



WORSHIP ROCKET

HOW TO GET PEOPLE TO SING

MODULE 06: EBOOK

HOW TO GET PEOPLE TO SING

OUR JOB IS TO HELP CONNECT PEOPLE TO GOD BY SINGING.

I never will forget when North Point first started and I was leading a Bible study called 722. When I led at 722, people were just singing at the top of their lungs every night. Then, on Sunday when I came in to lead at North Point people weren't as with me. It was frustrating. I was in the office one day and I was making that comment to our music director, Jeff Goode. I said, "Man they just don't get it. They don't know how to sing." The crazy thing that happened is, my pastor Andy Stanley happened to be walking by our office and he heard that statement and he said, "Hey Todd can we go to lunch today?"

Andy sat me down and I'll never forget it. We were at Mellow Mushroom Pizza and he told a story that I'll never forget. He said, "Todd, this past summer my wife Sandra and I went to the beach with our 3 kids." His youngest daughter at the time, Allie, was 4 years old and his sons were a few years beyond that, Andrew and Garrett, and Andy had decided to take the kids for a walk on the beach. As they were walking on the beach, they got into the walk for about 100 yards and realized that Allie was nowhere to be found. Andy was in a panic and looking everywhere. He turned around and he looked back down the beach and he saw Allie with her face in her hands sobbing and she was crying because they had left her. They had left her behind. They were going at their pace without paying attention to where she was.

"There's a massive principle to be learned in this," Andy said, "Todd, don't ever blame your audience that you're leading for their lack of response. It's your job to lead." Man, that hit me like a dagger. I've never forgotten it and it's really cemented that idea in my mind and how I am as a worship leader.

THE PROBLEM: PEOPLE AREN'T SINGING

We all know how powerful it can be for a room full of people to be singing out in praise and confession to God. The worst thing we can do is blame them. Our problem is that people aren't singing. There are reasons why. We all know what it's like to see blank stares. You've got the guy on the front row with his arms crossed or maybe somebody in the 5th row has coffee in their hand. Our job is to help connect people to God by singing, but oftentimes we feel like we can't get them to sing. It's our responsibility, again, as that story said. It's our role. We're the leader.

THE SOLUTION: INVITE PEOPLE TO RESPOND

We've come up with a solution and a key word to help you cement this idea in your brain. We want you to invite people to a response. When I say invite, I don't mean just, "hey, let's sing." Let's worship. Anybody can say that. That's easy. In order to invite we need to do some key things.

KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE First, we need to know our audience. I'd love to set this up by using this illustration. Imagine that you're getting married. You got a wedding coming up and you're going to send out invitations. You're going to invite people that you know.

So, the question for you as you're inviting people to sing is, "do you know these people?"

- Do you know their age?
- Who are you leading?
- Are these students?