

Emmanuel Student Ministries

Praise Band Application

Name _____ School _____

Address _____ Grade _____

Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Who Can Be in the Praise Band?

Both middle school students and high school students can serve in the praise band. Middle school students in praise band are in “learning mode” where they will attend rehearsals but not play in front of any groups for awhile. For everyone who wants to be in praise band, we are asking for a certain level of skill and ability. At rehearsals we simply do not have time to give music lessons. We need to be focused on learning new songs and learning what it means to lead others in worship.

For all new folks who sign up to be in praise band, there will be some sort of basic “audition” to make sure some basic skill and ability is already present. We might tell some students who apply to go and take some music lessons and learn a bit more before they serve in the praise band. If you are told that you are not ready to play in the band, try not to take it personally.. it just means that you have some more learning and practicing to do before you will be ready to be in the band.

A Couple Questions...

1. Briefly describe where you are right now on your journey as a Christian.

2. What are you presently doing to grow in your relationship with Christ? Please be specific.

3. What other activities (besides Emmaus Student Ministries) will you be involved in this coming year? (sports, clubs, other Christian groups)

4. What do you see as your strengths and weaknesses? Please be honest.

5. What would you like to do in the praise band (what instrument(s), vocals, sound board etc.)

Requirements for Being in Praise Band

- Some basic skill level with a certain instrument or with vocals and a basic understanding of music.
- Attend weekly praise band rehearsals... if you miss a rehearsal you will not play upfront the following week.
- You must be putting energy and time towards growing in your relationship with God.
- Christian living where you are striving to live and obey Christ and His teachings in Scripture.
- Consistent attendance at weekly Emmaus meeting and other events.
- Servants Heart and Attitude
 - Remembering each week that you are not there for yourself, but to serve and minister to others.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

STEP ONE: Fill out the application packet, write the essay(s) and have your parent(s) sign the commitment sheet.

STEP TWO: Turn in the application and the essays. The deadline to turn them in is no later than **May 16!!**

STEP THREE: For new praise band members, be ready to attend a simple audition (TBA) so we can get an idea of if you are ready to be in the band.

Challenges of Being in Praise Band

•THE CHALLENGE OF HUMILITY

I Peter 5:5 "Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another."

-The challenge is that in our own minds we are the important ones. Our strengths are the greatest. Our accomplishments the biggest. Our minds the wisest. Our position the most important. Our problems the hardest. Our concerns the most worrisome. Our fears the most valid. Our position the most important. But humility, as expressed in Philippians 2:3 means sincerely viewing the person next to you as more important.

•THE CHALLENGE TO PREFER ONE ANOTHER IN HONOR

Romans 12:10 "Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other."

-The tendency is to be jealous when others are the center of attention or have something good happen to them.

-Preferring one another in honor means that your desire on the inside and out is that others get attention and the focus before you. You are content to not get the attention or the praise.

•THE CHALLENGE TO NOT LEAN ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING

Proverbs 3:5 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will direct your paths."

-Our natural tendency in understanding things is selfishness.

•THE CHALLENGE TO QUIT COMPETING

-Jesus calls for us to be together, to work together and to serve together.

-We need to stop trying to do more, be more, get more, or be the center of attention more.

-The goal is to just serve and forget about everything else.

•THE CHALLENGE TO LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY

-We need to be serving and loving even if we know the service and the love will not be returned or even noticed.

-We are called to follow Christ's example.

•THE CHALLENGE TO BE A PART OF THE STUDENT MINISTRIES TEAM!

-Speak up and speak your mind!

-Speak appropriately and to the right people!

•THE CHALLENGE TO GROW THROUGH SERVING!

-We spend a lot of our Christian lives just taking it in. We take in lessons, teaching, devotions, etc. But there comes a point in our lives in Christ where we can no longer just grow through taking in, we have to start giving out, serving, so that we can continue to grow in our relationship with God.

PRAISE BAND ESSAY QUESTIONS

ESSAYS!?!?! We know.... we know.... it's kinda a drag and we really do not want to be like school, but in this case they are kinda necessary. We want you to answer these essay questions for a couple of reasons. First, we want to get some of your thoughts about some of the things that we are going to be focusing on this year. Second, we really want you to dig in and think about these topics. Thirdly, we want to "set the bar" kinda high and make you work a little bit so that we are sure everyone who signs up to be in the praise band really wants to be there for the right reasons! Please do not take this lightly...these are important issues and we want to really dig in and think about them!

Each essay should be at least a full page. Answers should be typed using 12 point Times (or TimeNewRoman) font with 1/2 inch margins on the page, double spaced.

General Essay

What does community mean to you? How will you contribute to the community in Emmaus?

Praise Band Essay

What is worship? How would you define it? How do you know when you are worshipping? How can you be an effective worship leader? Why do you want to be in the praise band?

RE-APPLYING ESSAY

If you were on the praise band last year, we ask that you answer the following question(s) in the same manner stated above:

How has your relationship with God grown this past year? How has your understanding of worship changed or grown over the past year?

PRAISE BAND JOB DESCRIPTION

The praise band leads worship for the Middle School and High School on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings. There is a small requirement that students who want to be in the praise band already possess some musical skill on an instrument or vocally. We are not equipped to offer "music lessons" so there is a need for students to have the talent and some experience already when they join the praise band. While students serve in the praise band they will learn more musically and they will also learn what it means to be a worshipper so that they can lead others in worship. The Praise Band has a very high time requirement. Students will need to be at rehearsal once a week as well as attending the Sunday morning and Wednesday night programs. This team will also meet regularly for planning.

Praise Band Commitment Sheet

Student Name

With Gods help, I want to be a faithful praise band team member and make every effort to have consistent attendance at Emmaus weekly meeting. I also realize that if I am unable or unwilling to stay committed to the Praise Band responsibilities, I will be asked to step down from the team.

Student Signature

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian,

Because we believe that being on the praise band team is such an important commitment in the life of your student, we ask that you would talk with your son or daughter about how you can work together as a family to help him or her be consistent in attendance and service. Please sign this sheet to let us know that you have reviewed the attached information with your student.

Parent or Guardian Signature