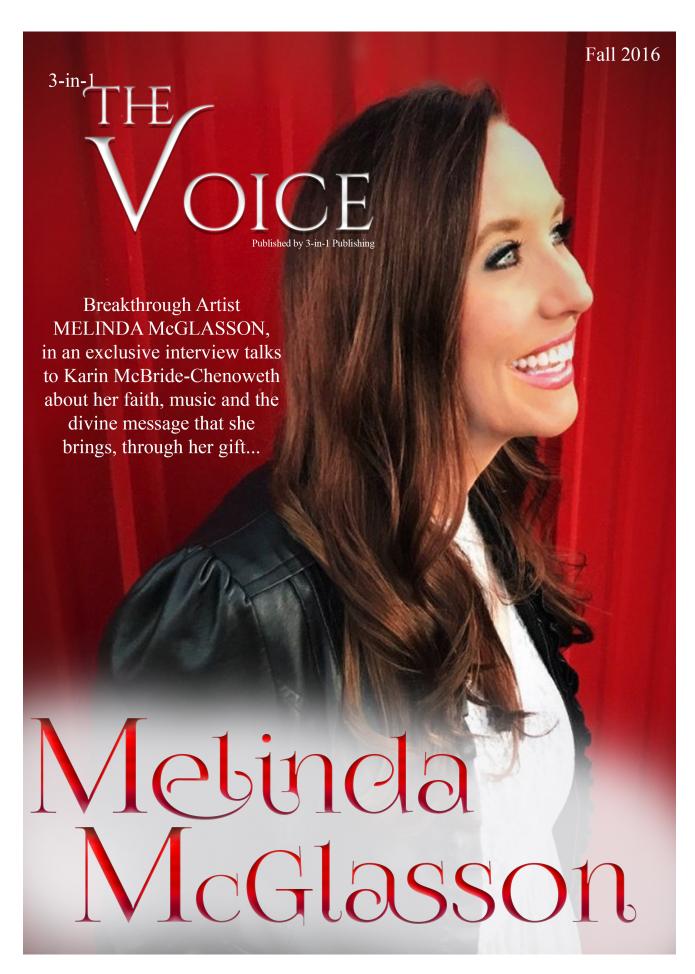
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# THE VOICE

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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

MELINDA MCGLASSON - SINGER

#### Introduction

After nine years of serving as co-pastor alongside of her husband, Melinda McGlasson (Guymon, OK.) spreads her wings flying solo for the first time. While she continues to lead worship weekly with her team "Lifeway Worship," Melinda now fearlessly takes a step in a new direction.

For this mother of three, (Isaiah, Grayson & Blake) this new direction is a bold one that forges a new path and journey for Melinda, opening up a world of possibilities rooted in her desire to expose her heart and soul through music.

After sharing the stage with her husband, Dallas (Senior Pastor), and their worship team, Melinda is now stepping out from the confinements of her surroundings to begin commencement on her first International debut solo project to be released on the world renowned Redemption World label in 2016.

"Melinda McGlasson has a voice that stands alone. When you hear her bring life to the lyrics she creates, you can hear her emotions, convictions, sentiments, and desire to please the Father." states Jonathan Goodwin, President and CEO of Redemption World Records.





Melinda's history has proven that she is passionate about people. As an adopted child born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Melinda was blessed to experience growing up in the "church." Her father was a Baptist minister. Melinda began playing piano and singing at a very early age. When she became a teenager she surrendered her life to the Lord and began leading Bible studies at her school. It wasn't long before Melinda began feeling the call to sing and write music for the Lord. Her earliest accomplishments were performing for state wide school conventions and singing at the Capitol in Washington DC for all of the Nation's leaders.

Melinda later attended Northeastern A&M College on a full music scholarship. She later attended the respected Victory Bible College to receive her degree in Worship and Pastoral studies. Melinda led worship for VBC and sang with the team at Victory Christian Center in Tulsa, OK.

Goodwin (RWR) states, "We immediately felt a connection with Melinda and Dallas. We share in the distinct desire to inspire, encourage, and love people to Jesus through the powerful message of music. They have a great heart for the people in their local community while maintaining a global vision in regards to Melinda's music. Her songwriting unites us with her honesty and enthusiasm for exalting the name above all names! If you want music that will uplift you, change you, deliver you, this is a project to be watching for." (end quote).

