Master Song List

Here at Community of Faith, we get to make decisions for One Church with five locations, one being the Master Song List. The purpose of the Master Song List is to keep a unified worship experience across all campuses. We are *One Church* singing with *One Voice* and the MSL (*Master Song List*) keeps us in that vein.

When making a setlist for the Sunday Morning Experience, we are pulling songs from the MSL (45-50 songs). With this requirement, there are exceptions to this:

- Tags
- COF Original Songs
- Special songs requested by your Campus Pastor

1. The Opener

To Set the Tone of the morning, avoid "sluggish" starts. The MSL songs are rated 1-5 based on energy level – 1 being slow and 5 being fast. *Aim for a '3-5' on a 5-point scale to open your set.* You can get creative on how to do your openers especially if they are a 3 or 4. You can play the progression of the chorus of "Who Else" before the first verse to open a set with a bigger sound than just playing the original arrangement.

2. The Flow/Dynamics

Plan your set as one continuous worship journey rather than a collection of "starts and stops." Consider how song keys, tempos, themes, and moods flow together, and rehearse transitions carefully. Be intentional with pauses and breaks. Think through the dynamics of your set, creating a balanced flow of highs and lows rather than staying too intense or too mellow for too long.

When tagging a song off of another, link them through common theological or spiritual themes. The two easiest places to put a tag into a set is to do something soft and intimate after finishing a song (a hymn/throwback), or something dramatic and triumphant on the back of a song.

3. Your Team Matters

Know who they are and know their skill level. Pick and arrange songs in a way that capitalizes on their strengths and minimizes weaknesses.

Circles of Fifths

- When thinking through transitions, the circle of fifths becomes very helpful when you know how to use it!
- Let's say your first song is in the key of C, your "safe keys" to transition to are the two to the left and the two to the right of C. Choosing other keys to transition out of C will create a spooky/wonky transition that is not musically tasteful.
- This goes for any key. Take the key of B: your safe transition keys are Gb, Db, E, and A (the two to the left and the two to the right).
- Keep this graph in consideration when building your setlist

