



## CFG Worship Requirements: Acoustic Guitar

### General Guidelines & Requirements:

#### Calling:

- A strong call and gifting on your life to lead others into worship.
- A great deal of time, energy, and personal dedication/resources have been invested in nurturing and growing your gift and musical craft.
- Motive for joining the team is based on a heart to worship God and not on a need for personal platforming/performing.

#### Commitment:

- 6 Months of regular attendance prior to joining the team is required (exceptions may apply under special circumstances).
- Be in agreement with the vision & values of the church.
- Playing for the worship team should remain a priority to playing for other citywide events & worship gatherings.
- Once-a-month placements on a team consists of playing for the 9:30 am & 11:30 am services on Sunday, being present at sound check and practice at 8:00 am on the Sunday, and a 1 and a half hour Wednesday mid-week rehearsal prior to the Sunday service.

#### Attendance & Punctuality:

- Worship team members must be actively involved and attend the church regularly.
- Respect your leaders and band members by being on-time for mid-week rehearsals & Sunday AM sound checks.

#### Expectations:

- We are looking for individuals that bring something to the team in skill, spirit, & heart.
- Applicants are expected to already be at a "platform" ready level.
- Team members should actively practice their craft and have a desire to improve their skill on an on-going basis.

### Instrument Specific Requirements & Skill Level:

The job of the acoustic guitarist is to provide rhythmic support and the perception of movement in the upper-mid register. A great acoustic player compliments the rhythm section of the band and is careful not to fight melodically with the other guitars.

#### Music Theory:

- Be familiar with the Circle of 5th's & Nashville numbering system across a variety of key signatures.
- Fundamental knowledge of chord structure and an understanding of how chords are formed - specifically useful for broken chord picking.
- It is recommended you know & have memorized all of the notes on the fretboard.
- Be able to play bar chords, power chords, and major/minor chord in different inversions & positions on the neck.
- Know & be familiar with a variety of different strumming patterns and when/where to use them.

#### General Skills:

- Understand how a capo works and be able to play with one.
- Be able to learn and read standard "worship style" chord charts.
- Must be able to play with a click track (metronome) and hold tempo.

- You may be an accomplished player and possess the technique and musical qualities that put you on par with the lead guitarist, but it is important the acoustic guitarist remembers the role they play in the band and to stick to this role first.
- Work with the rhythm section of the band (specifically the drums and the bass) to make sure what is being played collectively doesn't fight rhythmically.
- Be able to distinguish when a song requires finger picking or strumming. Don't assume that the slower songs require finger-picking - this is a one-size fits-all mentality. The song may just require a different strumming pattern.
- Avoid filtering your playing through styles of music you enjoy listening to. Good players know how to play what the song requires regardless of the players preferred " musical style".
- Tone - acoustic guitars can quickly take up a lot of space in the mix. The ideal acoustic guitar tone should have a warm tone to it without taking up a lot of space in the low-mid-range that is heavily crowded by other instruments.
- Use as much as possible chords that utilize open strings (they tend to bring out nice harmonics on acoustic guitars).

**Equipment:**

- Must own your own guitar and effects pedals/pedalboard.
- A working tuner to ensure your guitar is tuned.
- In ear monitors/headphones for our monitoring system. We have a few sets available but it is encouraged that individuals purchase their own.
- We use an app called Music Stand that is available for Apple and Android devices. Devices like iPads and Android tablets are a great way to view Music Stand and have quick access to all of the sheet music for a given worship set ; however, it is each individuals responsibility to use and bring their own device (iPad's and Tables are not required but prove to be a convenient way to reduce paper and have access to all of the chord charts). Paper music is available if needed.
- Be teachable and willing to accept suggestions from your band members, worship leaders, and music directors. The goal is to work together as a team to guide the congregation into the presence of God.