

COTL Chronology

- Fall 1969** **Recording Project *The Eyes of the World are Lonely* soundtrack**
Randy, Dave and Steve join together for the first time to play and record at Torrance First Baptist Church. Steve came to the Lord during this time through their witness. They were about 14-15 years old at the time.
- Spring 1970** **The Children of the Light is formed**
The group began to sing all over southern California at various churches, coffeehouses and schools. They performed over 200 concerts in their first 3 years together.
- Spring 1973** ***The Prodigal* is first performed**
Randy composed the musical, *The Prodigal* during his senior year of high school. The group began to play the musical at various venues in addition to their regular set of songs. They augmented their sound with Randy on the keyboards and Steve on the pedal steel guitar. On occasion they were joined by the Miriam dance troupe, which included Randy's mom and wife (then girlfriend).
- 1973** **Doug Morgan joins the group for a short season**
Doug was a long-time friend of the group and brought drumming skills to the group which added to the performance of *The Prodigal*.
- 1974** **Greg Fraser joins the group**
Greg attended Hope Chapel and was roommates with Steve. He added the new dimension of electric guitars to the group's sound.
- March 1974** **Recording of *The Prodigal***
Though Doug was no longer with the group, he joined in the recording project which was done with Hayden Jones at Joel Productions in San Pedro. The group would subsequently record several demo tapes with Hayden.
- January 1976** **Jerry Melrose joins as Ministry Coordinator for the group**
Jerry handled concert bookings for Barry McGuire and the 2nd Chapter of Acts. Through Jerry, the group forged a relationship with Barry McGuire that brought several new developments to the group's ministry which included concert tours outside California for the first time, TV appearances and performances at Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm. Since the end of '73 the band had struggled with balancing ministry and employment but with Jerry and Barry's help they endeavored to devote full time to their ministry.
- May 1976** **Bobby Chance joins the group**
With the addition of Bobby at drums, the group became a band...and the sound was now complete.
- November 1976** **1st Northwest Tour**

In November of '76 they made their first tour into the great Northwest. One of the notable places played, which would have a great affect on the guys, was Faith Center in Eugene, Oregon with Roy Hicks, Jr. The concert schedule and financial income of the band increased significantly this year.

April 1977

2nd Northwest Tour

In April of '77 the band went on their second tour of the Northwest and played 15 concerts.

May 1977

Recording and release of *Come On In*, the group's premier album

With the help of Barry McGuire and friend of Bobby's, Al Perkins, Sparrow Records agreed to sign The Children of the Light and record their first album. The album was recorded during May and June of '77 and released shortly afterwards.

July 1977

1st National Tour

The group launched a 6-week tour that took them across the U.S. for the first time. Their concert venues included two major festivals where they appeared with Barry McGuire and performed before audiences numbering in the thousands.

April 1978

3rd Northwest Tour

The group embarked on their 3rd and final tour of the Northwest in April. By this time each member of the band was married - most with kids - and the touring and financial strain began to take a toll.

May 1978

2nd National Tour

The group's final tour consisted of a 4-week trek across the country, starting in San Diego, California and traveling all the way to Augusta, Maine before beginning the return journey. The final concert of the tour - though not the group's last concert - was sponsored by their home church, Hope Chapel in Hermosa beach and held at the Fleetwood.

Summer 1978

The group officially disbands

As the group finished up their final concerts in the summer of '78, preparations were being made by nearly each member to relocate their families to pursue the next calling of God. Randy moved to Danville, California to join with Jim Hayford at his church; Steve moved to Eugene, Oregon to join with Roy Hicks, Jr.; Dave moved to Orange County to begin a new business venture; Bobby moved back to Dallas, Texas to assume a business position; and Greg stayed at Hope Chapel-Hermosa Beach to help facilitate his wife's music ministry.