

Module 2: Wittenberg Door Openers - Church House Rock Rhythmic Review

Church House Rock Rhythmic Review is designed to be one of three entry points for engaging participants as they gather. Just as the original Schoolhouse Rock was filled with lively music, participants will be given the opportunity to engage in some musical and rhythmic exercise, you will be given an opportunity to highlight a variety of rhythms and raps which will create a sense of continuity between the theme and the various components of this event.

The Leader's Notes for this activity, along with any needed preparations and supplies, are outlined below. A Program Planning Grid (PDF file) is available to assist you in coordinating the details and tasks involved. You may wish to display signs to distinguish the Door Openers from Luther's Learning Centers.

Approximate time: 1-5 minutes

Equipment and Supplies:

- Copies of the [Church House Rhythmic Revue sheet](#) (PDF file)
- A copy of the [Rhythm Rap sheets A-F](#) (PDF file)
- Copies of the [Beat sheets A-C](#) (PDF files)
- (Optional) A variety of rhythm instruments, e.g. wood sticks, drums, cymbals and tambourines
- Tables or hard surfaces

Leader's Notes:

Scan through the activity outline and adapt your plans to honor the time you have scheduled for your overall event.

Display one or more copies of the beat sheets as table tents. Become familiar with the rhythms so that you can introduce them to your participants.

If you are choosing to use rhythmic instruments, lay them out on your tables or hard surfaces along with the rhythm table tents. You may also choose to have participants just tap out rhythms on a table or hard surface with their hands. They are all written in 4/4 time.

Make a sample Rhythmic Review sheet, placing a copy of each rhythm raps in the defined spaces.

Activity:

Refer to the videotape of School House Rock as you introduce your Church House Rock as a fun event full of games and lively rhythms. Point out that Luther, a famous man of faith, "rocked" the church with his own rhythms as he hammered his 95 Theses or statements of faith to a Wittenberg church door in Germany. You will also want to share that Luther loved music and often used songs or rhythms the people knew to write hymns of faith. State that the rhythms you introduce will be used as tools for learning later in the event.

Invite participants to practice the various rhythms on the table tents. Encourage them to try several of the rhythms. You might even try doing several different rhythms in "harmony."

Then, distribute copies of the Church House Rock Rhythmic Revue sheet. Display your sample Rhythm Revue sheet and inform participants that they will have the opportunity to learn several rhythm raps of which they will be given copies to place on their Rhythm Revue sheets.