

mPowered LIFE Girls Network™

I am super excited about this interview because I've seen LP minister/rap first hand and it is awesome! He has a special anointing that lets you know that He spends time in the presence of God. And now that I am getting to know him a little more as a person (we are church family members), I know that what you see on stage is who he is in his personal life. His love for Christ, his family and for the Body of Christ is truly evident. I already know this interview is going to bless you for real! Just be sure to stop by LP's MySpace page after you read it and drop him a note. Well, here is the man himself... LPz! Holla!



GS: *How long have you been rapping?*

LP: I have been rapping for almost 4 years now.

GS: *Did you aspire to be a rapper when you were younger?*

LP: No, I just admired all of the other rappers.

GS: *Did you always do Gospel rap?*

LP: No, for years I used to “play around” doing freestyle rap with my boys, but I never was serious about it.

GS: *Why did you start rapping for Christ?*

LP: Well, when I got saved (2001) and into the Word, I totally detached myself from secular rap. I was later inspired by the Holy Spirit to write and make music to glorify Him! (This was early 2003).

GS: *What's up with the name LP? Can you explain how you chose that name?*

LP: LP stands for “Like Paul”, the apostle. I feel that I am like him in many ways. He and his ministry were totally against the grain and he was persecuted because of it. My ministry is totally against the grain because some believe that “rap” does not belong in the church! As a result, I am going against the grain and I have been getting persecuted since I started!

GS: *Your first CD “TESTIMONY” just dropped. Can you tell us about it?*

LP: It is simply “bananas”! Hot beats, fire lyrics, and oh, so much revelation knowledge! I was privileged to work with Greg Curtis (producer of Yolanda Adams “Victory”), John Nettlesby (engineer of artists like Michael Jackson, Mary J. Blige, and Mariah Carey), and the legendary Ernie Singleton. Ernie Singleton is the former vice president of MCA and former Senior Vice President of Warner Music. This is all a product of having **Divine Favor in Christ!** The album has a little something for the young, old, saved, unsaved, and everybody else.

GS: *Why did you name it “Testimony?”*

LP: It is self-explanatory. My “Testimony”! It talks about the trials and triumphs of my life and the life of the victorious believer!

GS: *Who are your musical influences and why?*

LP: Mary Mary and Kirk Franklin are my musical influences because of the standard that they have set in the music industry.

GS: *We talk a lot about role models with the youth. Do you have any role models? If so, who are they and why?*

LP: My pastor Michael D. Moore is my role model. He is my role model because of his study habits, work ethics, commitment to the word, and love for people.

GS: *How has being a Christian changed your life?*

LP: Being a Christian changed my life dramatically because I dealt with a lot of issues such as low self-esteem, and identity crisis’s due to coming up without a father.

GS: *What obstacles have you overcome? How did you overcome them?*

LP: I have overcome the obstacles or the need to be accepted and I overcame the grasshopper mentality or feelings of inferiority to others. I was able to overcome by discovering my security in Christ and the identity that my Heavenly Father gave me. (The head and not the tail, above only and not beneath, ya heard me!)

GS: *Your shows are off the chain! For real! Music, ministry and more! How do you prepare for a show?*

LP: In preparation for my show I just pray in the Spirit, hang loose; be silly, and warm up my voice.

GS: *In a recent conversation we had, you talked about the “competition” that some Christian rappers seem to delve in. Can you expound on that and why it is not good to compete?*

LP: We should not compete with one another because this is what the world does. We are in the “body of Christ”. The body must function as one. The arm can’t look at the

hand and say, "I don't need you", or "I'm better than you"! They have to work together and we *should* work together.

GS: *Since the "birth" of hip hop, the music, lyrics and the industry has evolved in so many ways. We often see a "changing of the guard" where one theme, if you will, prevails more than others... i.e. partying, sex, gangster rap, money, bling and so forth. Do you think that in lieu of recent secular rappers paying open homage to Jesus Christ that we will see Gospel/Holy Hip Hop in this rotation? If so, please expound.*

LP: I believe that the whole rap game is about to change on 'our' behalf. We say that these are the "last days" and the rapture is going to happen soon right! Do you think God is going to take us out of this world as the tail? Naw, we are going to leave here as the head because God said that His Kingdom rules over all!

GS: *You are now a husband and a father. Congrats! How has that changed your life?*

LP: It has changed my life in a major way. I am now not only an example to the flock (my audience), but also an example to my household. I have to be very careful in every decision that I make everyday, all day.

GS: *What advice can you give to some who has a dream, vision or goal they want to accomplish?*

LP: My advice would be; observe your motives and make sure they are right, make sure your priorities are in the right order, make sure you have the right attitude, and make sure your trust is in God! If you have those things together, God will bless your socks off!

GS: *What's next for LP?*

LP: More lives being changed, yolks being destroyed, and burdens being removed. As a result of these things, I will be accepting my platinum plaque!

GS: *Where can we get your album?*

LP: You can go to your local record stores, Music N More, www.myspace.com/likepaul, www.cdbaby.com, www.amazon.com, Or come to one of my shows.

GS: *Any last words to the young 'uns?*

LP: Young ladies, you are a queen and you have worth without that lil knucklehead boy! Fellas, are you going to be a spiritual brother to these young ladies or a "religious pimp"! The real men need to stand up, ya' heard me. Y'all are kings and queens.

On behalf of God's Star International Ministries, Inc. we would like to thank you for taking this time to speak with us. We are really proud of you and can't wait to see all that God has for you unfold in your life!

If you would like more information about LP, please visit his MySpace page at

www.myspace.com/likepaul. Now y'all know how we do it... so send him an email letting him know that you read this interview on mPOWERd 4 LIFE. Okay? Oh yeah! LP's first video "We Can't Lose" is now being played on BET.

Also, check him out on the official Birmingham Entertainment website at www.bhamentertainment.com. For all booking, contact LP's manager John Pettway at 205-276-6243.