

I CAN  
ONLY  
IMAGINE

*a memoir*

Bart Millard

WITH ROBERT NOLAND

## Appendix 1

# YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

My mentor, Rusty Kennedy, was integral in discipling me in my walk with Christ. He gave me these seventy-five verses and statements while I was unpacking my past and starting to understand who I truly am in Jesus. Ever since then, I have carried these close to my heart. I pray these will minister to you the way they have to me so that you, too, can understand that in Christ, you are free indeed!

1. John 1:12—I am a child of God.
2. John 15:1-5—I am a part of the true vine, a channel (branch) of His life.
3. John 15:15—I am Christ's friend.
4. John 15:16—I am chosen and appointed by Christ to bear His fruit.
5. Acts 1:8—I am a personal witness of Christ for Christ.
6. Romans 3:24—I have been justified and redeemed.
7. Romans 5:1—I have been justified (completely forgiven and made righteous) and am at peace with God.
8. Romans 6:1-6—I died with Christ and died to the power of sin's rule in my life.

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9. Romans 6:7—I have been freed from sin’s power over me.
10. Romans 6:18—I am a slave of righteousness.
11. Romans 6:22—I am enslaved to God.
12. Romans 8:1—I am forever free from condemnation.
13. Romans 8:14–15—I am a son of God. God is literally my “Papa.”
14. Romans 8:17—I am an heir of God and fellow heir with Christ.
15. Romans 11:16—I am holy.
16. Romans 15:7—Christ has accepted me.
17. 1 Corinthians 1:2—I have been sanctified.
18. 1 Corinthians 1:30—I have been placed in Christ by God’s doing; Christ is now my wisdom from God, my righteousness, my sanctification, and my redemption.
19. 1 Corinthians 2:12—I have received the Spirit of God into my life that I might know the things freely given to me by God.
20. 1 Corinthians 2:16—I have been given the mind of Christ.
21. 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19—I am a temple (home) of God; His Spirit (His life) dwells in me.
22. 1 Corinthians 6:17—I am joined to the Lord and am one spirit with Him.
23. 1 Corinthians 6:19–20—I have been bought with a price; I am not my own; I belong to God.
24. 1 Corinthians 12:27—I am a member of Christ’s body.
25. 2 Corinthians 1:21—I have been established in Christ and anointed by God.
26. 2 Corinthians 2:14—God always leads me in His triumph in Christ.
27. 2 Corinthians 5:14–15—Since I have died, I no longer live for myself but for Christ.
28. 2 Corinthians 5:17—I am a new creation.

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29. 2 Corinthians 5:18–19—I am reconciled to God and am a minister of reconciliation.
30. 2 Corinthians 5:21—I am the righteousness of God in Christ.
31. Galatians 2:4—I have liberty in Christ Jesus.
32. Galatians 2:20—I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. The life I am now living is Christ's life.
33. Galatians 3:26–28—I am a child of God and one in Christ.
34. Galatians 4:6–7—I am a child of God and an heir through God.
35. Ephesians 1:1—I am a saint.
36. Ephesians 1:3—I am blessed with every spiritual blessing.
37. Ephesians 1:4—I was chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blame before Him.
38. Ephesians 1:5—I have been adopted as God's child.
39. Ephesians 1:7–8—I have been redeemed and forgiven, and am a recipient of His lavish grace.
40. Ephesians 2:5—I have been made alive together with Christ.
41. Ephesians 2:6—I have been raised up and seated with Christ in heaven.
42. Ephesians 2:10—I am God's workmanship, created in Christ to do His work that He planned beforehand that I should do.
43. Ephesians 2:13—I have been brought near to God.
44. Ephesians 2:18—I have direct access to God through the Spirit.
45. Ephesians 2:19—I am a fellow citizen with the saints and a member of God's household.
46. Ephesians 3:6—I am a fellow heir, fellow member of the body, and fellow partaker of the promise in Christ Jesus.

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47. Ephesians 3:12—I may approach God with boldness and confidence.
48. Ephesians 4:24—I am righteous and holy.
49. Philippians 3:20—I am a citizen of heaven.
50. Philippians 4:7—His peace guards my heart and mind.
51. Philippians 4:19—God will supply all my needs.
52. Colossians 1:13—I have been delivered from the domain of darkness and transferred to the kingdom of Christ.
53. Colossians 1:14—I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins. The debt against me has been canceled.
54. Colossians 1:27—Christ Himself is in me.
55. Colossians 2:7—I have been firmly rooted in Christ and am now being built up and established in Him.
56. Colossians 2:10—I have been made complete in Christ.
57. Colossians 2:12–13—I have been buried, raised, made alive with Christ, and totally forgiven.
58. Colossians 3:1—I have been raised with Christ.
59. Colossians 3:3—I have died, and my life is now hidden with Christ in God.
60. Colossians 3:4—Christ is now my life.
61. Colossians 3:12—I am chosen of God, holy, and dearly loved.
62. 1 Thessalonians 5:5—I am a child of light and not of darkness.
63. 2 Timothy 1:7—I have been given a spirit of power, love, and discipline.
64. 2 Timothy 1:9—I have been saved and called (set apart) according to God’s purpose and grace.
65. Hebrews 2:11—Because I am sanctified and am one with Christ, He is not ashamed to call me His.
66. Hebrews 3:1—I am a holy partaker of a heavenly calling.
67. Hebrews 3:14—I am a partaker of Christ.

