

= 10 ( MercyMe album ) =

10 is a greatest hits album by American Christian rock band MercyMe . Released on April 7 , 2009 in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the band 's single " I Can Only Imagine " . The album contains twelve of the band 's number @-@ one singles from five studio albums ( Almost There , Spoken For , Undone , Coming Up to Breathe , and All That Is Within Me ) as well as a re @-@ recording of " I Can Only Imagine " featuring the London Sessions Orchestra , in addition to two other bonus tracks . Additional content , which varies depending on the version of the album , includes music videos , featurettes , and live recordings .

10 received mostly positive reviews from music critics , and the amount of content as well as the videos included with the album received particular praise . It debuted at number 18 on the Billboard 200 and number one on the Billboard Christian Albums chart , selling 30 @,@ 000 copies in its first week . Billboard ranked the album as the 13th best @-@ selling Christian album of 2009 and the 40th best @-@ selling Christian album of 2010 in the United States .

= = Background = =

10 was released to commemorate the tenth anniversary of MercyMe 's single " I Can Only Imagine " . In 1999 , the band was working on an independent record , The Worship Project , and needed one more song to fill out the project . Lead singer Bart Millard wrote the song while reminiscing about his father 's death . Although the band was aiming to produce a worship record of easy @-@ to @-@ sing songs , they included it because it was important to Millard . It was later included on the band 's major @-@ label debut , 2001 's Almost There , where it became a hit on Christian radio before crossing over and becoming successful on mainstream radio in 2003 . Around eight months before the release of 10 , the band had been approached by their label about producing a greatest @-@ hits record . The band was initially against the idea , and according to Millard , they felt it had always meant a band was near the end of their career . However , Millard later remembered he had written the song in 1999 , and the idea shifted from a greatest @-@ hits record to a celebration of the song 's ten @-@ year anniversary , a concept the band was more comfortable with .

= = Content = =

= = = Music = = =

10 includes fifteen songs : twelve of the band 's number @-@ one Christian radio singles ( three each from Undone , Coming Up to Breathe , and All That Is Within Me , two from Spoken For , and one from Almost There ) , as well as three bonus tracks . Live versions of ten of the band 's songs were also included on some versions of the album " I Can Only Imagine ( Symphony Edition ) " was recorded at Abbey Road Studios in London with the London Session Orchestra . " Ten Simple Rules " , described as having a " Fifties twist " sound , was originally included as music video on Hoop Dogz , a children 's video DVD . Lyrically , it relates the Ten Commandments . The band had begun playing it in concerts and , according to Millard , it developed a following of fans who wanted it to be put on CD . " Only Temporary " , a rock song with a " distinct southern influence " , was a new track , which the band had not included on any other album or project .

= = = Videos = = =

Physical versions of 10 were released with a ' Sight ' DVD containing video content . In addition to music videos for " I Can Only Imagine " , " So Long Self " , " God with Us " , " You Reign " , and " Finally Home " , it includes live videos for " Word of God Speak " , " Bring the Rain " , and " Hold Fast " that were recorded live throughout the band 's fall 2008 tour by one camera . " Spoken For " and " Homesick " were taken from the band 's 2004 live DVD MercyMe Live , while " In the Blink of

an Eye " was taken from the collector 's edition of their 2007 album All That Is Within Me . Two featurettes were also included : " The Making of ' I Can Only Imagine ' " , which had previously appeared on MercyMe Live , and " Gospel Music Channel 's Faith & Fame : MercyMe " , which recounts the band 's career from their early years on . The iTunes version of 10 only includes the two featurettes .

= = Release and commercial performance = =

10 was released on April 7 , 2009 . Several different versions of the album were released . Physically , the album received a release in a two @-@ disc collection , featuring the ' Sound ' CD and ' Sight ' DVD , as well as in a three @-@ disc " Deluxe Edition " including an additional CD of 10 live songs . Digitally , 10 was released to iTunes on October 7 , 2009 , including the sound CD content and live recordings , as well as the two documentaries .

10 sold 30 @,@ 000 copies in its first week , debuting at number 18 on the Billboard 200 and number one on the Billboard Christian Albums chart . It spent two weeks atop the Christian Albums chart and 73 weeks on the chart in total . It ranked as the 13th best @-@ selling Christian album of 2009 in the United States and the 40th best @-@ selling Christian album of 2010 in the United States .

= = Critical reception = =

10 received mostly positive reviews from music critics . Jared Johnson of AllMusic gave the album 4 @.@ 5 out of 5 stars and noted it as an ' Album Pick ' , calling it " one of the best and most long @-@ awaited greatest @-@ hits albums in recent memory " . Johnson praised the amount of content , saying " For fans , the videos alone make this worth picking up " . Jenna DeWitt of The Baylor Lariat gave it an A- , praising " I Can Only Imagine ( Symphony Edition ) " as " awe @-@ inspiring " as well as the DVD content , and saying " the only mistake in buying this album is if you are really tired of the extensive radio airplay that these hits have gotten " . Dave Derbyshire of Cross Rhythms gave the album nine out of ten squares , calling it a " brilliant introduction " to the band . His only criticism on the album was that he considered a few of the songs as being overly sentimental . Matt Johnson of Jesus Freak Hideout gave the album three out of five stars . Johnson noted the DVD content as being " what really makes this worth your money " , but was critical of the interface ; he also felt the CD content , while solid , did not include enough songs and that the new recordings weren 't particularly impressive . He noted the orchestra and Millard 's vocals as conflicting on the re @-@ recording of " I Can Only Imagine " , but also said that it " takes the song to new heights than previously conceived " . Justin Michael of Sight Magazine gave the album a positive review , calling it " A must for all MercyMe fans , for those who need a hooky melody with a message and for people who love getting a free DVD with their albums ! " ; he also praised the one @-@ camera tour videos , but noted " Ten Simple Rules " is " not their brightest musical moment " .

= = Track listing = =

= = Personnel = =

Credits from the album liner notes

= = Charts = =