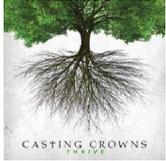


Casting Crowns – Thrive (2014)

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 04 February 2014 16:40 - Last Updated Monday, 11 December 2017 22:51

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01 – Thrive 02 – All You've Ever Wanted 03 – Just Be Held 04 – You Are the Only One 05 – Broken Together 06 – Love You With The Truth 07 – This Is Now 08 – Dream For You 09 – Follow Me 10 – Heroes 11 – House Of Their Dreams 12 – Waiting On The Night To Fall

Musicians: Mark Hall – lead vocals Juan DeVevo – guitar and background vocals
Chris Huffman – bass and background vocals Megan Garrett – piano, keyboards, backing vocals
Melodee DeVevo – violin, backing vocals, cello Brian Scoggin – drums Josh Mix – lead guitar and background vocals

THRIVE, the brand new studio record from Casting Crowns, is packed with the band's signature style of songs about real life that redefine our identity in Christ, pointing us to our purpose from Him so that we may carry it out through Him. It's time for us to more than survive. We were made to THRIVE! ---premierproductions.com

Nearly two years after their critically acclaimed album *Come to the Well*, Casting Crowns brings us their latest offering – *Thrive*. The much anticipated album from the multi-platinum group reaffirms the hallmarks of their widespread influence. I believe they have been so successful because of the poignant and impactful lyrics that characterize their songs and serve to challenge and encourage the church. As the Bible is living and active, Casting Crowns through their lyrics, stays true to teaching God's Word making the songs relevant and real album after album.

The title track of the album, "Thrive" is an up-tempo anthem that I could see being added to

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many worship team set lists as it seems approachable and playable. The chorus includes the line, “We know we were made for so much more than ordinary life, it’s time for us to do more than just survive – we were made to thrive.” How true that we often toil through the work week, just to make it to the weekend so we can “live.” With the encouragement via this song, we can recognize that God made us to be more than just survivors; that He created us to Thrive. This could easily become a belated New Year’s resolution for me!

“Love You With the Truth” is a track that calls us to question ourselves and ask, “If we don’t speak God’s Truth to our friends do we really love them?” The lyrics probe deep and challenge us. “Let my life and my words be the proof, I’m gonna love you with the truth,” is the call to action echoed throughout this song. Given the band’s background as youth ministers, I can picture this as a recurring theme with their youth groups. Not just a theme for their youth groups, but all who hear it, we are reminded to trust that God will do more than one can possibly imagine.

“Dream For You” is a song that inspires us to let go of our plans and trust in what God has in store for us. “So let go of your plan, take hold of my hand and I’ll show you what I can do, when I dream for you.” God’s plans for us are so much bigger than anything we can possibly dream. These dreams He dreams for us become reality as we trust and embrace God’s truth in our lives.

Casting Crowns is so popular, because the songs they sing convey how God’s truth is relevant in our lives. As we dig deep into their music we are encouraged and challenged to make changes that God seeks in us. ---Glenn Stout, allaboutworship.com

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