

Brian Free and Assurance

The year was 1993 and one of Southern Gospel music's favorite performers was at a crossroads. Since 1980 he had been one of the signature voices with the multi-award winning Gold City Quartet. But now, it was time to make a change. Singing Gospel music was something he had done all of his life. In his professional career, fans and his peers had recognized him as one of the greatest tenor vocalists in the field of Southern Gospel music. Although a decision needed to be made Brian Free was not going to give up singing. However, it was time to move in a new direction. It was time to form his own group.

Brian Free and Assurance debuted on the Gospel music scene with their self-titled recording in 1994. With that recording, Brian was able to demonstrate that he was going to remain true to performing Southern Gospel music delivered with a distinctive flair that was unquestionable Brian Free. As with most new ventures, changes came early and often. But with each challenge, Assurance continued to stabilize its position in the Southern Gospel radio airplay charts and with leading pastors and promoters.

Brian Free and Assurance were quickly rewarded for their dedication and diligence with multiple awards and recognition. These included the Singing News Fan Award for Album of the Year (4 God So Loved) and Song of the Year (For God So Loved) from the Southern Gospel Music Association. In addition to concert performances across the United States, Brian Free and Assurance toured Northern Ireland, were featured regularly on the Gaither Video Series, and appeared on TNN and TBN. In 1997, the group represented Southern Gospel music and the National Quartet Convention on NBC's "Today" show.

However, in 1998, Brian Free arrived at another crossroads. Feeling God's call on his life to preach the Gospel, Brian decided to pursue his ministerial license and ordination. Knowing the time and attention this would demand, Brian felt the need to disband the quartet. Although it was a difficult decision, Brian successfully transitioned into a solo career that perfectly complimented his studies and allowed him to achieve his goal.

Strengthened by the knowledge he gained during this time of intense study and reading of God's Word, Brian Free surprised the Southern Gospel world with the announcement that he was taking the quartet off the shelf, and "resurrecting" Assurance. This newest edition of Assurance consists of some of the most talented vocalists on the Gospel Music horizon - Bill Shivers (lead vocalist), Craig Singletary (baritone), and Bill Lawrence (bass) - and, of course, Brian Free (tenor). Accompanying these very talented men is Michael Camp on keyboards, and Brian's son, Ricky Free, on drums.

Brian Free and Assurance is represented by The Harper Agency and records for Daywind Music Group. With the support team in place, Brian Free and Assurance seems poised and ready to pick up where they left off. They should because Brian Free expects no less than a total commitment to ministry and quality. It should be noted that "assurance" is a promise or a guarantee. With that always in mind, Brian Free and Assurance pledge to do their best for God each time they have the opportunity to perform.