

Mp3 Richard Toadie Todd - Wedding



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songs from the other side of redemption. from the driving sound of "doesn't look like god to me" to the triumphant title track wedding ,this cd contains toadies expressions of his christian faith. powerful stuff. 12 MP3 Songs GOSPEL: Contemporary Christian, FOLK: Folk Pop Details: A Coleraine musician has just released his second CD - a work which he says is an "honest and frank" reflection on his Christian walk. Richard Todd (_Toadie_) says he thinks of 'Wedding', which was launched officially at Flowerfield Arts Centre in November, and is now on sale at Wesley Owen, Coleraine and online, as "songs from the other side of salvation". Richard, or 'Toadie', as he is best known, recorded this album ,which was produced by Roy Rainey at Upstream recording Studio with the help of several local musicians, Jim 'Shakers' Allen, Robbie Brown, Lucy Evans, Geoff Stewart, Mildred Rainey, Ros McIntosh, Janice Allen, Michelle Glendinning, and Carolyn Scott. Toadie's first CD, ' _Becaeue You Love Me__ ' was released in November 2004 and many changes have taken place in his life since then. However, to his music fans, the most obvious change in Toadie's songs are the lyrics. The songs in 'Wedding' are much more direct, reflecting a degree of cynicism that challenges many traditional opinions of the church, religion and God. He said: "In my own walk, I've done a lot of growing. I'm now more confident in my faith and feel like I'm able to question God and the church with more confidence. "There are a lot of things I've always thought about Christianity but probably was afraid to express before. I think these songs are very honest and I'm glad that I'm able to say what I think now. I think I'm able to do say what I want to say now because I'm more secure in my own faith, it feels safe to even question things and look at things from other perspectives. Ive learned that God is bigger than Christianity or any religion. "I do believe I have encountered a lot of hypocrisy in my own life but I believe that am learning not to be afraid to say what I think and I am not afraid to learn from my mistakes. I want to encourage people to think regarding their lifestyle,faith, and

their eternal future. My hope is that my music will make disciples of Christ question their own walk with God and to encourage all people to look at their lives and search for the answer for their existence. I'm not saying I have all the answers and I'm willing to be rebuked if I'm not right, but I passionately believe we have to challenge our choices and the way we live our lives." Since the release of his last CD, Toadie says he has seen many highs and lows. One high point was his wedding to Sharon, whom Richard says has been "an inspiration" and "a rock". Between the two of them, Sharon and Toadie have six children and he says the past year has "certainly been a learning curve". He said: "We've seen God work in our families but it's been a real period of adjustment and I think we would both safely say that without God in our lives we couldn't have come together." Eighteen months ago Toadie was diagnosed with M.E. and he says his sickness has also been a big part of his spiritual journey. He said: "There have been days when I've been unable to anything at all. It certainly knocks that old 'health and wealth' doctrine on its head! The M.E. has felt, at times, like a darkness which I've been thrown into and it's been hard not being able to do things I could have before but I believe that God has brought good out of what Satan meant for bad.. Sometimes God will allow you to be slowed down so that you take time to listen to Him. Through the pain and illness though I've always had a sense of hope. I believe God has something for me to do. Sharon and I are involved in Prison Fellowship N.I and share our faith with the prisoners in Magilligan prison and we have seen God change mens lives by the power of the Holy Spirit and completely transform them .Jesus was and is a friend of the outcasts of society. We also feel for the victims of crime and realize that they too need loved and encouraged as they pick up the pieces of their lives. "In Sept after many promptings from the Spirit of God I took a step of faith and walked away from full time employment because I believe God wants me to do something else. I'm not sure yet if it's the prison work or the music or what but I looked at Abraham who went in obedience to Gods calling without knowing where it was that God was leading him to. Obedience most always requires sacrifice. "I'm still very much a work in progress. Sometimes I think people think because someone is speaking at the front with a microphone or up on stage that they've got it all sorted. I'm still struggling with all sorts of things. I struggle with prayer, and sometimes I find myself trying to impress God with my words but my hearts desire is far from what Im saying.I do not claim to be the finished article,I am full of imperfections,and still learning to give it all to God, but I do know where I've come from and I know I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for the finished work of Jesus Christ.. Everything I write about I've lived through and I hope people can relate to

my journey and enjoy hearing what I have to say." Since marrying, Toadie and Sharon have moved to Coleraine and have changed churches. They left Portstewart Baptist Church, where they first met and enjoyed many happy years and have been attending the Causeway Coast Vineyard. Toadie explained: We enjoyed our time at Portstewart Baptist but we feel our faith is being challenged in a different way at the Vineyard and once we were there a few times we sensed Gods Spirit confirming our decision to stay there. We are very fortunate to have great friends at two such wonderful churches. MUSIC Toadie says he takes inspiration musically from artists such as Bob Dylan, Tom Waits, David Crowder, Steve Earle and Derek Webb and the music on 'Wedding' has quite an acoustic/folk/ rock sound. He will be performing songs from his new album and giving a testimony at the Sandel Centre, Coleraine on Sunday, February 11 at 11am. For more information check out his website at richardtoadietoaddor.myspace.com/breakfastwithravens

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