

HOW TO LEAD A SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Our general ethos is one of faith and positivity, as well as being welcoming and very aware of visitors in our midst. The stages of the service are:

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**Welcome** – Warm, enthusiastic and friendly, not “religious” or overly spiritual.

- Welcome visitors
- Don’t preach or take from what the worship leader or preacher is going to do - keep it brief

**Praise and worship** – this is over to the worship leader who usually goes through a song set. We normally do 2 to 3 songs before the sermon and 2 to 3 after and we often start with a fast song and end with a fast song.

- The leader can interrupt to bring direction or encouragement.
- The leader may decide to end worship at a point or extend it.
- We don’t always have to go into “deep intimate” worship if the Spirit doesn’t seem to be leading that way, but you must follow His guidance and leading.

**Open prayer** / gifts operating – this is optional.

You as leader decide when to end this and you must have courage and take a definite lead. It is better to end sooner than later. The real format for gifts etc is the small groups / lifegroups, so don’t feel you have to “force” it here.

- At times it is appropriate to have a testimony / sharing, but not too many - small groups are the best place for sharing by everyone.

**Announcements & Offering** – lively and brief.

- You will usually be given the announcements on Sunday morning and they will be projected on the screen.
- You can also leave a 5 minute break for people to chat and do the offering etc

**Sermon** - done by the preacher.

**Closing the service** - for this part you must be led by the Lord. It consists of 3 sections but the order in which they occur can vary each time:

1. A Response to the sermon. This could be:
  - an “altar call to the front” for prayer or salvation
  - a group / corporate response
  - a quiet personal response
  - prayer for those who raise their hands
2. Worship songs in response to the word
3. A final closing prayer and blessing to everyone and their loved ones as they leave.
  - This is cheerful and full of faith

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Remember - YOU are leading the service, as God directs you. We trust you so have courage and confidence that you hear from Him and the congregation will follow you.