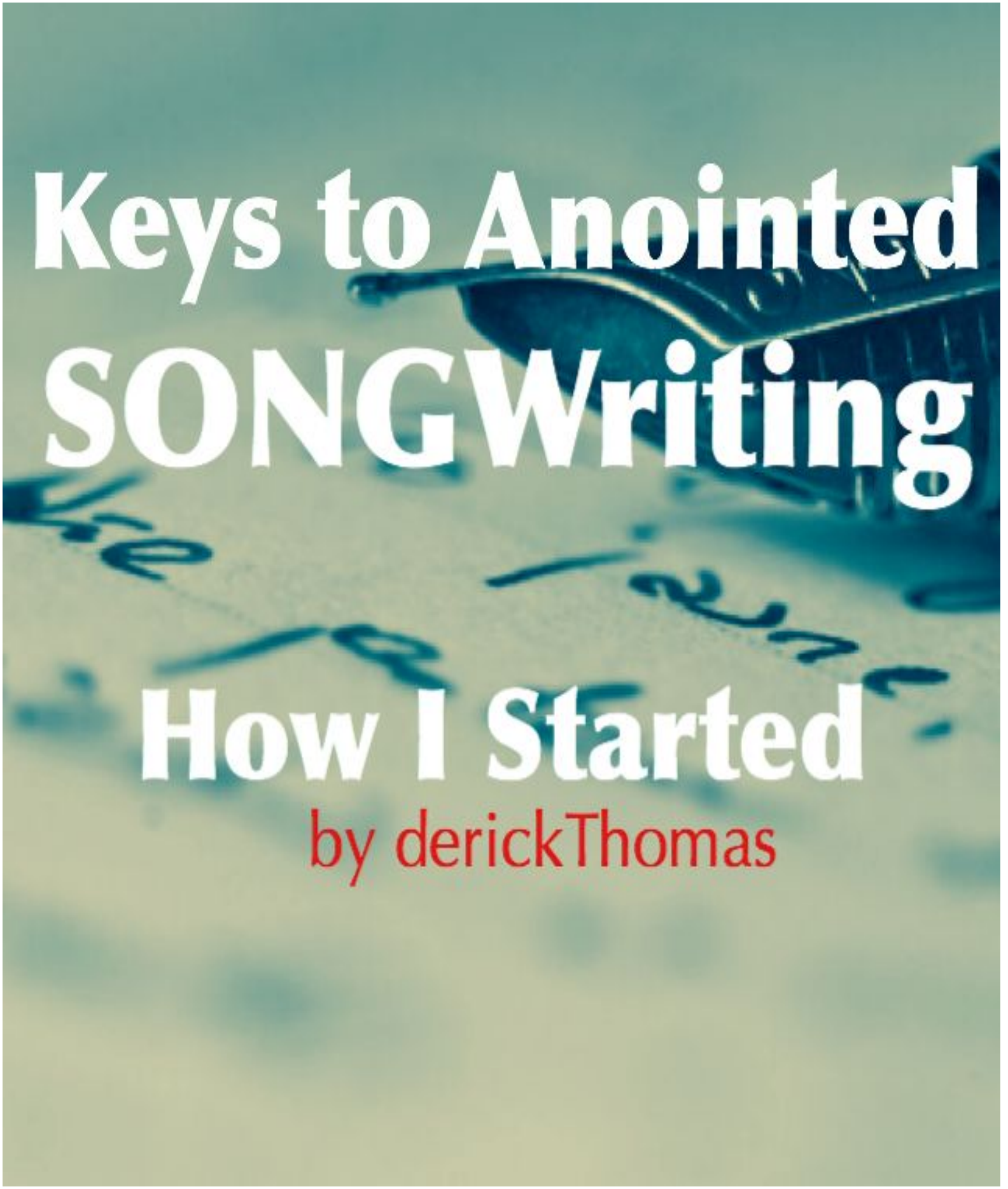

Keys to Anointed
SONGWriting
How I Started
by derickThomas

Welcome to Keys to Anointed SONGWriting.

