

HPC Music & Production Technology mission statement

We exist to magnify the glory of Jesus in the hearts of the people we lead with music and production technology to build up the church.

...magnify the glory of Jesus...

“For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”

(2Cor 4.5-6 ESV)

The glory of God, seen in the face of Jesus, revealed through the work of the Spirit must be our foundational motivation for all we do in music and production. Truly seeing His glory is the beginning of saving faith and the creation of a new heart that longs to worship the source of that glory with everything they have. If we fail to have this foundation everything we do can become a self-serving idol where we worship and serve created things rather than the creator. Through the influence of the Spirit we can see God’s glory all around us but we see it most clearly through the word of God in the Bible. Therefore the fight to see and magnify the glory of God in others and ourselves must be done through deep, Spirit filled, prayerful and regular engagement with the Bible.

...in the hearts...

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.”

(2Cor 3.17-18

ESV)

“And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”

(Mark 12.30

ESV)

As we open the word we behold the glory of God the Spirit who opens our eyes and transforms us to be more and more like Jesus; from one degree of glory to another. We do not take the glory of Jesus as our own but rather reflect it. This glory originates solely from God, is revealed to us and, through the Holy Spirit, reflected back to Him again. When we truly behold His glory we cannot be the same. It should affect us in the very core of our being, what the Bible refers to

as our heart. The biblical idea of the heart is much more broad than that our current culture. It includes all the emotions, mind, intellect, feelings and passion as well as how these things are worked out in the will. It is not optional to simply be moved inwardly in private introspection. We are actually commanded by the word to respond to God with the full range of both inward feeling and outward expression including grieving, weeping, shouting for joy, dancing, hatred, anger, zeal, love, fear and laughter. This full range of response to God's initiation in our lives is only possible through the influence of the Spirit. If we see the glory of Jesus and are not dramatically affected with strong thoughts, emotions and actions we have either failed to truly behold His glory or we pridefully suppress how the Spirit would affect us for one reason or another. Therefore, when we gather together, our goal is not simply to see the glory of God but to be both internally and visibly moved and affected by the Spirit and lead others to do the same.

...of the people...

"I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings."

(1Cor 9.22-23 ESV)

"For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you."

(Acts 17.23 ESV)

We are called to magnify the glory of Jesus in the hearts of a particular people in a specific place and time. Our task is to discern an appropriate response to God's glory for that particular people. To do this we need the mindset of a missionary. A missionary studies the objects of worship for a particular people and discerns what can be received, what must be rejected and what can be redeemed as a means to proclaim the gospel and glorify God. This means that while celebrate our rich heritage we also use things of the world such as contemporary instrumentation, music styles and production technology but to the glory of Jesus instead of ourselves.

...we lead...

"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant,"

(Phil 2.4-7 ESV)

Whatever authority we have comes from Jesus Christ, the senior minister of HPC who delegates that authority to qualified elders to which we submit all our efforts. We are called to lead with both confidence and humility. Confident in the leadership of the Holy Spirit and the oversight of the elders. Humble in knowing that there is nothing good in us that does not come from Jesus. We do not lord our skill or position over anyone but use what God has gifted us with to reflect His glory. Leadership is our humble service to the church.

...with music and production...

“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

(1Cor 10.31
ESV)

“those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

”(1Cor 7.31 NIV)

Music and production technology are not to be worshipped and served idolatrously as an end in themselves. Nor are they to be avoided as dangerous enemies. Rather they are to be used as helpful servants to a greater purpose. These things, indeed all things, are only useful to the extent that they can magnify the glory of God. That is to say that quality, style and theological right thinking have great value as long as they are a means to revealing God’s glory rather than a means unto themselves. Music, along with art, video, lighting and other production technology have a unique ability to affect people in the very core of their being. This power is undeniable and worshipped as an end in itself by much of the world. Therefore, we must be diligent to ensure music and production are in their proper place in our hearts and in our gatherings. When we, as leaders, are properly submitted to the Holy Spirit and elders God has put us under, there is great freedom. However, if we fail to put music and production in their proper perspective we create an idol out of the very thing we intend to bring glory to God.

...to build up the church.

“But if... an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.”

(1Cor 14.24-25
ESV)

The goal is that the worship of Howwood Parish Church, both

gathered and scattered, would be marked by such a Christ centred, Spirit filled reflection of His glory that all who enter would worship Jesus and exclaim from their heart that, "God is really among you!" Our prayer is that this would build the church through the salvation of souls, regeneration of hearts with a hunger to reflect the glory of God and the ongoing transformation to the image of Jesus.