are good
You are good
Every breath declares Your love

Why it works:

- The **verse paints a scene**
- The **chorus declares the truth**

Bad

Verse (tell):

You are holy and amazing
You are worthy of our praise
You are loving and forgiving

Chorus (tell):

You are holy
You are worthy

Why it fails:

- Nothing is **pictured**
- Everything is **explained**
- The listener **sees nothing**.

CO-WRITING

Rule #1: Not every song is a winner

Rule #2: You are not your idea, and if you identify too closely with your ideas, you will take offense when they are challenged.

"Don't wait for things to be perfect before you share them with others. Show early and show often. It'll be pretty when we get there, but it won't be pretty along the way."

~ Ed Catmull in Creativity, Inc.: Overcoming the Unseen Forces That Stand in the Way of True Inspiration

Rule #3: Treasure means Trash. Cowriting can be like digging for treasure. Digging for treasure is better together.