This is a book I wrote as I was a fledgling songwriter. It kept me on course as I began to become a popular, money making songwriter. I have written with some of the best and beginners.

I have been nominated for a Dove Award in the songwriters category as well as a Stellar in the production category. My songs have been featured in Adidas Marketing Campaigns and on Billboard's top 10 Charts. MOst of all my songs have been lasting, still being sung and still making me money. I hope you enjoy the information found in this PDF.

Below is the link to the youtube videos that accompany the information.

Click Here

CREDITS

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PREFACE

Keys to Anointed Songwriting is more than combining words and music to create a pleasing sound. To produce an anointed song, the songwriter must hear what the voice of the lord is speaking in the earth and present it in the manner that most clearly expresses the heart of the Lord.

Keys to Anointed Songwriting will challenge your view of songwriting. It will increase your appreciation of songs that have spanned time and generations and provide insight into factors contributing to a song's longevity. Additionally, this work will present key characteristics necessary to becoming a God directed songwriter.

Keys to Anointed Songwriting will challenge you to reject the contentment of writing a good song and propel you onward in pursuit of the anointed song.

Songwriting is an Art Form

**Go in, now, write it before them on a tablet, and inscribe it in a book,
that it may be for the time to come as a testimony forever.
Isaiah 30:8 (ABPS)**

Songwriting is a learned art. Many people write their thoughts down on paper and find that what is on paper when they finish is not what they intended to say when they started. For some, conveying their feelings to someone else, whether on paper or face to face, is difficult and, for others, next too impossible.

Songwriting is not a gift. It is the art of communicating effectively on paper. Songwriting is a craft. Webster's dictionary defines craft as, an occupation or trade requiring manual dexterity or artistic skill; skill in planning, making, or executing.

It's something that can be taught, learned and studied. It's not just a person's ability to communicate, nor is it simply rhyming a bunch of words in a phrase to finish a thought. The craft of songwriting is a person's ability to take a thought and present it in a uniform manner that can have universal application.

**"Songwriting is the ability of one to take a word and expand
on its inner truths while creating an outer rhythm."**

Too many people just write off the top of their head, settling for the first thought that comes to them. A true songwriter will challenge himself, his lyrics and ideas. He will refuse to be satisfied with using the same old words to describe the same old things.

Get a dictionary to help you come up with different words and meanings to familiar phrases and terms. Get a rhyming dictionary so you can see words that actually rhyme, without being obvious. Get a synonym and antonyms book and begin to study what you have written, maybe you can say it in a different way...a better way.

A songwriter must learn to take the rough block of unformed ideas and thoughts he possesses and carve a masterpiece for the world to behold.

The Birthing of a Song

And now, O ye Priests, this commandment is for you. If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay *it* to heart, to give glory unto my Name, saith the Lord of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessing: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay *it* to heart.
Malachi 2:1,2

In order to birth something, it must first be conceived. Likewise, every song heard today was once just a concept, an idea, a thought in someone's mind. It began as a germinated seed from which the mature fruit of a song grew. The smallest ideas can grow to be the lyrics of a great song or chorus. We must believe in ourselves and our abilities but more importantly we must believe in God's ability to speak through us, transferring that which God has placed in the spirit of the songwriter enables the songwriter to visualize his creation.

From this point the songwriter can begin the process of refining and fashioning until the song is fully revealed. I find that Gd is always speaking. The thing is, He's speaking for anyone who will lend an ear and hear what the Spirit is saying. When I wrote "Enlarge My Territory" I must say it's the first time I actually connected on a "GLOBAL" level with my writing. It was something God was saying locally but more importantly globally.

Advertisers, clothing lines, ministries theme and conferences were all focus on No Limits. There was a clothing line I saw called "No Boundaries" and how many conferences with the same theme. God spoke globally and the world was listening. Then the next year I kept hearing God speak about the word "GLOBAL". Everyone is talking about how to reach, teach, speak, inforce, move and everything else on a global level. It's our job to Celebrate what we hear God saying and sing about it.

A song should never be forced but birthed. Begin to sing what you hear in your spirit. Sing Gods' present truth to you. This is not the time to force a revelation from your lips, just listen. Allow the Holy Spirit to form that which is conceived until it is mature enough for delivery.

