

Piano

PRAAYER MUSIC



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Prayer Music. I love teaching on this topic because it's so important for Every. Single. Person who plays piano. It's amazing to not just play anything, but to be able to play the exact thing that the Holy Spirit is leading you to Play.

Playing prayer music will completely change your life. Hands down. It is the reason behind why I've had such a drastic growth spurt with God the past few months and I believe the same will be for you.

It will also change the lives of people you minister to. You'll be playing music, not just songs, but music that will encourage people to converse with God one-on-one, as a whole body of Christ together in one place. Soaking music encourages people to come up with their own words to God, their own song lyrics, their own praises to the Lord.

When I first started playing piano, yes I played choppy chords, and yes my transitions were awful, but *playing during prayer was a complete confusing area for me.* I wasn't sure whether I should play a song, or play that pretty melody I just learn with some arpeggios in it, so I just played random songs and melodies.

I didn't follow any specific style and wasn't even aware that what I was playing was actually distracting people from communing with God. I realized SO much through the process and learned the THREE things that are most important when it comes to prayer music.

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Step 1. Ask the Holy Spirit what He wants to do with Songs

Let's say that the Holy Spirit is leading you to a **specific topic**, maybe about his goodness, maybe He wants to bring hope to people who are feeling hopeless, maybe there are people who lost a loved one and need comfort, if you feel a specific topic, **you can play specific song directly connected with that topic.**

For example, if you sense a lot of hopelessness in the room and you really wanna help people realize the joy and hope that the Lord gives, you can play a specific song about hope. "This hope is an anchor of my soul" Or "Let hope rise, darkness tremble in your Holy Light"

A lot of times the Holy Spirit doesn't want there to be an **agenda or topic**, He just wants the people to talk to Him out of their own hearts - no hype, no words, just people gathered together to pray. That leads me to the next step.

Step 2. Choose a Chord Progression

When playing prayer music without playing any songs or anything, you can just start out by playing **a chord in any key of your choice - or a chord progression of a song you know.** But instead of playing the melody of that song you know, or that common chord progression from that song key - you're going to stretch it out. This leads me to step three.

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Step 3. Play VERY Simply

Instead of playing two counts for my chords C, G, Am, and F - **I'm going to play C for 8 counts instead.** Then I'll play the G chord for 8 counts, then the Am for 8 counts, etc. That drags the chords on for longer and creates space for a little bit of accent notes to be played. Remember, not a full on crazy melody, just a couple of suspended or slash chords here and there.

Let's say you wanna play the chords from the song Good, Good Father, what would you play? Just stretch the chords out and count your 8's instead of 2's or 4's. When you do that, people won't be able to tell which song you're playing. No complex arpeggios or anything - that leads me to the next part...

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Do's and Don'ts

Don't accidentally hit the wrong note from a different scale. I absolutely love just playing in the key of C, just because there is a lot of freedom and I don't need to worry about the black keys AT ALL.

Don't, please don't play complex melodies. It's so distracting. Simple playing - especially if you have a synth - is the best.

Don't keep playing the same two chords over and over.

Don't lead a prayer service without first spending time alone with the Lord. He reveals such amazing things - why not spend time and listen in before you actually lead a small group of a whole congregation. Even if you're just a keyboard player in a large band. I cannot stress this enough.

Resources

Find out how hundreds of piano players turned their ministry around by improving on these FIVE things here: WorshipPianoTutorials.com/pianoministry