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68. Hebrews 4:16—I may come boldly before the throne of God to receive mercy and find grace to help in my time of need.
69. 1 Peter 2:5—I am one of God's living stones and am being built up as a spiritual house.
70. 1 Peter 2:9–10—I am a part of a chosen race, royal priesthood, holy nation, and a people of God's own possession.
71. 1 Peter 2:11—I am an alien and stranger to this world in which I temporarily live.
72. 1 Peter 5:8—I am an enemy of the Devil. He is my adversary.
73. 2 Peter 1:4—I have been given God's precious and magnificent promises by which I am a partaker of the divine nature.
74. 1 John 3:1—God has bestowed a great love on me and called me His child.
75. 1 John 4:15—God is in me and I am in God.

## Appendix 2

# MERCYME CAREER OVERVIEW

*Through 2017*

## Band Stats

### ***Members***

- Bart Millard—Lead Vocals (1994–present) 12/1/72—  
Greenville, TX
- Mike Scheuchzer—Guitar/Vocals (1994–present) 6/8/75—  
Portland, ME
- Robby Shaffer—Drums (1994–present) 11/14/75—  
Columbia, MO
- Nathan Cochran—Bass/Keys/Vocals (1994–present)  
5/26/78—Columbia, MO
- Barry Graul—Guitar/Vocals (2003–present) 5/18/61—  
Baltimore, MD
- Previous Member: Jim Bryson (1994–2014)

### ***Key Facts***

- 9 million units in cumulative sales
- 57 #1 songs
- 4 mainstream radio hits

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- “I Can Only Imagine” was the first digital single in Christian music history to be certified Platinum and Double Platinum.
- In 2009, Billboard named MercyMe’s “Word of God Speak” the #1 Song of the Decade and the group the #1 Artist of the Decade in both the Christian Songs and Christian Adult Contemporary Songs categories.
- Notable performances include Radio City Music Hall, the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, *The Today Show*, *CBS This Morning*, *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *FOX & Friends*, CNN, and *ABC News*.
- Articles published in *Entertainment Weekly*, the *New York Times*, and *USA Today*.
- Their ninth studio album, *Lifer*, released through Fair Trade Services on March 31, 2017, reached #1 on Christian SoundScan and #10 on the Billboard Top 200 overall chart during its first week.
- The song “Even If,” from the album *Lifer*, was #1 on the Billboard Christian and Mediabase Christian radio charts for a record-setting nineteen straight weeks in 2017, second only to the #1 spot held by their own song “Word of God Speak,” that spent twenty-three weeks at the #1 position in 2004.
- The 2018 feature film *I Can Only Imagine* is a true story based on the life of lead singer Bart Millard and stars Dennis Quaid, Trace Adkins, J. Michael Finley, Cloris Leachman, Madeline Carroll, and Priscilla Shirer.

### *MercyMe Discography*

- 2001 *Almost There* (RIAA Certified Triple Platinum)
- 2002 *Spoken For* (RIAA Certified Gold)



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- 2004 *Undone* (RIAA Certified Gold)
- 2004 *MercyMe Live* DVD (RIAA Certified Gold)
- 2005 *The Christmas Sessions*
- 2006 *Coming Up to Breathe* (RIAA Certified Gold)
- 2007 *All That Is Within Me* (RIAA Certified Gold)
- 2009 “10”
- 2010 *The Generous Mr. Lovewell* (RIAA Certified Gold)
- 2011 *The Worship Sessions*
- 2012 *The Hurt & The Healer*
- 2014 *Welcome to the New* (RIAA Certified Gold)
- 2015 *MercyMe It’s Christmas!*
- 2017 *Lifer*

### ***MercyMe’s #1 Radio Singles by Album\****

- *Lifer*—“Even If”
- *Welcome to the New*—“Greater,” “Flawless,” “Dear Younger Me”
- *The Hurt & The Healer*—“The Hurt & The Healer,” “You Are I Am”
- *The Generous Mr. Lovewell*—“All of Creation,” “Beautiful,” “Move”
- *All That Is Within Me*—“God With Us,” “You Reign,” “Finally Home”
- *Coming Up to Breathe*—“So Long Self,” “Hold Fast,” “Bring the Rain”
- *Undone*—“Here with Me,” “In the Blink of an Eye,” “Homesick”
- *Spoken For*—“Word of God Speak,” “Spoken For”
- *Almost There*—“I Can Only Imagine”

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\* MercyMe has a total of 57 #1 singles across the following formats: National Christian Audience, Christian AC Monitored, Christian AC Indicator, Christian Soft AC, Christian AC (PD Advisor), Christian Soft AC (Radio & Records), Christian AC (Radio & Records).