Birthing a song is different from writing out of your emotions or soulish realm but there is a place for these type of songs and the anointing they carry. When David penned the Psalms, he usually wrote from his current frame of mind and would escalate from his current state of being to a place of encouraging himself in the Lord.

Let's look at Psalms 18 for example. In this particular Psalm, he was praising God for delivering him from the hands of his enemies, Saul in particular. He begins, in verse one, saying.....

1. *I will love thee, O Lord, my strength.*
2. *The Lord is my rock and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.*
3. *I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; so shall I be saved from mine enemies.*

When we read this Psalm in light of David's present situation and deliverance, we can see why he wrote what he did. David begins first with the one thought that says it all in verse one by saying, *"I will love thee, O Lord, my strength."* This verse sums up his feelings and present emotion but he continues to explain why he loves God by describing the attributes of God that delivered him from the hand of all his enemies.

Many songs are written this way. I call it a setup. You start with the situation and you explain it then you celebrate to a degree in the chorus the response to the situation. This happens from verse to chorus.

A songwriter can also birth a song from key phrases like the kind their Pastor may say in his message. Taking that nugget and expanding on it.

Here are a couple of phrases that have inspired additional thoughts and eventually a song.... *Forever, Oh Lord, Your Word Will Stand; It's a New Season; Your Latter will be Greater, Your Love Amazes Me.* It's phrases like this that sparks an interest in and ignites the desire to expound lyrically

Ideas can come in all kinds of ways so do not limit your writing to a method or routine. That's one reason why you should keep a paper, pen or a digital recorder on you at all times, because you never know when a song will come to you. Many great songs were written in minutes, like "We Shall Behold Him" by Dottie Rambo or Handel Messiah in 24hrs!

Stay alert and always be prepared to receive. After it comes, look at it and decide if and where it needs refinement here and there because in most cases it could probably use a different word or phrase. Too many times we have not done enough with what God has given us. We can not keep writing things like, “He will make a way, in times of trouble” or When the praises go up the blessings come down or I'm running trying to make a hundred. It's not that these weren’t good songs because they were in their day now we have to express this idea in new and innovative ways. He expects us to increase what He gives us; but how many times do we hear unnourished songs in a church song service or on the radio, songs for the breastfeeding baby, when what we need is a healthy steak of a song!

At times the birthing process becomes difficult and it seems hard to deliver that next line. Here are a couple of things to do when you are "stuck."

1. *Look at the last line you have written and see if it is blocking the flow of additional lyrics. Sometimes the last thing written should go somewhere else or be said differently.*

2. *Look in scripture for additional revelation on your subject. This will increases your knowledge and helps you to see your subject in another way because of the many applications of the same scriptures or subject.*

3. *Imagine yourself in the service and sing what you have so far. Many times the response you desire from the people can be put into words so as to trigger that response. For example, if you want people to really see Christ for who He is in a song, you may say something like, "Lord, I Worship You Because of Who You Are." The chorus may say, "You are the World to me, My Everything, the Air I Breathe, the Song I Sing, Savior and Lord to Thee, I Bow my Knees, Giving Honor and Glory, Because of Who You Are!"*

All I'm saying is when you are birthing a song take your time and remember just because you said it that way the first time doesn’t mean it needs to stay that way forever. It really is ok to change up and say it better, modern.

The Structure of a Song

In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:22)

This is probably one of the weakest areas of a potential song. The word "potential" always speaks of what could be. I have seen songs that have a great thought and good lyrics but, because the skeletal structure was missing, the body of the song just was not upheld. There may have been inconsistencies within the subject and thought, the chorus could be missing, or the verses differed in length; all making it difficult to inject time and tempo. Lack of structure will create poor songs. Without it we have no frame, nothing to help guide us.

The basic elements of a song structure are: (V)erse, (C)horus, and (B)ridge. These come along with the much needed Words, Rhythm and Melody.

