



## Bethel World Outreach Church Media Workshop

*By Auburn Mann*



On September 22, TPCBC Media Ministry was invited to a Saturday afternoon video production workshop at Bethel World Outreach Church (BWO) in Olney, Maryland. The workshop's primary focus was camera work and broadcasting during worship services.

The workshop was divided to two segments, the first of which was a seminar on field production. This entailed basic camera setup, placement, lighting and lens options for various on-location shoots, especially interviews. The second segment addressed studio production, including all the intricacies of recording a live worship service. Taking place in Bethel's studio control room adjacent to their main sanctuary, this segment tackled timing and anticipating shots in live productions.

The workshop offered advice about media industry career avenues available for those with these skills. Also in attendance were professional cameramen and news producers, representing noted outlets such as Christian Broadcasting Network and Fox News.

According to Henry Teague, Jr., BWO's Media Director, "Our goal was to give all the attendees lessons on how video works through hands-on training, so they can become proficient videographers. As contemporary content creators we need to understand how we can better use these techniques in order to have greater impact in world where there are so many options for consuming information."

The importance of the audio and visual elements of media was really driven home. According to studies, 83 percent of the average human life is experienced through sight, while hearing is second largest at 11 percent. It is vital for a church to have a high-quality media team to properly complement and enhance the worship experience.

TPCBC Media Ministry Director Stacey Ward used this experience to explore media possibilities for TPCBC: "In 2019, we have plans to identify space here at the church that we can convert into a studio for audio and video productions. We also want to establish our church YouTube Channel."

Stacey was joined at the workshop by what she describes as "a cadre of teens and young adults who are excited and enthused about being able to further develop their production skills in fresh ways." They each shared their takeaways from the workshop:

According to Matthew Paulemon, “As one of the directors for the media team at the People's Community Baptist Church, I am pleased to say that attending the BWO video production workshop has been a fruitful experience. During the brief on-camera positions, I was able to learn how the windows and amount of sunlight coming in the room plays a huge role in having the right lighting and/or making the right adjustments. Having the perfect shot is everything when conducting an interview, therefore understanding that the camera should be pointed at an angle to make it seem as if the person talking is looking at the camera. I am a director, so when I had the opportunity to work with the directors from the other churches, I learned first-hand the right timing for switching cameras, how to make the right calls to prepare the next camera needed, and how to alternate between PTZ's and manual cameras in order to give those working the cameras time to refocus and ready themselves.”

Jalen Geason said, “I think the biggest takeaway was being able to see the way that they use the main cameras with their presentation software and how it can adjust to various sermon styles. I can't wait to come back to People's and see how they adopt some of those things.”

As Jahmere Jackson shared, “I found all that goes into setting up the production for an interview very interesting. Things like having the right lighting and seating for a successful shoot are much more involved than I thought.”

Stacey had the final word: “God has blessed the video team as result of our newly established relationship with Bethel World Outreach. Their media director, Henry Teague, Jr., says they will be a resource for anything we need to help us enhance our video production unit here at TPCBC.”

We look forward to what God has in store for us.