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### MercyMe Awards and Nominations

#### ***GRAMMY Awards—Nominations***

- 2015 Best Contemporary Christian Music Album—*Welcome to the New*
- 2015 Best Contemporary Christian Music Performance/Song—“Shake”

#### ***Billboard Music Awards—Nominations***

- 2016 Top Christian Artist
- 2016 Top Christian Song—“Flawless”
- 2015 Top Christian Artist
- 2015 Top Christian Album—*Welcome to the New*
- 2015 Top Christian Song—“Greater”
- 2013 Top Christian Artist
- 2013 Top Christian Album—*The Hurt & The Healer*
- 2012 Top Christian Artist
- 2011 Top Christian Artist
- 2011 Top Christian Album—*The Generous Mr. Lovewell*
- 2011 Top Christian Song—“All of Creation”

#### ***American Music Awards—Wins***

- 2010 Favorite Contemporary Inspirational Artist
- 2004 Favorite Contemporary Inspirational Artist

#### ***American Music Awards—Nominations***

- 2017 Favorite Contemporary Inspirational Artist
- 2015 Favorite Contemporary Inspirational Artist
- 2010 Favorite Contemporary Inspirational Artist
- 2008 Favorite Contemporary Inspirational Artist
- 2004 Favorite Contemporary Inspirational Artist
- 2003 Favorite Contemporary Inspirational Artist

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### *ASCAP Christian Music Awards—Wins*

- 2016 Song of the Year—“Flawless”
- 2016 Most Performed Song—“Flawless”
- 2015 Most Performed Song—“Greater”
- 2014 Most Performed Song—“You Are I Am”
- 2013 Most Performed Song—“The Hurt & The Healer”
- 2012 Most Performed Song—“Move”
- 2011 Songwriter/Artist of the Year
- 2011 Song of the Year—“All of Creation”
- 2011 Most Performed Song—“All of Creation,” “Beautiful”
- 2010 Most Performed Song—“All of Creation”
- 2009 Most Performed Song—“God With Us,” “You Reign”
- 2008 Most Performed Song—“Bring the Rain,” “Hold Fast”
- 2007 Most Performed Song—“So Long Self”
- 2006 Most Performed Song—“Homesick,” “In the Blink of an Eye”
- 2005 Most Performed Song—“Here with Me”
- 2004 Songwriter of the Year (Bart Millard)
- 2004 Most Performed Song—“I Can Only Imagine,” “Spoken For,” “Word of God Speak”
- 2003 Songwriter of the Year (Bart Millard)
- 2003 Most Performed Song—“I Can Only Imagine”

### *ASCAP Rhythm & Soul Music Awards—Wins*

- 2014 Top Gospel Song—“I Can Only Imagine” (Tamela Mann’s cover recording)

### *GMA Dove Awards—Wins*

- 2017 Artist of the Year
- 2017 Pop/Contemporary Album of the Year—*Lifer*
- 2017 Songwriter of the Year (Artist)—Bart Millard

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- 2005 Pop/Contemporary Album of the Year—*Undone*
- 2005 Special Event Album of the Year—*The Passion of the Christ: Songs*
- 2004 Song of the Year—“Word of God Speak”
- 2004 Artist of the Year
- 2004 Group of the Year
- 2004 Pop/Contemporary Song of the Year—“Word of God Speak”
- 2002 Song of the Year—“I Can Only Imagine”
- 2002 Pop/Contemporary Recorded Song of the Year—“I Can Only Imagine”
- 2002 Songwriter of the Year (Bart Millard)

### ***GMA Dove Awards—Nominations***

- 2017 Artist of the Year
- 2017 Song of the Year—“Even If”
- 2017 Songwriter of the Year (Artist)—Bart Millard
- 2017 Pop/Contemporary Album of the Year—*Lifer*
- 2017 Pop/Contemporary Recorded Song of the Year—“Even If”
- 2016 Christmas Album of the Year—*MercyMe It’s Christmas!*
- 2016 Song of the Year—“Flawless”
- 2015 Artist of the Year
- 2015 Contemporary Christian Artist of the Year
- 2015 Song of the Year—“Greater”
- 2011 Group of the Year
- 2011 Pop/Contemporary Song of the Year—“All of Creation”
- 2011 Song of the Year—“All of Creation”
- 2009 Group of the Year
- 2009 Song of the Year—“You Reign”
- 2009 Country Album of the Year—*Hymned Again* (Bart Millard)

