

Creative Music: By Faith

Easter 3, Year B

By Beth Barnett

This is a creative music engagement for use during worship time.	
You will need:	Words on the screen
Time required:	4-5 minutes

Use:

By Faith

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend
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CCLI Song # 5469291

Listen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXB8ihepUpE>

Play

<https://www.praisecharts.com/songs/details/15145/by-faith-sheet-music/piano-vocal-lead-sheet?key=A>

or Guitar chords

<https://tabs.ultimate-guitar.com/tab/keith-and-kristyn-getty/by-faith-chords-1453172>

Words of Introduction

In the reading from Acts 3, Peter is explaining how his faith – like the ancient faith of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, is now fulfilled in faith in the name of Jesus – because Jesus has shown his power of death and revealed his identity as the Lord. Peter speaks of having faith in the name of Jesus, and living by this faith, healing by this faith, being saved by this faith.

To remind us of God's faithfulness and he lives of faith of God's people through time and through to our lives of faith now, we are going to sing this song – By faith. There are 4 big story telling verses and a chorus.

If you like launching into words – go for it!

If you prefer to listen and ponder the words do that – and perhaps you can join in the repeated riff with our singers.

Instructions

To involve people in your gathering for whom the number of words in this song might create a barrier to full engagement, introduce the option of a repeated riff at the end of each line – adding rhythmic emphasis to the song, as well as reiterating the theme!

Teach a few confident singers of any age the repeated 2 note phrase 'By Faith, by faith, by faith' (see notation below)

Practice adding the phrase in between each of the lines of the verse and chorus, and rehearse this with either the recording or your live musicians.

If you have emerging musicians on various instruments (flute, recorder, clarinet, saxophone, violin, cello trombone...) invite them to learn the simple two note riff by ear, and join in. Vary which instruments play the riff each time for added colour.

Note: Between the third and fourth lines there is only time for two repetitions: by faith, by faith'.



The image shows musical notation for two parts of a song. The top part is a vocal line in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two phrases: 'By Faith we see the hand of God' and 'In the light...'. The bottom part is a two-note riff, 'By faith by faith by faith |', which is repeated three times. The riff consists of two notes: G4 and A4.



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Creative Music: See how much

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You will need:

Words on the screen

Time required:

4-5 minutes

Use:

See how much

Beth Barnett (Find out music)

See how much the Father loves us
 God's love is so great
 See how much the Father loves us
 God's love is so great
 God's love is great
 See how much the Father loves us
 God's love is so great

Teaching the song

This is a very simple song with lots of repetition. Don't display the lyrics, but teach the three easy lines by rote separately by singing each line and inviting the gathering to sing it back to you, before putting it all together in the song with accompaniment.

Get creative

- Add a series of 10 quaver and two crotchet claps on the 'Great' at the end of the four middle-section lines. Vary this with knee slaps, running on the spot, Tarzan chest thumping.
- Distribute 3 different kinds of percussion instruments
Eg: Triangles, shakers, woodblocks
Allocate a key word to each instrument, and ask for the instruments just to play when their allocated word is sung.

Sharing and bearing witness across the generations

After teaching the song and singing it once or twice, pause the music and invite some reflection on where God's great love has been seen – ask your gathering to share with the people around them if they have seen evidence of God's great love at some time – perhaps recently or perhaps further in the past.



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