The debut project will showcase Melinda's individual creative sound and artistry. She will continue to hone her writing skills on the project as well as collaborate with RWR's leading production team in Nashville, TN. Expect a wide range of music from Melinda. From her foundation in the Baptist church to her heart of worship and musical influences, Melinda's project will be one every listener is sure to enjoy!

### IN FOCUS - INTERVIEW

# 1. Hi Melinda thank you so much for participating in this interview. First question - has music always been a part of your life?

Yes! In fact that was part of the requirements for my adopting future parents. My birth mother was unable to care for me but wanted me to have a life filled with music and the Word of God. My adoptive parents are ministers and my mom plays the piano so I grew up singing in the Church and playing the piano. I began writing songs and leading worship at age thirteen.

### 2. How important to you is the 'message' built within your music?

I heard someone say, "Your music is a message of hope," and I really believe that. I wrote all of the songs on my album during a time when I needed some hope. I needed to be reminded often that the Lord was with me, regardless of what Doctors or any reports were saying. I continue to be ministered too every time I listen to these songs because it's



the Lords message to His creation that we can do all things through Him when we believe!

### 3. Why is Christian/Gospel music so powerful?

It's interesting because Christian and Gospel music for the most part can sound a lot like the worlds message of love, harmony, and life. The difference is the anointing Rising Star that comes with music that lift up the Name above every name. That takes the melody, lyrics and intentions to whole new level that secular music does not reach. Secular music moves individuals but Christian/Gospel music sustains and keeps the listener.

## 4. Do you believe the performance matters more to the audience or the connection of what you are singing?

I think this can be the trickiest and most challenging part for an artist. We want to perform because that builds a level of captivation for any audience and once that captivation has been made then you, as the artist are able to make a connection. The goal for every concert is to have a blend of the two.

### 5. You are currently in the middle of a tour what are your expectations of this tour?

Honestly I have one goal and that's to see people ministered too so that they can leave changed. It takes one encounter with Jesus to change a life and my prayer is that they meet Jesus in a deeper way during our time together.

# 6. Your debut project 'Spirit Break Out' looks amazing. Your ten original songs are written from the heart, how do you hope this will change other people's hearts?

You said it very well, "Written from the heart," because that is exactly where they were birthed out of. I have always been of the mind that if I'm dealing with something then chances are so is someone else. When I went through some major health battles, I wrote a reminder from the Lord to be strong, He has not called us to quit. When I went through times of doubting, I wrote about how the Lord reminded me that He is faithful! When I went through a time of wanting to know Jesus more, the Lord reminded me that He sings over me. So when people listen to my music, I want them to feel as though the Lord has written those songs for exactly where they are at in life and I believe that they too, just like I was and continue to be, transformed, encouraged and renewed for who He has called them to be.

7. Not everyone is a singer or songwriter like yourself, though I believe it is one gift we all wish we could do! How important do you believe it is for people to utilize their own individual creative skills?

8.

I believe that God gives each person a unique imprint. I encourage everyone to write at least one song in their life because it is a reflection of their inner being but that does not mean they are destined to write music for the world. It may be something that is specifically for them to reflect and grow from. Often times our unique imprint or creative skill is not something hidden but it is something natural that one already possesses. For some that may be drawing, for others graphic design. Whatever you are good at naturally, practice and be diligent and watch what the Lord does with your gift. I began with one song and now have written a book full. I never knew they would be sung around the world but with application, God creates an incredible platform.

### 9. I love the cover of your album, who designed it?

Thank you! I love bright colors! I found some ideas with paint splatters and Robert at Redemption World created the design on the cover with the few ideas I gave him. The team at RWR is incredibly talented in design.

### 10. How does your family support you in this new venture?

My husband and three boys are very supportive. It really blesses me when I hear my kids going through our home singing one of my songs. All of my extended family, church family, and friends have all been wonderfully supportive in many ways.

## 10. Finally what is your favorite scripture and why?

It is so hard to narrow down but I think one that sticks out in my mind for this particular season in my life would be Ephesians 3:20, "God can do much, much, more than you can hope or imagine." He continues to amaze me. I am so thankful to be allowed to minister in this capacity. If we are faithful in the small, God can do amazing things. He has already impressed me! I can only imagine what the future holds with Him directing my path.

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"Spirit Break Out" by MELINDA McGLASSON Available to Pre-order

<u>LINK</u>

