



BY GRACE

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Title: Lyrics 101

Speaker: Ron Hamilton

1. The Technique

- A. The number one problem with most hymn writing and songwriting is _____ !
- B. The phrases must flow, and the words must fit within the meter of the song. It must do more than _____ . In fact meter is _____ than rhyme!
- C. Use _____
1. Active over passive voice
ACTIVE: Angela threw the ball.
PASSIVE: The ball was thrown by Angela.
ACTIVE: Why did the chicken cross the road?
PASSIVE: Why was the road crossed by the chicken?
John crept down the hallway.
John had crept down the hallway.
 2. Exciting _____ !
(BAD: all the “be” verbs: is, are, was, were, have, has, did / said / went, walked) (GOOD: expressed, pleaded, whispered, quipped, chirped, snapped, replied, retorted / stepped, wandered, crept, strolled, traversed, searched, sauntered, loped, galloped, sidled, travelled, fled, disappeared)
 3. But don’t be _____ .
(Ex. He peregrinated or absquatulated.)
 4. Retire overused words and rhymes.

Every Gospel song or hymn will have love, above, blood, flood, Calv'ry, free, me, tree, Thee, eternity, cross, loss, life, strife, grace, face, sin, Him.

Using these rhymes and words sparingly is _____!

However, if you make a point to be more _____ and _____ in your word choice and _____ in your expression, your final product will be more unique and memorable.

2. The Content

- A. Write what you _____. Write what the Lord is teaching you.
- B. Select a _____ and stick to it! Don't wander too much.
(Ex. Amazing Grace, Fairest Lord Jesus, The Old Rugged Cross)
- C. Show your work to others and get _____.
- D. Have others proofread grammar and check doctrine.

3. The Reason for writing:

- A. Write for your _____.
- B. Write to worship the Lord! Write for your own _____.
- C. Where do I get published?
Have a body of work to present.

If you have a question for one of the Q&A sessions, please submit it to **QA@lancasterbaptist.org**.