Many times the melody is killing the song because its not singable. Just because you can sing doesn't mean a choir or congregation can sing it too. Therefore you must know the purpose of the song to determine its melody. Is it for a soloist, duet, group, choir. Is it for singing to people or a song for people to participate with you and sing with you. Purpose is important when writing melodies since melody attracts the intellect in the listener.

The rhythm has to be consistent with the purpose of the song. The rhythm must work with the melody so your mind and body are affected congruently. Songs with the wrong cadence or irregular, unnatural rhythms tend to confuse the average non-singer. Usually the verses are all the same length and melody and rhythmic pattern. You don't find a set of verses with different rhythms, its rare.

The words help us to form the structure of the song. What part of the words are the verse and what part will be the chorus, bridge and vamp if there is one? Chorus' are usually just that, a chorus and sometimes a verse. In a "Chorus", taken from scripture much like we sing in church, you will find a (C)horus or a (V)erse, but seldom a bridge. Every song will not contain all of the aforementioned parts and some may contain more than another but, in the right combination, they help to create a well-structured song. Just because you have these in a song, does not make it a song. The potential of a song also lies in the format.

Here are some Basic formats of a song:

I. VERSE	II. VERSE	III. VERSE
CHORUS	VERSE	CHORUS
VERSE	CHORUS	VERSE
CHORUS	VERSE	CHORUS
BRIDGE	BRIDGE	CHORUS
CHORUS	CHORUS	

The first verse should capture and hold the listener's attention until he gets to the chorus. This is referred to as a "set up" as stated earlier. The general idea is to make a statement in the verse then sum it up or explain it in the chorus. Consistency in subject matter should be maintained from verse to chorus. The listener should not be wondering, what you are talking about nor should the listener be confused with what person you are talking, 1st person or third person…

The bridge is usually the part of the song that sounds different from the rest of the song. It can be a musical bridge, or one with lyrics that says whatever you want about the song. At times it can even sound like an entirely different song in melody and/or tempo. It can also summarize previously stated ideas and thoughts. It should "bridge" ideas together so the concept and theme seem complete to the listener.

Here is an example of the Verse/Chorus format:

JESUS LOVES ME

By Anna B. Warner and William B. Bradbury

Verse

Jesus loves me this I know, For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong.

Chorus

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Here we have one of the most popular songs in the world. A song that both young and old appreciate. This song has three verses and a chorus and is built on the Verse - Chorus format. Notice that the first verse starts with a statement (Jesus loves me this I know) followed by the proof for his previous statement (For the Bible tells me so). They proceed with a little revelation (Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong). When they get to the chorus, they are content with reaffirming the main idea, which is that Jesus loves me!

Some Points to Remember:

- Remember that consistency is important when writing.
- Try not to stray too far from the main thought or it will become another song. Always purpose to be understood.
- Keep a basic structure in mind and try to follow a format while writing, without limiting the flow of the Holy Spirit.
- When you are inspired, do not make the mistake of assuming the song came to you in format form.
- Just because the Holy Spirit gave it one way, does not mean you cannot or should not alter the song when needed.
- Be sensitive to the direction of the Spirit and confident in God to use your abilities to articulate the song in the appropriate avenue.

The Power of a Lasting Song

Death and Life are in the power of the tongue.....
Proverbs 18:21

A question often broached is why some songs have a staying power and others do not. Also, why songs written in previous generations still are timely today? In an interview, one popular Christian songwriter stated that he thought the most singular reason why many of his songs were still being sung today was because they were founded on the Word. It's these very songs that can change a society's belief system. When I think of lasting songs, I think of songs like: *My Tribute; Bless The Lord; His Blood Will Never Lose Its Power; and I Surrender All, by Andrae' Crouch or, A Mighty Fortress Is Our God by Martin Luther* even the popular song *Happy Birthday*. To name a few.

The season a song is written is one attribute of a lasting song. For example, The Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key. This song was written during battle, while he stood on a ship, watching the American Flag wave amidst the battle swirling around it The song was written at a significant time in American history. Therefore, it has acquired lasting power because of the season the message and revelation of the song was written. What Francis Scott Key did with the Star Spangled Banner was to express the heart of the many. He took a simple thought and feeling and said on paper what many were feeling in their hearts during those moments.

