

# BULLETPROOF - CITIZEN WAY



The band recently went through a season of changes. Bass guitarist Ben Blascoe announced his departure from the band as Calhoun and his family made the move from their home base at Judson University in Illinois to Nashville, Tennessee so that the vocalist could focus and invest in the group's new record. The singer and his wife also experienced devastating loss with the miscarriage of his son, Jeremiah. Calhoun relied on his music and the band to get him through the tragedy, and from it was born the album's first single, "When I'm With You." "I wrote that after we lost Jeremiah,"

Calhoun recalls. "So many things are wrapped up in this song. How death brought me closer to life. How losing a son made me love my little girls more when I didn't know I could." The lyrics, Anytime, Anywhere, Any heartache/ I'm there/There's never too much/There's only grace, describe the singer's unwavering sense of faith in spite of his

family's incredible loss. "That's how I feel about God's word because that's how it's always been for me. It feels like I'm not alone in the foxhole. I'm getting shot at, but at least we're together." The song is already striking a chord with the band's fans.

"It does that thing that people connect with," Calhoun says. "It grabs the heart, and it grabs the ear." If Love Is the Evidence was the band's first impression, 2.0 is the group's statement record. It's a blend of old and new -- a chance for Calhoun to reach deep into the roots of his small-town Wisconsin upbringing while testing the limits of his musicality. The singer grew up listening to his mother playing Chopin, Mozart and Bach while artists like James Taylor, DC Talk and Newsboys took up valuable real estate on his own bedroom walls. Those influences permeate the new album. "It's part of our DNA, it's what we grew up with," Calhoun says. The album's closing number "Bulletproof" is a testament to that. The bass-thumping, funk-pop throwback track fuses the beat of Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean" with lyrics that echo Ephesians Chapter 6. The song speaks to the power of the armor of God mixed in a style that instantly transports you to a 70s roller skating rink.

"I've been through spiritual warfare where the enemy attacks me because I'm sharing the Gospel with people," Calhoun says, "But I'm just operating in the way God's made me. I want others to feel comfortable doing that too. ... My goal is always to put a hook around God's word and let people sing it," Calhoun says. "I want people to fall in love with Jesus. If they come singing 'Bulletproof' or 'I Will,' then great. I just want them to know that the word of Jesus is something worth following and I'm going to spend my life and my energy on it because I believe in it that much."

Information from: [citizenwaymusic.com](http://citizenwaymusic.com)

## LYRICS

I used to live like I was under attack  
Dodging arrows from my past  
I had no hope for tomorrow  
Felt so much pressure yes I thought I would crack  
But now there's no looking back  
I'm moving forward 'cuz I know

I got my armor now  
No fear no doubt can shoot me down  
I got my armor now  
No fear no doubt gonna shoot me down

Now I'm bulletproof because of You  
Because of You  
And now I'm bulletproof because of You

Because of You  
Your love made a way  
Now I'm not afraid  
No matter what the world may say or what they do  
I am bulletproof because of You because of You

I know You got this whole thing under control  
My soul is untouchable because  
You've already won me  
My victory is not in this flesh and bone  
It's in the cross and I know  
Nobody's taking it from me

I don't have to fear no more  
Worry no more

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## Ephesians 6:10-18, New International Version (NIV)

**10** Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11** Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. **12** For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. **13** Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. **14** Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, **15** and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. **16** In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17** Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

**18** And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

1. What lines stuck out to you in the song? Anything you could relate to?
2. What would you say the song is about?
3. Read Ephesians 6:10-18. What is the main message in this passage?
4. From head to toe, list off the armor that Paul is talking about.
5. What does each piece of armor represent?
6. Looking at verse 16, what is Paul referring to when he says 'flaming arrow'?
7. What are some flaming arrows that we experience in life?
8. How does Paul say that we should face those arrows?
9. How do you see Citizen Way refer to flaming arrows and what changed for them?
10. Do you wear the full armor of God or do you try to fight your battle on your own?
11. Why do you think we try to fight things on our own, even when we know we've been given such powerful armor?
12. What do you think needs to change in your life to make the armor of God a real thing in your life?