

# Project #11

## SPEAKING BETWEEN SONGS EXAMPLES

This project aims to provide a practical understanding of how to plan and execute meaningful verbal transitions in a worship service, drawing directly from the principles outlined in the book.

**OBJECTIVE:** To thoughtfully design and critique verbal transitions, transforming them from “fluff filler” into valuable pastoral guidance that enhances the worship journey.

**Read pages 224-232 in *The Worship Ministry Guidebook*.**

### Phase 1: Foundation and Understanding (Reading & Reflection)

- » **Read and Annotate:** Thoroughly read the entire section *Speaking between songs and other elements of worship*, beginning on page 224.
- » **Highlight key principles:** Identify statements about why speaking is important, *what* its purpose is, and *what* to avoid.
- » **Note types of speaking:** Note the different “Types of speaking you can use” and their accompanying examples.
- » **Note primary places to speak:** Note the “five primary places to consider speaking.”
- » **Reflect on Current Practice:** Consider your church’s past worship services.
  - Review several services from the past weeks and listen to the verbal transitions.
  - Ask: “Were they trite and overused statements, or were they substantive and well thought out so that they were valuable for the congregation’s worship experience?”

### Phase 2: Designing Intentional Verbal Transitions

- » **Review your worship planning project (project #5):** Note all the areas where you need to determine what you will say, such as these places:
  - Opening/welcome
  - Before a song
  - Within a song (e.g., during an extended interlude or turnaround)
  - At the end of a song
  - Between songs
  - Prayers
  - Other
- » **Choose Speaking Types & Script Content:** For each identified speaking opportunity, apply the types of speaking you can use and script your verbal transition.
  - **Write it out:** Take time and script out what you will say at each juncture.
  - **Be purposeful:** Ensure the speaking is valuable to the worship time and helps to pastor and guide the congregation.
  - **Incorporate Scripture:** Using the Word of God in worship is powerful. Short Scripture passages are best.
  - **Connect ideas:** Tie into song lyrics, ministry time, prayer, song background, sermon themes, wor-

ship teaching, or attributes of God.

- **Tone:** Make it conversational in tone. Think more like being family and less of creating a concert/big show venue feel.
  - **Conciseness:** Remember that too much talking will cause a break in continuity or progression. Some verbal transitions are helpful, but less is usually better.
- » **Add Preparation Notes:** For your scripted transitions, include notes on how you would prepare:
- Memorize the key points and rehearse your overall message.
  - It should be rehearsed with the band so they can also be prepared.

### **Phase 3: Review and Refinement**

- » **Self-Critique:** Review your scripted verbal transitions against the principles from the book:
- Is it well thought out?
  - Does it avoid being trite?
  - Does it help you “pastor and guide” the worship journey?
  - Is it authentic?
  - Is it concise, or is there too much talking?
  - Does it honor God and help others bring their worship to the Lord?
- » **Simulated Rehearsal (Optional):** If possible, mentally or verbally rehearse your scripted transitions with the chosen songs (playing the songs or intros) to get a feel for timing and flow. This step simulates working through the plan to get a good feel for it.

### **Return to previous projects to add relevant information related to this project:**

- » Return to the worship service you created in Project #5 and add the text you just developed for speaking between songs, prayers, etc., to its document.
- » Add to your personal preparation for the worship leadership project (Project #10) any notes you need for speaking you may plan to do in the service planning project (Project #5).