When we say things that everyone is thinking, yet unable to express, we become the voice of the many. When we purpose to write anointed music, music with God's' heart and vocal expression, we are on the road to a lasting song.

The ability of the writer to express the right words and emotion at the right time and season, lends itself toward the writing of a lasting song.

I like songs that have more meaning than what you immediately receive, songs that speak of a truth! The lasting power of a song comes when it's embraced by the people. I have written songs that I thought were good.

After they were performed, I realized that their content and verbiage just were not strong enough. The songs were energetic but had no strength! There are many songs that we could classify as full of energy, but lacking in strength; songs with funky dance rhythms, wailing guitars and simple hooks. There are a lot of songs written just to make you dance and party that will never be remembered after the beat is gone. They created the energy for the moment but not for strengthening man over time. Too many songs are beat-oriented and not lyrically-oriented. A lasting song can be fast or slow; tempo is not a restriction. When we write according to the fads and gimmicks of the day we lose the song's ability to span time. Many writers are not writing for a lasting song, instead they are trying to make a quick buck and not a lasting statement?

We must write songs that express the heart of the listener in a universal kind of way, if we are to write lasting songs. Sometimes the inner meaning of a simple thought can ignite emotion in the listener over and over again.

"When you capture the heart of the listener in a timeless manner, you may have just created a lasting song."

When writing for the Body of Christ, strive to say things in creative ways, guard against making the statement so broad that it loses applicability to the listeners life.

For example, using Provision as a subject, we could write a song and say something like, "He is the Provider of my needs." This is a broad concept with much more meaning and definition than what is written. We can give the above statement about Provision more meaning and lasting power by saying:

You Are The Bread (Communion Song)1995 INNM BMI

You are the Bread that feeds my soul,

You are the Wine that makes me whole,

You are the Oil that burns in me, a desire for You,

You are my God, You are my King, You are my Lord.

This enables the listener to see God's provision in a definitive manner. (When we define and explain our thoughts, the results can be extraordinary....Lasting!) We should not limit ourselves to quoting the scripture word for word only, but rather use the basis of the everlasting Word as the lyrical foundation

Writing a song that is for the moment happening locally ignoring the global aspect lyrically will limit the song to the immediate moment. This is ok though because every song is not for everyone to sing. You get a song in the shower that encourages you. That song may be for you only or it could be for the world. It all depends on what it's saying to you and to the world. I can't express enough that you don't limit yourself or God but let be real too. Just because you enjoy your song doesn't mean everyone should…right?

Let's look at the concept further.

Act Local Think Global

"When we write songs that drive home the message of the hour, the people become united, in one voice, as they sing the message of the Lord!"

What we want to discuss is the difference between a song for the Local Body and a song for the Global Body. It would be unreasonable to think that every song we write should be sung by every church in America. This just is not so. There are songs that will only be sung in your church and others that will be sung in many churches.

By definition, a song for a Local Body is generally built around the revelation of that particular body. Though revelatory, it remains a seasonal song for the Local Body because of its specific application to that house.

The chords/music we use can also limit a song's ability to be universal. When we use difficult chords, we knock out the majority of the keyboardists who only know basic chord structures and progressions.

"The words and phrases we use can also limit the potential of a song."

When we use slang terms or, we over-modernize the wrong song, we can diminish its global impact.

To be global, a song must be meaningful on a global aspect. The lyrics should be well written and rhythm and melody of the music should be simple enough for the majority of church musicians to play. Its message should ring clear in the heart of the listener.

There are many songs that could be considered universal, but without an avenue to get the song into the hands of others, the songs never get heard by enough people. "Hosanna Integrity" has done this by putting music at your doorstep and asking you to listen and keep it if you like and return it if you do not. With this marketing strategy, churches have embraced the music by Hosanna like there is no other, mainly because the sound they capture on tape is non-threatening, especially when they first began.

