

Biography

Michael Robert



*There's a hunger deep inside of all of us...
A hunger that can only be filled by one thing... one Person...
You can try to fill that void with what the world has to offer... what the world has to give...
But you will always come up empty... always come up longing for more...
For our hearts were Made for Another World...*

At a young age Michael Robert discovered the Answer to life and has been writing about it ever since. Each song marks a milestone in his spiritual journey. Some songs represent a place of rest or conviction; others a time of healing or rejoicing.

Come join him in the journey. Discover Jesus in a new and fresh way. Surrender your heart and your life to a God who loves you beyond your wildest dreams, a God who has a perfect plan for your life... to give you a future and hope.

"Every time I write a song I feel God revealing something to me," Michael shares, "showing me a greater aspect of His love and grace, taking me deeper in His love, or putting His finger on an area of my life that needs conviction or healing. Life is just full of so many ups and downs. Worshiping God and praising Him puts our lives, and our worries, in perspective. He is on the throne and we can trust Him!"

Whether rocking festivals with his band or playing solo with his trusty guitar, Michael Robert is first and foremost a worship leader at heart. "Nothing thrills me more than worshiping together with God's people. My prayer in every concert is that each person will somehow draw nearer to God and feel His love in a new and fresh way. "

Michael was born in New Jersey. At the age of 6 his father relocated the family to a ranch in the middle of nowhere in Applegate, Oregon. He settled into the country life and quickly made friends with the guitar at his early age. It has been his best friend and confidant ever since. Leading worship at his youth group soon led to leading worship at Applegate Christian Fellowship and other churches in the area. The mission field then called to him and he travelled the world ministering through music in Mexico, Honduras, and the Philippines with Youth with a Mission. Once back in the States it wasn't long before his guitar began luring him back into its embrace. He

soon formed a new band and hit the road, sharing Jesus with anyone who would listen. Along the way he shared the stage with everyone from Skillet and The Kry to NewSong and Randy Thomas.

Then one Fourth of July he met a young, single mom named Linda, and Michael Robert admits to seeing fireworks – literally and figuratively. Marriage was inevitable. Linda became Michael's grounding and counter-weight; an anchor that holds him fast and the compulsion that drives him forward. Through the ensuing years of marriage they have faced all the trials and tribulations that are common to believers on both edges of the twenty-first century, and some that no one wants to even contemplate. "We've gone through some trials over the years," Michael understates. "Depression, health issues, kidney problems, open-heart surgery – we've been through it all. We are truly thankful for modern medicine and the working of the Holy Spirit. There is nothing like watching your children suffer to keep you on your knees, to keep you trusting the Lord."

With the new responsibilities of being a husband and father Michael felt called to lay aside the music - at least the touring aspect of it - and get a real job. Michael's irrepressible creativity simply shifted gears and began expressing itself through a completely unrelated outlet. "I started my own pest control business," Michael explains. "I invented my own line of natural pest control products called NatureLine, jumped in my old 1971 Datsun pickup, and started treating homes." Michael's drive and creativity soon propelled the company to phenomenal growth in the Pacific Northwest, and it is now one of the largest natural pest control businesses in the country. "It is interesting how the Lord sometimes puts you in places you never expected to be," Michael says with an 'aw shucks' grin.

While Michael poured his energies into his pest control business, Linda embraced motherhood as the Lord blessed the couple with five more children. With an athletically inclined brood, Michael soon found himself President of the local Little League, and coaching all levels of sports. But the music was never far from his mind and opportunities to lead worship and minister in the local church continued to present themselves.

Drawing on the life of the legendary Keith Green and the raw abandon of Christian rockers Rez Band for inspiration, Michael continued to pour out his heart in song. The thrill of seeing hearts reborn continued to resonate in Michael's spirit, and with an unexplained burst of fresh creativity, he says the Lord started giving him new songs, songs that had the potential to impact lives. As an outlet for this new found creativity he formed Michael Robert Music Group. He teamed up with Grammy/Dove award-winning Engineer Ron Davis, formerly of Integrity Music and Hillsong. "I've always written songs," Michael explains, "but during the last three years in particular the Lord has given me some amazing songs, songs that I can't ignore, songs that I believe are meant for more than just me. The time was never right before, but when God puts a call on your life and makes it clear, you simply have to obey. That's the way it feels right now."

As his songs continue to impact the airwaves, Michael has found opportunities everywhere to travel and perform. In the past year he has shared the stage at festivals with Casting Crowns, Big Daddy Weave, Kutless, and Paul Baloche, and performed at hundreds of churches throughout the USA, Canada and the UK.

The groundswell of interest in new praise and worship music comes as no surprise to the seasoned worship leader. "I think people are hungry for more than just a rock concert. There is a place in all of us that only worshiping God can fill. Being able to be part of a group in intimate worship and praise is a thrilling experience. I think people long for more of that. I know I do."

As the whirlwind of success continues Michael is very clear about one thing - no church is too small. "When I first set out to do this I felt God said to go wherever they invited me to come; to

not let money or crowd size dictate where I went. I love reaching out to crowds of all sizes. It's great to go to a church that might never get to see a national recording artist" he grins. "I've helped pioneer several churches in the past, and I love to encourage these vital ministries and hopefully help them grow."

The creativity never stops for Michael. He has been branching out into other areas of music ministry by both co-writing and producing CDs for two new artists on his label. "Working with other musicians is very exciting for me. Seeing these musicians answer the call God has given them, and knowing that I had a part in that, is so fulfilling." In the last year M.R. Music group has signed two other artists to the label, and is in the midst of a deal for distribution with Universal.

Whether rocking hard with a full band or gently strumming a peace-evoking worship ballad on his trusty acoustic guitar, one thing is certain for Michael Robert – he loves the thrill of leading people into the presence of God. "I may be a little older than most touring Christian artists," Michael grins, "but I've got a lot of life under my belt, a lot of life in front of me, and a lot more than ever to write about."

