

Nick Gainey teaches students to embrace worship as lifestyle

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When Nick Gainey leads worship at student events, he wants young people to do more than just enjoy the experience. He wants them to learn about the meaning of worship and embrace worship as a lifestyle.



The Nick Gainey Band Growing up at [First Baptist Church in Kermit](#), Gainey developed a love for music at an early age and was involved in various ministries.

“My dad was a deacon there, and my mom served in the children’s ministry,” he noted. “My mom was also an elementary music teacher, so I grew up around music and sang in children’s choir. I sang a few special music songs until I got into junior high, when my voice began to drastically change.

“My love for music was then replaced with sports during junior high and most of high school. However, during my senior year, my pastor and my parents encouraged me to audition for a group that traveled around Texas and Oklahoma singing in prisons and local churches. I made the group and traveled with them that summer, which rekindled the passion I had earlier

for music and singing.”

As a student at [Howard Payne University](#) in Brownwood, Gainey volunteered as a small-group leader and began learning how to play the guitar. Before long, the youth ministries of churches in the area began asking him to lead worship.

“I went to Howard Payne with the intentions of coaching and teaching, but the Lord began to develop in me a desire to lead the church in worship,” he said.



Today, Gainey maintains a busy schedule leading worship with his band at student ministry events, including DiscipleNow weekends, mission trips, retreats, conferences and camps.

This summer, Gainey is leading worship for the Baptist General Convention of Texas' [Youth Evangelism Conference](#) in Burleson June 27-28 and Mount Lebanon Baptist Encampment in Cedar Hill July 20-25.

He believes one of the most exciting things is watching people respond in worship.

“I am humbled that God has given me opportunities to lead people to worship him, and I love seeing students and adults have their eyes opened in regards to worship,” Gainey said. “Some of my mentors have taught me in the last few years the importance of people knowing about the God whom they are worshipping.



"I enjoy getting to explain why we worship and the beauty of the church proclaiming the truth of the Scriptures together. It excites me to see people getting more moved from the truth or message within a song instead of just being moved by how it sounds musically.

"One of my favorite and most memorable times of worship was in the summer of 2008 on a mission trip to Tokyo, Japan. I'll never forget the sound of 180 students proclaiming the lyrics to 'God of This City.'"

Whatever the venue, Gainey desires to communicate the gospel through music.

"One of the reasons we sing is so that we can remember and reflect on the Lord's faithfulness, mercy and grace in our own lives each day," he said. "Music has a very unique way of taking truth and planting it deep within our hearts. Music is not a requirement for our worship. It is an aid in coming alongside truth to stir our heart's affections for God. It is a gift to supplement our response to a holy and righteous God."