

Breaking of Bread Piano Playing

1/5/2011

How to practice at home:

1. Practice the most sung hymns one by one daily (starting from the mostly sung 50 Breaking of Bread hymns – refer to separated doc)
2. Look over the song and decide what key to play, most songs need to be transposed down 1 or 2 keys (the highest note should be lower than Eb, if many high notes, than lower than D) and make a note
3. Decide what intro to play (usually the first or last few measures of the song) and make a note (e.g. circle the intro)
4. If cannot play all four parts together, practice at least the melody line and base line until fluent. Or right hand play main melody, left hand accompany with chord improvisation (see #5)
5. Write down the chords, at least first beat (generally) of each measure (refer to separated doc for how to write chords for Hymns)
6. Read through all verses and have an idea what the mood/speed should be and play accordingly
7. If you need to turn the page for extra verses, make a note at the bottom so you know how many verses left

During BB:

1. Let your keyboardist know what key you are playing
2. Look at how many verses

3. Need to play main melody for at least first 2 verses, afterwards may play chords only
4. Toward the end of last verse, look at Pastors off stage, they may indicate the verse to repeat the song
5. If you decide to continue the music while people are praying, make sure you can hear the prayers so your music does not cover people's prayer