Both black and white churches were able to sing their songs because they were easy to sing, play and adapt to the particular local church setting. This has helped to make the otherwise local church songs go global. Say it the same way all the time and only the same people will appreciate it. Music itself is universal and communicates beyond the language barrier. There is a sound such as a universal sound that many cultures can appreciate instead of just the white, black or Hispanic culture alone. Melody must change to become universal. Don't use the same phraseology and melodic patterns of certain genres and expect it to become universal or global.

The Sound of Your House

I think that every church should have its own sound of praise unto the Lord. We should not strive to sound like somebody else but should strive to be unique. Listen for and desire to release that "certain sound." It is actually the sound within a sound!

The question is, when God speaks what is the sound of the response he gets from your house? God speaks globally and we act or respond locally. When we as a local body respond, God should know its us and not the church down the street. The sound of our house is established in a big way through writing. Writing songs is the number one way to establish a sound in the house. We must write locally first and foremost and bless the local body and be concerned with the global church later.

Please refer to my brand new book on Amazon: **Sound of The House**

Don't Limit God's Ability to Use You

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.
Ephesians 2:10

"Lord Use Me," is the cry of so many within the Body of Christ.
I remember when I made the decision to take piano lessons. My choices were either Karate or Piano lessons. I loved the piano and music, and like any other 12 year old kid, I also thought I was Bruce Lee. Figuring I could continue to learn Karate from television, I chose Piano lessons. Although lessons only lasted for six months, it was the beginning of what God was doing in my life.

One summer I learned to play guitar and began playing for my church youth group. When the youth group's piano player left, I took over as pianist. It is now more than 15 years later and I hold the position of Minister of Music at the same local church. Who would have thought that God would use me.....I did! I believe in God using whatever He wants, whenever He wants, however He wants! Now, I ask you, "Do you believe in the means and avenues in which God desires to use you?"
The area of songwriting is one of the most effective ways of communicating in the world.

"**Effective communication can change the opinions of a generation.**"

Anybody can write a song and many of us probably have. We just did not further
develop the ideas and thoughts that were forming inside our heads. When we allow ourselves to be used by God and we ask Him to use us, why is it we do not expect God to give us a song? I think it's because, when we ask the Lord to use us, we are really asking Him to use us according to how we desire and want to be used. People have hummed in their garages, kitchens, workshops and car's. Honest-to-goodness, God inspired tunes and melodies, and yet they never did anything further with the little they had been given.

How many potentially great songs have been lost in this process? If we never try, we never will succeed! Just because you do not play an instrument, or all you write are lyrics without tunes, doesn't mean you should not pen that song. Find some help, do not give up before you have started!

Some of the greatest songs known today were done by a team of writers. Let's not limit God's ability to use ordinary people . It is very important to allow songs, ideas and fresh truths to incubate in our spirits as they come to maturity.

Positioning Yourself for God's Use

**He will purify the Sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver,
so they will present offerings in righteousness to the Lord.
Malachi 3:3 (BER)**

Many times we may have tried to write a song and instead came face to face with what is termed as "writer's block". Writer's block occurs when a person finds that their creative abilities are being hindered. It is a writer's inability to form ideas and opinions based on one or many thoughts for one reason or another. Sometimes it can be simply a "lack of concentration" or "lack of motivation." You will find that when you have writer's block, it's almost impossible to get through it. Most people just wait it out.

When I face this obstacle, I find that just getting away for a moment and allowing my mind to rest gives me a clearer head to think. If this does not work, I usually just make myself do something else instead of trying to force an idea where there is none. Other times we may think we have writer's block when actually we just do not know enough about our subject. I think it's an obvious fact that the more you know about something, the greater your ability will be to deliver a message on it.

**"When we don't know the deep things of God, we lack the depth
of the spirit to release deep messages."**

We must take time to learn about our Lord and Savior if we are to write effectively about Him. Reading the Word of God to receive wisdom, knowledge and understanding allows you to write to release revelation! When seeking a word from the Lord in song, I find that this is best achieved after praying and praising God. The only way to hear God, is to be in tune with His voice.

***For their sakes I sanctify myself, that they themselves
may be also sanctified in truth.*** **John 17:19 (KJV)**

We need communion with the Father. We need to love and adore Him in one on one fellowship. We need His fellowship to receive His heart. There are many possible things that can block the flow of creativity that we possessed in times past, but I believe the greatest hindrance is sin.

