

**EXPANDING YOUR MUSIC PROGRAM**

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I Chronicles 23:1-5; II Chronicles 5:11-14

In a church, we should always be looking for ways to expand our music program. After all, one of the biggest ways we give praise to God is through singing and through music.

We are continually looking for ways to expand our music program at Parkside Baptist Church. Often, I will watch and observe other independent, fundamental Baptist churches and their music programs for ideas.

Here are some non-exhaustive thoughts that may be a help to you:

1. Have a dynamic congregational song service.
2. Be proud of whatever people God has given you in your music department.
3. Use what God has given you in your music department.
4. Make your choir the “best and biggest” group that you have.
   1. Your choir is the biggest tool you have for expanding your special music program.

* 1. It’s what most people see as your “music department.”
  2. Good choirs encourage others to be involved in your music department.

1. Encourage as many people as possible that are in your music program to be a part of the choir.
2. Draw from your choir for singing groups.
3. Encourage children, teens, and adults to sign up for music lessons.
4. As a leader, look and listen for those who can sing or play instruments.
   1. Have “scouts” in the congregation listening for useable voices.
   2. If you have public school teens in band at school, encourage them to use their talents for the Lord at church.
5. Periodically, have a time for those who want to be involved in the music program to “try out.”
   1. While we call these “try outs” at our church, we hardly ever turn someone away UNLESS they absolutely do not have the gift of singing. If they need vocal attention and you believe it wouldn’t hurt the overall sound, invite them to join the choir. This would allow them a time of polishing before being placed into a singing group.
   2. If they can sing well and meet the Christian guidelines of your church, allow them entrance into a singing group with the pastor’s approval.

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