

= Lift Up Your Face =

" Lift Up Your Face " is a song recorded by the Christian rock band Third Day and featuring vocals from The Blind Boys of Alabama . Written by Mac Powell and composed by Third Day , Bo Rinehard , and Bear Rinehard , it was released to Christian AC and CHR radio on July 11 , 2010 as the lead single from Third Day 's 2010 studio album Move . " Lift Up Your Face " is a southern rock song with influences from blues and gospel , possessing a shadowy and edgy sound accompanied by distorted guitars . Dark and soulful vocals are also present , while the lyrics convey a message of encouragement and hope .

Since its release , " Lift Up Your Face " has been performed live in concert by Third Day on the Make Your Move Tour and the Make a Difference Tour , as well as at Rock the Universe 2011 . It received a positive response from critics , some of whom praised the vocals of The Blind Boys of Alabama , and was nominated for the Dove Award for Rock / Contemporary Recorded Song of the Year at the 42nd GMA Dove Awards . " Lift Up Your Face " peaked at No. 12 on the Billboard Hot Christian Songs chart , No. 8 on the Billboard Hot Christian AC chart , and No. 2 on the Billboard Christian CHR chart .

= = Background = =

" Lift Up Your Face " was written by Mac Powell ; Third Day composed the music to " Lift Up Your Face " with Bo and Bear Rinehard of Needtobreathe . Third Day 's bassist Tai Anderson recalls that " We got together in their home studio and had a jam session that went with Mac 's idea of a song based on the idea of ' lift up your head ' from the Psalms ... By working with another ' southern ' rock band from South Carolina , we got to show our Georgia roots musically with a " gospel " sound " ; he further noted that " the big message of the song is ' salvation is calling ' " . It was recorded at The Quarry in Kennesaw , Georgia and The Smokestack in Nashville , Tennessee .

= = Composition = =

" Lift Up Your Face " is a southern rock song with a length of four minutes and twenty @-@ six seconds . It is set in common time in the key of E minor and has a tempo of 88 beats per minute , with a vocal range spanning from D4 @-@ G5 . The lyrics to the song portray a hopeful message of salvation and encouragement . Lead vocalist Mac Powell commented that " The country is going through hard times , and there are doubts and insecurity . The message of ' Lift Up Your Face ' is [Third Day 's] message of encouragement ? not just to listeners though - to us as well . It 's a message we all need to hear " .

" Lift Up Your Face " opens with an " atmospheric " intro led by " haunting " vocals sung by The Blind Boys of Alabama ; this intro is then " blown away " as distorted guitars enter , followed by a mid @-@ tempo chorus . In the second verse , vocalist Mac Powell shifts into falsetto vocals ; elsewhere in the song , Powell 's vocals are " soulful " and " dark " . As a whole , the song has a " shadowy " and " edgy " feel which contrasts with its hopeful message . " Lift Up Your Face " also features influences from blues and gospel music .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical = = =

" Lift Up Your Face " received mostly positive reviews from critics , many of whom praised the vocals of The Blind Boys of Alabama . C. E 'Jon Moore of The Christian Manifesto praised " Lift Up Your Face " , saying " [the song] gets you out of your seat and sticks with you long after the last note has faded " . In his review of Move , Glenn McCarty of Crosswalk.com regarded " Lift Up Your Face " as an exception to a " ho @-@ hum affair " of an album and regarded the song as a " classic

Third Day rocker in the vein of ' Consuming Fire ' " . John DiBiase of Jesus Freak Hideout regarded the song as " edgy " and the praised the vocal support from The Blind Boys of Alabama . Brian Mansfield of USA Today listed the song as a download pick from Move . Andrew Greer of Christianity Today regarded the song as a " fiery collaboration with music 's legendary Blind Boys of Alabama " and " a hearty charge to look heavenward for lasting hope " . Lindsay Williams of Gospel Music Channel said the song gives " a glimpse of the grittiness of [' Move '] " , but argued " there are stronger songs [on the album] that would have made for better ' out of the box ' singles " .

At the 42nd GMA Dove Awards , " Lift Up Your Face " was nominated for the Dove Award for Rock / Contemporary Recorded Song of the Year .

= = = Chart performance = = =

On Billboard magazine 's Hot Christian Songs chart , " Lift Up Your Face " debuted at No. 39 for the chart week of August 7 , 2010 . It advanced to No. 30 in its second chart week and to No. 17 in its third . It spent a total of twenty weeks on the chart , peaking at No. 12 . It also peaked at No. 8 on the Billboard Hot Christian AC chart , spending a total of twenty @-@ two weeks on that chart , and at No. 2 on the Billboard Christian CHR chart , which it spent twenty @-@ one weeks on . " Lift Up Your Face " was ranked by Billboard on their 2010 year @-@ end charts at No. 32 on the Hot Christian Songs chart , No. 27 on the Hot Christian AC chart , and No. 28 on the Christian CHR chart .

= = Live performances = =

Since its release , Third Day has performed " Lift Up Your Face " in concert . At Rock the Universe 2011 , Third Day performed " Lift Up Your Face " as the first song in their setlist . They also performed the song as the opener at a concert in Joplin , Missouri on March 20 , 2011 ; Third Day later released this live recording as a digital download along with the rest of the concert , with proceeds going to relief for the devastating tornado that struck Joplin on May 22 , 2011 . At a concert as part of their Make Your Move Tour in Wilkes Barre , Pennsylvania on November 6 , 2011 , Third Day performed the song after returning to the stage from an earlier acoustic set . At the opening night of the Make a Difference Tour , Third Day performed the song as part of their setlist .

= = Track listing = =

Digital download

" Lift Up Your Face " ? 4 : 26

Remix

" Lift Up Your Face " (Moak Mix) ? 4 : 24

= = Credits and personnel = =

(Credits lifted from the album liner notes of the ' Deluxe Edition ' of Move)

= = Charts = =

= = Release history = =