This does not mean that if you cannot write that there is sin in your life, but let's talk about it too.

We, like the Levitical Priests, have the responsibility to carry the message of God to the people. If we allow sin to thrive within us, we block the flow of God's message from entering our hearts. We should remain pure in the eyes of God. *When we allow ourselves to become holy and set apart for God's use, we place ourselves in position to obtain revelation.* I Corinthians 6:12 says, all things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

Even the Lord Jesus Christ sanctified himself for the sake of his disciples. Separating himself from the common things of life. He chose not to eat certain foods or to wear certain apparel although it would have been appropriate for him to do so. The common things of life can be a hindrance to the flow of God's voice to our heart. For example, in my life too much television was a common thing that kept me from being sensitive to the things of God, so I had to cut my viewing time down. For you it may be something else, like hanging with the boys too much, or spending too much time in the newspaper.

Any number of things, although lawful, meaning that your participation in the activity is not sin, are common and possibly hindering the fresh revelation we desire to partake of in our lives.

According to Malachi 3:3, God sits like a refiner and purifier of silver and it's His task to purify us three times over so that we can present an offering in righteousness to the Lord. We must allow ourselves to be purified like gold and silver. The purification of these precious metals takes place after they have been placed in three refiners' pots, each one hotter than the other, until finally all of the remaining impurities have been left at the bottom of the last pot and we behold the finished product in its purest form.

Without consistent purification and refinement to our lives, we will never be in a position to receive the deep things of God. For without it, we will then in turn begin to interpret the Song of the Lord, His message of the hour to His people, incorrectly.

How many times have we written, sung or delivered God's message with good intentions but out of an impure heart? God uses vessels to speak to His people. A clean vessel always pours out what was put in.

Contrary to this is the tainted vessel. What is poured out is never a reflection of what went in because the contents have been contaminated with impurities. Let us then strive for holiness by separating ourselves from the common and unholy things of the world, as a soldier separates himself from the civilian life, and strive for sanctification.

Different Anointings for Songwriting

Some people write one style of music better than others. It seems that when they sit down to write, it always comes out in the same way or style. The anointing to write songs for children's music is one of those areas. These songwriters have the talent to take adult language, terms and concepts and present them in an easy format that captures the attention of the child listener. It is a gift to be able to say big things in a simple way. Other people may write ballads better than they do up-tempo songs. The point is to learn to write for other areas of anointing, but do not become frustrated if you keep producing children's music when you are trying to write opera.

People who write poetry cannot necessarily write a good song. All poetry is not lyrics without music, neither is every song a poem. *We should write what we write best, and learn to write in other styles better.* The flip side of this is that sometimes you may go through a season where God just keeps dropping songs on you every time you sit to write. We need to learn to recognize those times and be obedient to write-write-write. Other times, we may not be in a season of writing but a season of gathering. Gathering knowledge and information that will take us to a higher level of glory. God may be asking us to study our craft more so when he drops something in our spirit, we will not limit the meaning and expression to the old, when God is desiring something new. We must remain fresh and new to the expressions of God's heart.

The Purpose for Writing Anointed Music

For the Priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth; for he is the messenger of the Lord of Hosts.
Malachi 2:7

The heart of God must be revealed in this day and time. When God has something to say, He is going to say it through a vessel. Malachi 2:7 says that we are to keep knowledge on our lips and that we are the messengers of the Lord. As open vessels, we must be willing to receive songs that minister to the heart and spirit of man, while totally ignoring society's demands for popular music. For too long the church has looked to the world for its standard of excellence. Set the standard! Don't compromise by conforming.

"We have measured our ideas and abilities by the opinions of man rather than God."

We must not strive to bring the world's music into the Body of Christ as a plan to win the lost! We must take God's music to the world and make the enemy subject to the anointing of God! With the songs that we write, we have the ability to set men free.

Always remember that when God is speaking its possible if you don't hear Him that's someone else will.

Look at what Isaiah 35 says....

