

Curating & Creating Sacred Space: An Intro to Experiential Worship

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1. Engaging the visual culture and enhancing our symbols
2. What's Your learning style?
3. What is worship anyway?
4. Doing Worship in a New Way? Don't forget the Eucharist/Communion. Jesus did experiential worship! Not to mention the Old Testament!
5. Why and So What?- Tell the story!
6. What is it all about? LITURGY=the work of the people a

Prayer Stations, Corporate Responses,
PrayerExperiences, PrayerRooms and Freerange Worship experiences
7. Lectio Divina (Latin, lek-see-o de-vee-na)
Read 3 times, 1. highlight word/phrase, 2.feeling or emotions 3. response/action
8. Becoming an Atmosphere Architect.
9. Using all 5 senses or 6 (intuitive) and using your gifts
10. Becoming a Creative Community-no lone rangers. Build a Palate Team.
11. The worship leader IS NOW WORSHIP CURATOR Curating the entire service or part of the gathering. Curating your part of the gathering.
12. Reclaiming Artists and Using your gifts

Experiential Process or How to Get Started:

- Choose a text/passage of scripture and read it.
You can start with a THEME, but I prefer the scripture first. also start with a concept or even an object!
- Read text with your group as well as individually. Practice lectio divina
- Do a Background check! Study commentaries, know about the context of the passage. The Worship creation can be a part of a Bible Study.
- What is naturally in the text/passage? Sights, sounds, smells, etc.
Ask questions. What do you hear, see, smell, touch, taste? Who is acting or re-acting. MAKE A LIST.
- What do you want the participants to “TAKE AWAY” to “GET” from the passage/lesson/experience?
- Why is the action taking place? Ask about the purpose, meaning, message, theme of the passage, or of the action taking place or what is being described.
- What objects are found naturally in the passage? Tangible props, food, etc. What colors are present? What objects that we use NOW, what everyday things could be used? What objects can you find, that when used again will now have a spiritual/holy context?
- Now THINK MUSIC. Brainstorm music, songs that will go with scripture or theme. Think outside the box! Find current songs that might fit. Make a song list or back drop CD. Walk in/Walk out can contain words, BUT USUALLY ONLY SONGS WITH OUT WORDS during contemplative/station time.
- Assign TASKS. What things need to be done? Signage, props, readers, set up, clean up, music, art, station creation, slides, video clips, slideshow, etc.
hint: signage can take the longest to create! You can start with hand written signs, but printed signs are nice so they can be reused and printed out again.

THINK SIMPLE! Start small. Add a station or an experiential element to your regular “life”. Add it to the regular stuff you do as a group/community. (to your lesson, sermon, Bible Study, prayer time, etc.) Then add 2-3 stations. You can Always can do a corporate response.

What people do I have who can and want to help with this? PRAY NOW for these people

What props do you already have? Check the church basement or the storeroom, closets, etc. Check your own basement, attic or garage or those of someone in your church/community who saves everything!
Start a Collection! Garage sales, tag sales, Good Will, etc. Check out stores like Home Depot, Lowes, World Market, Pier 1, the Dollar Store/DollarTree, Teacher supply stores. Suitcase Story.

Pray over the process and pray over the room/worship space before and during the time together.

Remember that the action of Creating EXPERIENTIAL WORSHIP/STATIONS is an act of Worship!

John 21:1-14 (NLT)

Later Jesus appeared again to the disciples beside the Sea of Galilee. This is how it happened. Several of the disciples were there--Simon Peter, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples.

Simon Peter said, "I'm going fishing."

"We'll come, too," they all said. So they went out in the boat, but they caught nothing all night. At dawn the disciples saw Jesus standing on the beach, but they couldn't see who he was.

He called out, "Friends, have you caught any fish?" "No," they replied.

Then he said, "Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you'll get plenty of fish!" So they did, and they couldn't draw in the net because there were so many fish in it.

Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his tunic (for he had stripped for work), jumped into the water, and swam ashore. ⁸The others stayed with the boat and pulled the loaded net to the shore, for they were only out about three hundred feet. When they got there, they saw that a charcoal fire was burning and fish were frying over it, and there was bread.

"Bring some of the fish you've just caught," Jesus said. So Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore. There were 153 large fish, and yet the net hadn't torn. "Now come and have some breakfast!" Jesus said. And no one dared ask him if he really was the Lord because they were sure of it. Then Jesus served them the bread and the fish. This was the third time Jesus had appeared to his disciples since he had been raised from the dead.

(NRSV)

¹ After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed *Himself*:

² Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the *sons* of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing."

They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. ⁴ But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

⁵ Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?"

They answered Him, "No."

⁶ And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find *some*." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

⁷ Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on *his* outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish. ⁹ Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught."

¹¹ Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come *and* eat breakfast." Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?"—knowing that it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish. ¹⁴ This *is* now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

