# SHAYLA BLANKENSHIP

Praise & Worship Leader Pikeville, Kentucky

### **Background:**

What are some of your reasons for choosing to participate with GCI in *ministry?* God called me into music ministry at a very young age, singing is how I worship, it's how I praise. I first joined the Praise team when I was 14 years old, I never thought in a million years I'd be the Praise team leader one day. When God calls you to something, you know.

*Who has invested in you to support you in your ministry?* All the pastors at Grace Fellowship, my home church, have really invested time and love into me. This church is more than my church, it's my family.

*What is something in your local congregation that you're excited about?* I am very excited about how we connect with the community. Every month we do free dinners to help out the community, I started volunteering at our Community Dinners. In the beginning I just served food, but God tapped on my heart to do more, now I praise, and worship God during these dinners.

*What is the legacy you hope to leave?* That I loved, and gave glory to God. Because without him, I wouldn't have the air in my lungs to speak. God gives us hope, and he will never give up on you! On your darkest day, he's got his arms wrapped around you.



## Get to Know Shayla

**FAVORITE SCRIPTURE?** JEREMIAH 29 :11 - IT'S A SCRIPTURE, THAT HAS GRABBED MY HEART AND SPOKEN TO ME. I KNOW THAT I DON'T DESERVE ANYTHING FROM GOD, BUT GOD SEES SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL IN ME, LOVES ME, AND HAS A PLAN FOR ME. HE SHOWERS ME WITH BLESSING AFTER BLESSING, AND I TAKE THAT TO HEART EVERY DAY! GOD IS SO GOOD!



#### For what are you most grateful?

I am most grateful for the grace of God, and how he has moved in my life over the years. It never ceases to amaze me, how he works, and moves in all of us. God has filled my heart, with a longing to help people, and to love people without judgment. We all fall short of the glory of God. He knew that, so he made a way for us.

2. Everyone who knows you knows you love: Music! My favorite singers are Lauren Daigle, or Kari Jobe. The way they worship, and sing always speak to me. I am not alone, and You Say are probably my favorite songs by them!



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#### How do you feel close to God?

I feel closest to God during Praise and worship, it's the way I connect, the way I feel, I get so emotional about what God has done for me, that it's overwhelming at times.