Verse

3. *Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.*
4. *Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you.*
5. *Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.*
6. *Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing; for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.*
7. *And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools shall not err therein.*

Will we be the ones to write the songs that cause men and women everywhere, from every walk of life, to want to worship and magnify the Lord? **Yes!!** For we are the messengers of God, therefore, as His Priests, we must write with purpose, We must write songs that will edify the Body of Christ. Songs that will strengthen the feeble and heal the sick. Songs anointed by God!

"A Song becomes anointed by God when its season lines up with its purpose."

Have you ever heard a song and you knew it was good, but wondered why it just did not go over in that particular service? It very well could have been because it was not the time for that song. The right song can be presented at the wrong time and totally kill the anointing of a service.

This is because songs carry a purpose and an intent. Songs have a purpose, but they are not always presented in a timely fashion or season. When a song's purpose catches up with its time or season, the intended anointing on the song will flow out of it to the people. This principle works for plenty of music, from gospel to rock, jazz too classical, whatever the style, the truth remains the same.....

Purpose + Timing + Anointing = Results!

When I finished writing Enlarge My Territory and No Limits it wasn't until we sang them in service that we noticed something bigger than ourselves taking place. It was a connection with something outside of us that was stirring within us as well. Some would say the prayer of Jabez was a few seasons ago and I probably would agree but you can't deny God saying something again and he said it around the world. We must value the flow that comes from Heaven, the voice of God, the songs that He sings over us.

We as writers need to be writing the song of the Lord which is saving, healing, delivering and edifying to the Body of Christ and the world.

PROSPER WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED

It is my goal to see musician/singers realize that they don't have to move at every wind of opportunity or because they got hurt by their leadership or move just trying to make more money. The message our Pastor taught one day was that you can prosper where you're planted. Most Music people don't want to get planted because they want to run all over the world and be a star without covering. They get discouraged with building something other then themselves when in fact while building another man's vision God will build your own. You were placed where you are for a reason so stay planted.

I am giving songwriters opportunities to go global while acting local. To be heard around the world while being faithful locally.

Traveling isn't all it's cracked up to be so don't be dazed by what you see. The greatest place to minister is in the local church, period. If you were meant to be out on that other stage well then you would be but remember that's the end result of hard work. Back-up and you will find what it took to get to that platform.
Stayed covered and planted and God will take care of your growth and prosperity. Don't let this fall in a bucket and you not realize that if God plants you he has to water you he has to make sure you prosper. Take Him up on it.
Can you be planted and travel the globe? Certainly you can. The goal is being planted not confined.

Copyrights/Publishing

You must know that while you may consider songwriting an avenue of ministry, it is also a business. You should protect yourself from song-sharks. These are people who prey on writers and steal their songs.

The first thing you should do when a song that you have written is being sung in public is copyright it. Having a copyright protects you, the writer, by preventing the theft of your creation. It is considered an art form, therefore, the art is worth protecting. It prevents anyone from publishing your song without your permission.

Copyright forms can be obtained, at no cost, at this address: Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress, Washington, DC., 20559. There is a filing fee but you can choose to copyright one song or an entire tape full of songs for the same price.

Try www.copyrights.gov

You might also consider next becoming a member of one of these Performance Rights Societies: BMI.com, ASCAP.com or SESAC.com, through these companies, you can become a writer and/or publisher and file your songs with them. They make sure you get paid when a radio or TV station airs your song.

You can become a member of any organization you choose, but you can only be a member of one at a time. Protect yourself! A good song can go a long way in the right hands. The people of God should be trusted.....I just do not want them to be tempted, so protect yourself!

PRAYER

Now I want to pray for you and believe with you according to the gift that resides within you. So let's pray and believe God.

Now, Father, I pray for this person reading this manual, that You will increase their abilities and skill in this craft. I speak to their spirit and say, arise, arise, Oh Priest of God and pin the Song of the Lord, the Song of Praise and Thanksgiving. The Song of Deliverance, The Voice of the Bridegroom to the Bride. Ignite their hearts and cause a new song to arise from within their spirit! Amen!!

Keys to Anointed Songwriting