

KIRK FRANKLIN An Autobiography

"He walks
the walk
and talks
the talk."

church boy

My Music & My Life

A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

This book is dedicated to my sister
Suwanna Smith.
Come home soon.

CHURCH BOY

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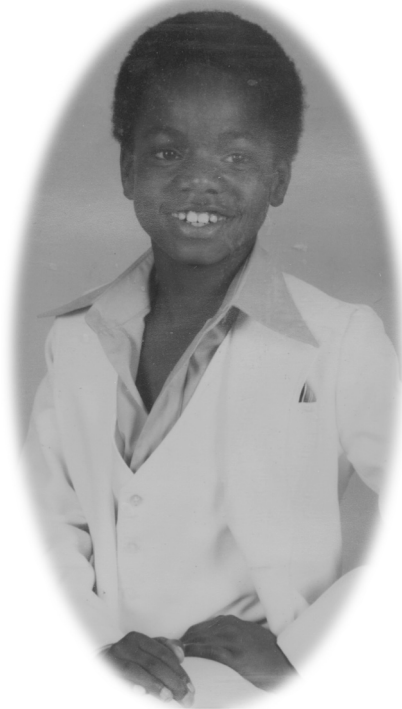
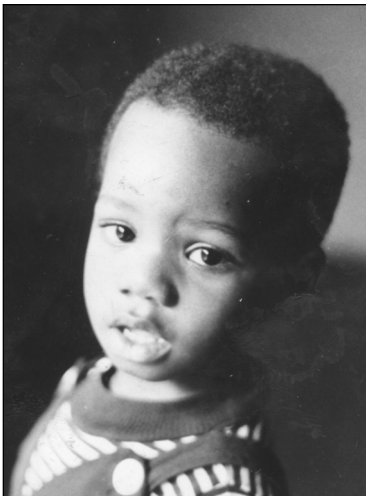
Kirk Franklin & the Family

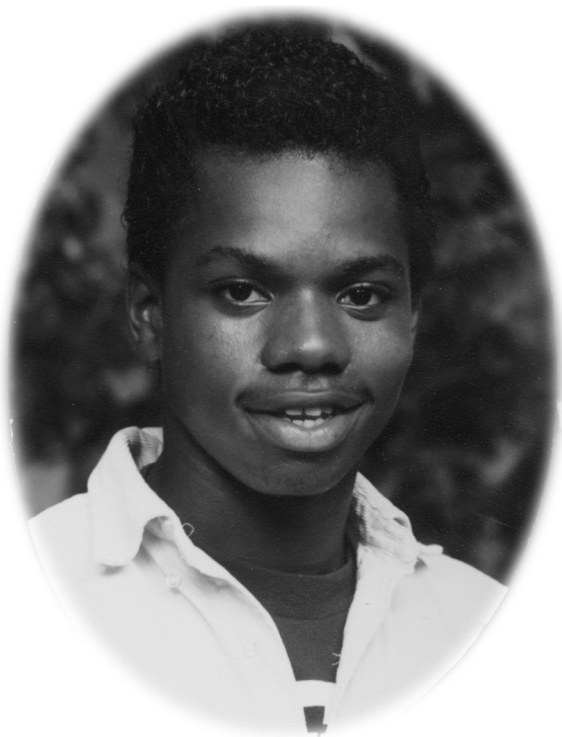


Photo by David E. and Rhea-Engert

God's Property

Kirk was adopted at age three by Gertrude Franklin. By age seven, he was offered his first recording contract.





By age fourteen, he was a popular break-dancer.



The house in which Kirk was born and grew up.



Gertrude Franklin in 1943, years before Kirk came into her life.



TCU photo by Jim Winn

The black gospel workshop at Texas Christian University helped give twenty-one-year-old Kirk a little media exposure.

BOTTOM: Members of the Family gather for a group photo with friends before a 1996 performance.





Kirk and Tammy at their wedding reception January 20, 1996. Kirk says he married his best friend.



Kirk with his daughter Carrington and son Kerrion.

Photo by Rhea-Engert



Photo by Rhea-Engert

TOP: Kirk and Tammy with Kerrion and Carrington.



RIGHT: The Franklin family in front of Buckingham Palace in London, England in July 1996.



TOP: Kirk, his wife and children, some of The Family members, and manager Gerald Wright, sightseeing in London.

