

= Lifesong (song) =

" Lifesong " is a song recorded by Christian rock band Casting Crowns . Written by Mark Hall and produced by Mark A. Miller , it was released as the lead single from the band 's 2005 album Lifesong . According to Mark Hall , the lead vocalist of Casting Crowns , " Lifesong " came out of what he found himself saying to students in his church 's youth ministry . Compared to the work of rock band U2 , the song lyrically points believers towards honoring God in all they do .

" Lifesong " received mostly positive reviews upon its release , with some critics praising the song 's musical arrangement . The song was nominated for two awards at the 37th GMA Dove Awards and has been performed by Casting Crowns in concert . It was a hit on Christian radio , topping the Billboard Hot Christian Songs and Hot Christian AC charts as well as the Radio & Records Christian AC and Soft AC / Inspirational charts . It also peaked inside the top ten on the Radio & Records Christian CHR chart . It ranked at number twenty @-@ one on the 2000s decade @-@ end Hot Christian Songs chart and number twenty @-@ seven on the decade @-@ end Hot Christian AC chart .

= = Recording and composition = =

" Lifesong " was written by Mark Hall and produced by Mark A. Miller . The strings on the song were arranged by Bobby Huff . " Lifesong " was recorded and mixed by Sam Hewitt at Zoo Studio in Franklin , Tennessee . Additional recording was done at Lifesong Studio in McDonough , Georgia . Strings were recorded at Little Big Studio by Boeho Shin and Daewoo Kim . It was mastered by Richard Dodd and engineered by Dale Oliver and John Lewis Lee III .

" Lifesong " is a song with a length of four minutes and thirty @-@ seven seconds ; the version of the song on Lifesong has a length of five minutes and sixteen seconds . It is set in common time in the key of A major and has a tempo of 112 beats per minute . Mark Hall 's vocal range in the song spans from the low note of A3 to the high note of E5 . " Lifesong " has been described as a power ballad and " robust pop " , and it has been musically compared to the work of rock band U2 , Lyrically , it " points believers towards honoring God in all they do " . According to lead vocalist Mark Hall , the song came out of what he found himself saying and praying to the student 's in his church 's youth ministry .

= = Critical reception = =

" Lifesong " received mostly positive reception from music critics . John DiBiase of Jesus Freak Hideout described it as a " musical nod to U2 " and felt that the opening of Lifesong with the song was responsible for the album having a " greater appeal " than Casting Crowns ' debut record . David McCreary of CCM Magazine called the song a " powerhouse praise number " . Russ Breimeier of Christianity Today , however , felt the song was one of the weakest on the album , calling it " predictable " and criticizing what he perceived as imitation of U2 's " Where The Streets Have No Name " and Chris Tomlin 's " Forever " . At the 37th GMA Dove Awards , " Lifesong " was nominated for Song of the Year and Pop / Contemporary Recorded Song of the Year . It did not win in either category .

= = Release and chart performance = =

" Lifesong " was released as a digital single on July 19 , 2005 , with Josh Bates ' " Perfect Day " as its B @-@ side . It was released to Christian AC , Christian CHR , and Soft AC / Inspirational radio on July 30 , 2005 . " Lifesong " debuted at number twenty @-@ one on the Billboard Hot Christian Songs chart for the chart week of August 6 , 2005 . It advanced to number ten in its third week and to number two in its fourth week . In its seventh chart week , " Lifesong " advanced to the number one position on the chart . It spent a total of ten non @-@ consecutive weeks atop the chart and thirty @-@ four weeks on the chart in total . " Lifesong " also peaked at number one on the Billboard

Hot Christian AC chart , the Radio & Records Christian AC chart , and the Radio & Records Soft AC / Inspirational chart . It peaked at number seven on the Radio & Records Christian CHR chart .

" Lifesong " ranked at number twelve on the 2005 year @-@ end Hot Christian Songs and Hot Christian AC charts and at number nineteen on the 2005 year @-@ end Radio & Records Christian AC chart . It ranked at number sixteen on the 2006 year @-@ end Hot Christian Songs chart and at number seventeen on the 2006 year @-@ end Hot Christian AC chart . It also ranked at number twenty @-@ one on the decade @-@ end Hot Christian Songs chart and at number twenty @-@ seven on the decade @-@ end Hot Christian AC chart . " Lifesong " was included on the compilation albums WOW Hits 2007 and Wow : Best of 2007 . A live version of the song was included on Casting Crowns ' live album Lifesong Live .

= = Live performances = =

Casting Crowns have performed " Lifesong " live in concert . At a concert at Continental Airlines Arena in East Rutherford , New Jersey , Casting Crowns opened their setlist with the song , accompanied by over 100 robed choir members . At a concert on November 12 , 2005 at Stabler Arena in Bethlehem , Pennsylvania , Casting Crowns opened their setlist with the song . They performed " Lifesong " as the eighteenth song on their setlist at a concert on February 5 , 2010 at the Sprint Center in Kansas City , Missouri . At a concert on February 28 , 2010 in Hershey , Pennsylvania , Casting Crowns closed out their concert with a performance of " Lifesong " . Casting Crowns performed the song as the second of their setlist at a concert on October 29 , 2011 at the Peoria Civic Center in Peoria , Illinois .

= = Track listing = =

Digital single

" Lifesong " ? 4 : 37

" Perfect Day " (Josh Bates) ? 4 : 10

Album version

" Lifesong " ? 5 : 16

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits lifted from the album liner notes of Lifesong .

= = Charts = =

= = Release and radio history = =