

All Sons & Daughters

It's your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise...

—from "Great Are You Lord"

Music lovers worldwide are captivated, swept up in the surging wave of modern folk as heard in the likes of Mumford and Sons, The Avett Brothers, Neon Trees, The Civil Wars and others. Organic, acoustic and packed with live energy and freedom, it's the unpolished imperfection and open invitation to sing along that has catapulted these artists into the spotlight and up the charts.

Unpolished. Imperfect. Freedom.

For All Sons & Daughters' Leslie Jordan and David Leonard, these qualities are even more keenly experienced in music that connects broken people with their God. Worship leaders at Journey Church in Franklin, TN, their critically acclaimed EPs, *Brokenness Aside*, *Reason To Sing* and *The Longing*, along with their first full length feature album, *Season One*, bear witness to the power of worship by the people, for the people and of the people. In the truest sense, the mesmerizing, soul-baring lyrics and acoustic styling of this unlikely duo are beginning to make an impact...inside and outside the church.

Now, with their first-ever live recording, Jordan and Leonard give listeners a chance to experience God in the context of confession and doubt, with an open invitation to be completely transparent and human. Produced by Paul Mabury (Brandon Heath, Hillsong), *All Sons & Daughters LIVE*, which was recorded with a live studio congregation in one continuous take at Ocean Way Studios in Nashville, captures the spirit and truth of transparent worship.

"We always begin by saying 'This is a place of freedom,' Jordan says of their approach to every concert and every Sunday morning service. "We want people to feel complete freedom to worship as they feel called to because Scripture says, 'What we bring to the Lord is enough for Him.' And we trust that the Spirit lives in that freedom."

With a sensitivity and Scriptural grounding beyond their years, All Sons & Daughters' Jordan—who began leading worship in high school while still wrestling with the idea of church ministry—embraces the tension between worship and real life. "When I came to Journey in 2007, we as a church were in a pretty heavy season of lament. This town is so church-ed, and this is an artist driven community, and yet so many people here are living with shattered dreams..."

"The demographic here, similar to the people we meet on the road, are broken people, people making their last ditch attempt at church or their first attempt at coming back," says Leonard, who grew up in church but had never written for worship before meeting Jordan in 2009. "Most of our songs have been written with that healing season in mind. We've all thought, 'Will God leave us if we leave him?' its just that most of us were never given permission to feel and express those feelings of brokenness in church. That's the most beautiful part of doing what we do, helping people find that freedom."

From the opening song of confession, "Brokenness Aside," to "Oh How I Need You" and "Reason to Sing," songs for when life doesn't make sense, *All Sons & Daughters LIVE* showcases 13 transparent invitations—including the unforgettable "All the Poor and Powerless"—to get real and accept that you are loved. Standards in the making like "Reason to Sing" and "Wake Up" give people hope to cling to when life, even among the faithful, doesn't make sense.

Nothing hits closer to home for Leonard than "Your Glory," a song of total surrender. "Being a new father, I'm seeing more than ever how much I need God. When the song says, 'My life is yours/my hope is in you

only, and my heart you hold 'cause you made this sinner holy...' it is a constant reminder that I can't be the best father or the best husband, but there is a God who can help me be the man I need to be. It's a vulnerable moment for me, every time we sing it."

The album also introduces two new compositions: "God With Us" and "Great Are You Lord."

"Both songs came out of writing sessions with Jason Ingram (Chris Tomlin, Brandon Heath)," Jordan says. "For 'Great Are You Lord,' Jason had this line, 'It's your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise,' and we felt such a sweetness and depth in it, we just ran with it."

When the duo dropped in on Passion 2013 to hear founder Louie Giglio speak, the song received a sort of punctuation. "'Worship is when we give God his breath back,'" Giglio said, having never heard the new song. That image has stayed front and center with the duo, a reminder that our acts of worship originate with the One we worship. It is His gift.

All Sons & Daughters, who take great care to make music that meets people where they are, are equally intent on serving and resourcing musicians and worship leaders. As always, their song charts are free online, and they take advantage of any opportunity to start new conversations about what worship might look like... if approached with an open heart and mind.

For more information about All Sons & Daughters, visit <http://allsonsanddaughters.com> To follow them on Twitter, @allsandmusic, Facebook, www.facebook.com/allsonsanddaughters.

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