

Platinum Selling Artist, Mark Schultz, To Release Anticipated Album, 'Broken & Beautiful,' Sept. 26

Nashville, TN ----- August 8, 2006 ----- Word Records' Dove award winning and platinum selling artist, Mark Schultz, will release the fifth album of his career, **Broken & Beautiful**, September 26.

The eagerly awaited CD features all original compositions that were either written or co-written by Schultz, who is a renowned story-telling songwriter, and the songs spotlight his view of the world through his heart. One tune in particular, "Everything To Me," (co-written with Cindy Morgan) talks about Schultz' adoption at two weeks of age, the first time he has ever made this personal fact public. The song thanks his birth mother for giving him the opportunity for such a full and wonderful life: *You gave life to me/A brand new world to see; Like playing baseball in the yard with dad at night/Mom reading Goodnight Moon And praying in my room; So if you worry if your choice was right/You gave me up but you gave everything to me.* Schultz is also partnering with two adoption agencies, The James Fund and Bethany Christian Services, in order to bring support to adoptive children looking for homes.

The first single for Christian radio is the title cut, co-written with Matthew West, that says how the church is open to the broken and how God can give us back our lives again. The anticipated song with which Schultz has been teasing audiences for years, "Walking Her Home," is now complete and chronicles the life of a loving couple who now reside in a nursing home. The song is based on a husband and wife that cared for Schultz upon his arrival to be an artist in Nashville. "She Was Watching" describes a little girl watching her father pray and how she wants to grow up to be just like him, which focuses on how our own actions influences other people. "40 Days" is an up-tempo CHR song that compares Jesus' forty days in the desert and the daily struggles that everyone has to overcome.

"I've been in the studio since early this year working on **Broken & Beautiful** and I'm really looking forward to everyone hearing the new songs," says Schultz. "It was a thrill for me to get to work with producers Shaun Shankel (Natalie Grant, Jump 5) and Mark Bright (Carrie Underwood, Rascal Flatts), and I hope these new songs will inspire, encourage and challenge people in their faith, where a little more love and caring can be given to a broken world."

Schultz will kick-off the 30-city "Broken & Beautiful Tour" in support of the project Sept. 29 in Decatur, IL. Running through November, the tour features guest band Big Daddy Weave. For more information on Mark Schultz and complete tour information, visit www.markschultzmusic.com and www.wordrecords.com.

In a short span of six years, Schultz' incredible talent and God-centered music has garnered rave reviews, chart-topping hits and a strong fanbase. He reached Platinum status in 2005, won his first Dove Award that year, named one of *Christian Music Today's* top male vocalists in 2003 and was listed No. 1 as *Billboard's* "Hot Christian Adult Contemporary Songwriters" this year. In addition to eight No. 1 hits, Schultz' song, "He's My Son," was recognized by *Esquire* magazine and his "Letters From War" was the centerpiece of a U.S. Army Iraq campaign in 2004. He has further been featured on *48 Hours* and *CNN*.

Word Records is a part of Word Label Group, a division of Word Entertainment, a Warner/Curb company. The artist roster heralds some of today's top Christian music performers and songwriters including Amy Grant, Mark Schultz, Point Of Grace, Building 429, Nicole C. Mullen and Randy Travis. Word Label Group leads the industry with over fifty years of music-making history.

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Media Contacts:

Janet Bozeman/Bozeman Media
615-376-2246/bozemanmedia@comcast.net

Rich Guider/Word Records
615-251-0600/rich.guider@wbr.com