

7
steps^{nto}
AWESOME
for
vocalists

with Dan Wilt



AWESOME listeners

Awesome vocalists have trained themselves to listen closely to their lead and fellow vocalists. They do not simply sing into a microphone – they contribute to a whole vocal sound that only needs a part of what they can do. They minimize their vibrato and sonic independence to create a tight group sound.

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AWESOME learners

Awesome vocalists listen closely to recordings of songs, and match the harmonies available. They train themselves to learn the song tightly, and to match the rhythmic and melodic pushes in the song. They are tight with rhythm, and watch the leader's phrasing.

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AWESOME blenders

Awesome vocalists don't run roughshod into singing a part. Rather, they work to blend their voice with the others singing so tightly that it is hard to distinguish the separate voices. They know that a "buzz" of clean voices is the goal in contemporary music; not a choral sound. Dynamics matter to them.

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AWESOME worshippers



Awesome vocalists are engaged in what is happening in worship. Their eyes are off the sheet music or chord charts, and they are connecting with their eyes, smiles, and posture with the worshippers in the congregation. The microphone does not separate them from the call to worship.

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AWESOME leaders

Awesome vocalists recognize that, while they are singing, some people are connecting with their voice as a worship leader. Women often connect with women singing, and men connect with men. Defer to the worship leader, but recognize that you are leading, too, in the eyes of those participating.

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AWESOME servants

Awesome vocalists fight against the attitude of competition between them and others on the team. They do their part, but do so seeking to elevate others around them. These vocalists can confidently blend, but can also step away from the mic when their voice adds too much.

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AWESOME mentors



Awesome vocalists are always seeking to raise up others with strong gifts to take their place should they be needed. They invest in others to see the whole of worship rise in the community. They do not see the platform as “their ministry,” but rather as Jesus’ ministry and their privilege to serve and develop others.

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