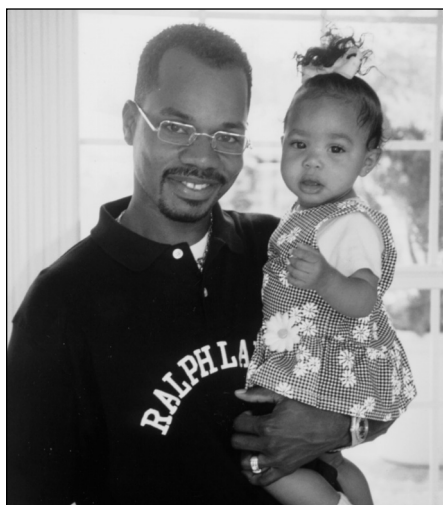
BOTTOM: Kirk runs through a rehearsal and a quick microphone check with members of God's Property before their recording session.





Photo by Rhea-Engert

Kirk and Tammy (at eight months pregnant). Kirk was so excited and proud about his wife's pregnancy that he wanted to take pictures embracing her stomach.



LEFT: Proud Daddy holding 12-month-old Kennedy Elizabeth. Before he knew Tammy was expecting, Kirk was wishing for a baby girl. Kirk says Kennedy represents a second chance, completeness.



Photo by Rhea Engbert

The Franklin family posing for one of the pictures used as their 1997 Christmas card. "We refuse to get caught up in yours, mine, and ours," says Kirk. "God gave us to each other, so we know our family is God ordained."



Among the many people instrumental to Kirk's success are Vicki Lataillade (right), President of GospoCentric Records and Monica Bacon (left), Vice-President of GospoCentric Records.



Kirk Franklin, onstage during the 1997 Tour of Life.

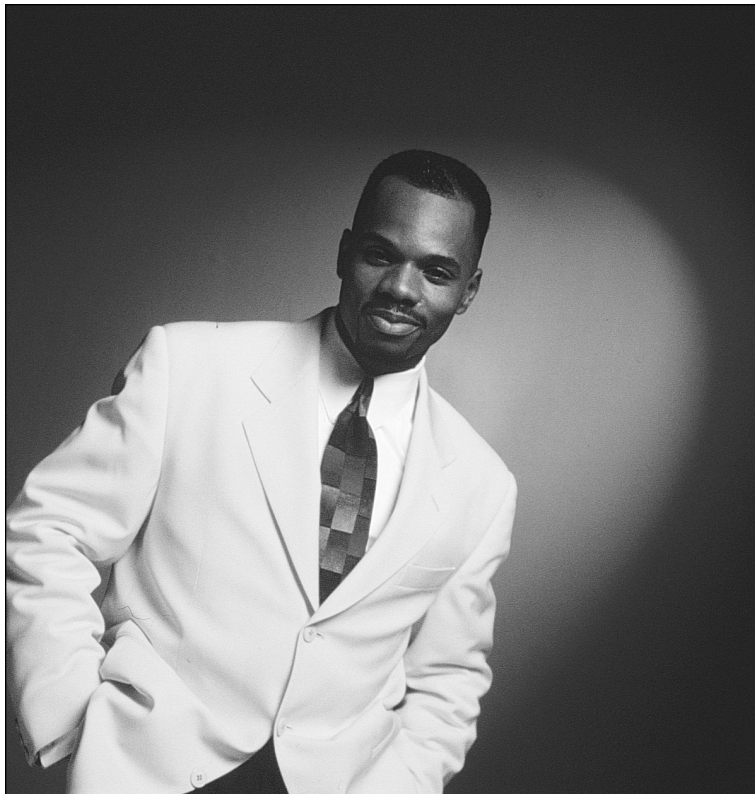


Photo by Arnold Turner



Photo by Arnold Turner

During 1996 and 1997, Kirk Franklin and God's Property were invited to perform their hit songs on several televised specials, including Soul Train, Live from the Apollo, Late Night with David Letterman, The Tonight Show, and the highly acclaimed Savion Glover Special from New York City.



Kirk Franklin is one gospel recording artist who has used his influence to spread the good news in virtually every entertainment medium.



Photo by Arnold Turner

Kirk Franklin was co-host of the 1998 Stellar Awards broadcast and recipient of Best Gospel Song and Producer of the Year awards, among many others.



Photo by Rhea-Engert

TOP & BELOW: A 1998 *Father's Day* photo. "God's gift to me is Tammy and our three children. He has used them to help make who I've become."



Photo by Rhea-Engert