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- 2008 Song of the Year—“Bring the Rain”
- 2007 Group of the Year
- 2007 Pop/Contemporary Album of the Year—*Coming Up to Breathe*
- 2006 Group of the Year
- 2006 Country Recorded Song of the Year—“Mawmaw’s Song” (Bart Millard, Barry Graul)
- 2006 Inspirational Album of the Year—*Hymned* (Bart Millard)
- 2005 Group of the Year
- 2005 Artist of the Year
- 2005 Pop/Contemporary Album of the Year—*Undone*
- 2005 Special Event Album of the Year—*The Passion of the Christ: Songs*
- 2005 Long Form Music Video—*MercyMe LIVE*
- 2004 Artist of the Year
- 2004 Group of the Year
- 2004 Song of the Year—“Word of God Speak”
- 2004 Pop/Contemporary Song of the Year—“Word of God Speak”
- 2004 Songwriter of the Year (Bart Millard)
- 2004 Male Vocalist of the Year (Bart Millard)
- 2004 Children’s Music Album of the Year—*I Can Only Imagine: Lullabies for a Peaceful Rest*
- 2003 Artist of the Year
- 2003 Group of the Year
- 2003 Song of the Year—“Spoken For”
- 2003 Pop/Contemporary Song of the Year—“Spoken For”
- 2002 Song of the Year—“I Can Only Imagine”
- 2002 Pop/Contemporary Recorded Song of the Year—“I Can Only Imagine”
- 2002 Songwriter of the Year (Bart Millard)

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### ***K-LOVE Fan Awards—Nominations***

- 2017 Artist of the Year
- 2017 Group or Duo of the Year
- 2016 Song of the Year—“Flawless”
- 2016 Group or Duo of the Year
- 2015 Artist of the Year
- 2015 Song of the Year—“Greater”
- 2015 Group or Duo of the Year
- 2014 Artist of the Year
- 2014 Group or Duo of the Year
- 2013 Artist of the Year
- 2013 Group or Duo of the Year

## MercyMe’s Community Contributions

### ***World Vision (2017–Present)***

*Mission Statement: World Vision is an international partnership of Christians whose mission is to follow our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in working with the poor and oppressed to promote human transformation, seek justice, and bear witness to the good news of the Kingdom of God.*

MercyMe’s newest partnership is working alongside World Vision to enable children, their families, and their communities to build a better future for themselves. World Vision works to transform impoverished communities, provide emergency relief, improve access to quality education, promote justice and change unjust social structures, provide tools and support to gain access to nutritious food, provide accessible clean drinking water, and more. Both MercyMe and World Vision are committed to the body of Christ and follow Jesus’ example in working alongside the poor and oppressed.

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### ***Compassion International (2003–2017)***

*Mission Statement: Releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name. In response to the Great Commission, Compassion International exists as an advocate for children, to release them from their spiritual, economic, social, and physical poverty and enable them to become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults.*

Over a thirteen-year partnership with Compassion International, more than forty-three thousand children were sponsored, and \$2 million was raised for the medical fund that ensures children receive vital immunizations, lifesaving treatments against deadly diseases, and prescribed therapeutic feeding. This equates to supplying fifty thousand dental kits (toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental checkups, and cavity treatments) or paying for HIV/AIDS care for eighty thousand patients (HIV testing, antiretroviral therapy, and ongoing care). Additionally, \$1.1 million was raised for child survival programs, where thousands of impoverished mothers deliver healthy infants, and babies survive their first critical days and months of life. This equates to supporting forty-four child survival program centers for one full year of operation, serving more than three thousand mothers and babies.

### ***Imagine A Cure (2008–2011)***

Bart Millard's oldest son, Sam, was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes at the age of two, and Bart was determined to help find a cure. MercyMe founded the organization "Imagine A Cure," which existed to create financial, physical, and spiritual support for children and families affected by type 1 diabetes. In 2008, Bart Millard released a solo project called *Hymned Again*. With every purchase made on iTunes, a portion of the proceeds went to "Imagine A Cure." Subsequently, MercyMe folded "Imagine A Cure" and transferred their efforts to Compassion International's medical fund.

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### *The Go Foundation (2003–2005)*

Based on their 2003 tour “The Go Show,” which played fifty cities in front of nearly 140,000 people and sold out twenty-five shows, MercyMe, along with Christian band Audio Adrenaline, created “The Go Foundation.” Its purpose was to connect people who desired to go on mission trips with organizations that facilitated them. The organizations partnered with “The Go Foundation” were: International Mission Board, iWitness Ministries, International Commission, Awe Star Ministries, Spoken For Ministries, Student Evangelism with the North American Mission Board, East West Ministries International, International Sports Federation and G.O. Ministries Inc. More than five thousand people signed up to go on mission trips through the foundation.