



devotion music
Inspiring Music Without Limits

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Jennifer Crass: Girl Power for God

When Jennifer Crass, 32, was invited to be a vocalist in her church's worship group, Cape First Worship, she had no idea that this was the first step in the amazing journey God had planned for her. As a humble youth pastor, she had selflessly involved herself in ministries that reached out to the lives of the people around her, never expecting fame or public recognition for her contributions. However, only three and a half years after joining the worship group, she would receive just that. Little did she know, Cape First Worship would come to record the most anticipated worship album since Hillsong released "Mighty to Save" in 2006.

Born in Madisonville, Kentucky, Jennifer's first memory of singing was bellowing out an old church hymn named "He's Still Workin' On Me." From that early beginning, her pursuit of music combined with her outgoing personality led her to many different opportunities. Jennifer sang in church and school choirs during junior high and high school, participated in drama clubs and was highly involved in youth camp programs every summer. She then attended Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee, where she was given the opportunity to perform throughout Europe in the university's touring choir.

"I've always known that it was God's assignment for me to serve people as Jesus served," Crass said about her passion for the many ministries she leads. "My life is all about loving God and loving people!"

With that in mind, Jennifer started a new youth program named G.L.A.M Squad, which stands for Girls Leading and Ministering. Her vision was to create a discipleship group where girls could surround themselves with positive influences. Understanding that young people are exposed to a world that is full of unhealthy images, she wanted to help them find their own identity in a safe place.



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Crass's devotion to the church's youth was an inspiration to everyone around her. Even with her extensive commitments, she still managed to be a special part of Cape First Worship, performing in front of thousands each week at her church. With the support of friends, family and the church's congregation, interest in group's music rose higher than anyone could have imagined.

"It's absolutely the coolest thing when people in the community stop me, and tell me how much the music Cape First Worship created has impacted their walk with the Lord. It is such an honor and blessing to see God's work in action," said Crass.

The accomplishments of Cape First Worship's ministry did not go unnoticed. Record producer Billy Smiley, formerly of the Christian group White Heart, heard a sample of their music and immediately contacted the group to set up a meeting. Impressed by Crass' vocal talent and the limitless passion present in the group's work, Smiley signed the group to Christian record label Devotion Music on the spot.

With excitement in their hearts, the group flew to Devotion Music's studio in Nashville, Tennessee. After many moving recording sessions, 12 inspirational tracks came together to form their debut album, entitled "To Know Your Heart." With members coming from all walks of life, each song was created to share a message to which any Christian could relate.

The experience has been life changing for Jennifer and her husband Ben, who is also a part of Cape First Worship. With a joyful smile Crass said, "Ben and I have grown tremendously through this opportunity, both spiritually and musically. God has a master plan for each of us to experience his presence daily, and this album reflects our hearts and our love for our Father through every note and lyric."



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“I walk through this experience with a humble heart, knowing that only by the grace of God have we been blessed with this opportunity. Even if our music helps only one person walk closer with the Lord, I would consider our work a great success,” commented Crass.

The album, distributed by Universal Music Group, will be available in stores nationwide on September 16, 2008. As an added bonus, a DVD with a full-length music video for the album's first single, "To Know Your Heart," will be included with each album, along with live performance footage and interviews with band members. The album and information about the group is also available at www.devotionmusic.com.