

# The Essential Worship Bass Player

*This workshop will cover many practical aspects of becoming the “essential worship bass player”. It is intended for players of all skill levels.*

## Primary Tools of the Essential Worship Bass Player

- A reliable bass
- Quality cable(s)
- Tuner

## Gearbag Essentials

- Extra Strings and a nipper
- Batteries (if active pickups)
- Phillips Screwdriver (if needed for battery compartment)
- Extra Cables

## Take care of your bass and it will serve you well

- Change strings before they wear out
- Wipe down instrument after you play; more frequently if you have sweaty hands
- Neck adjustments can make a huge difference
- Develop a schedule for checking/changing your batteries

## Being a versatile player

- Don't limit yourself \_\_\_\_\_
- There is often \_\_\_\_\_ to get from point “a” to point “b” – figure out what works best for you and refine it!
- Learn to “play \_\_\_\_\_” and discover the tonal differences.
- Think \_\_\_\_\_ - a fresh spin can add new life and meaning to familiar songs.
- Be \_\_\_\_\_ to where a song is going but don't be afraid to \_\_\_\_\_.

*“It is my great joy to have musical conversations with other players.... It's about listening to what people have to say and reacting to it.” Abraham Laboriel, Sr*

## Being a valuable team player

- Be on t\_\_\_\_\_.
- Be a c\_\_\_\_\_ player.
- Be s\_\_\_\_\_ of the worship leader the leader (read a book or two about worship leading so you know what they go through).
- Lock in with the d\_\_\_\_\_. Learn to think like one! The two of you provide the foundation upon which everyone else can carry out their role.
- L\_\_\_\_\_ to what others in the group are doing and L\_\_\_\_\_ how to play a complimentary role.
- Be c\_\_\_\_\_ to making your team leader and team members look, play and sound their best; it will create \_\_\_\_\_ and develop a good reputation for you.
- Remember, it's \_\_\_\_\_ show!

## Practical tips while on the platform

- Tune before the performance and spot check during (if able)
- Keep a clear line of sight to the leader and make sure you're drummer can see, too!
- Always be watching and listening – *learn to anticipate*
- Don't sweat the small stuff (don't make faces when you or someone else messes up!)
- Be a supporter, an encourager, a servant
- Be attentive and sensitive to the Holy Spirit and what He is doing
- Enjoy the experience!

## Suggested Reading

- Playing Together as a Worship Band – Angela Dean & Bobby Brock (Zondervan)
- Hot Tips for Worship Leaders – Brent Helming (Vineyard Music)

## Suggested Websites

- Musiciansfriend.com
- BayouCables.com (Butch makes great cables!)

## Presenter's Information

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