

Nine Things I Most Desire For the VHBC Choir Members in 2010

As I begin a new year of ministry, I find myself needing to be reminded of some key values related to my calling and ministry here at VHBC. Maybe you will relate to this list and possibly change, replace and/or add to it? One can substitute “church members” for choir members and “Church” for choir if not in the choir.

- 1. Choir Members Love Being in the Choir:** This may seem like an understatement, but I am learning that it is foundational that we create a culture where people love being a part of the choir.
- 2. Choir Members Love One Another and Serve One Another:** The choir is the only organization in the local church that contains people of all ages and backgrounds. Unlike Sunday School classes, Bible Studies and/or small groups where people join based on age, marital status, or other commonalities. The Choir draws from the entire church—*a church within a church*—all the more reason that we must create an environment where love for and service to one another are clearly evident.
- 3. Choir Members To Pray For Me (Because I Need It!):** This is huge! I can't lead the music ministry and worship without their prayer support. When a person prays for another person, they invest of themselves into that person. They hold that person accountable. The music ministry will only be as strong as the prayer support of their leader.
- 4. Choir Members View Their Involvement In The Choir As A Calling:** In Rory Noland's book, “The Heart of The Artist”, he articulates the difference between being “called” and “volunteering”. We are called, in the choir, to lead the church in worship. This is a privilege and of the highest calling!
- 5. Choir Members Put More Into The Choir Than They Could Ever Imagine Receiving From It:** You hear individuals in the Choir say that they get way more out of the choir than they put into it because they are consistently “pouring themselves” into what they do!
- 6. Choir Members To Love and Pray For The People They Lead In Worship Each Week:** It's one thing to stand before the congregation “on display” each week. It is a whole different thing to truly love and pray specifically for the people we lead in worship each week. I pray that our choir members will pray for a specific person in our church congregation each week. (Remember what I said about what happens when a person prays for another person.)
- 7. Choir Members To Pray For Our Pastor:** Nelson is our Pastor and the power of prayer is a huge help to him. I hope we will keep him in our thoughts and prayers frequently. Maybe write him a personal note of encouragement or share with him how he has helped you in your walk of faith, etc.
- 8. Choir Members To Serve The Church In At Least One Other Area Of Ministry:** Singing and leading the church in worship is one very important thing—serving the church in other areas of ministry shows the unity in the Body Of Christ. Possibly serve in preschool and youth, teach or help Kristen and

Rick with the children and youth, lead or teach a small group/Bible study/Sunday School class, serve on a committee, ,etc., As “worship leaders,” let’s always lead by being servants first! Most members are faithfully wearing many hats of service..... God Bless You!!!!

- 9. Choir Members Develop An Appreciation For All Kinds Of Music:** I know we all have our favorite anthems, hymns, choruses, and spiritual songs. God has given us as a choir, the incredible privilege of being able to sing and play the greatest music ever written. Let’s challenge and encourage each other to develop an appreciation for kinds of music-from Southern Gospel to Beethoven, jazz-classical-pop- rock,-blues,-country.....why not?? God created it all!!!!!!

In closing, our choir is awesome, and yes we are doing these things very well!! However, I hope my list will encourage you to think, evaluate, and focus on what we do as a choir. Maybe you might make your own list-I would count it a privilege if you were to share it with me and the choir.

In Christ,
Reverend Greg