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TIME  
AROUND

# Bob Bennett

## FIRST THINGS FIRST

**B**ob Bennett — a shy, soft-spoken man — and a composer of articulate lyrics and captivating guitar accompaniment.

Bob's first solo album, *First Things First*, features his adept touch on the acoustic guitar, mellow vocals, and lyrics which capture the thoughts of fellow strugglers in faith.

As Bob puts it, "My ministry is to disarm. Many people have heard of Jesus, but have become estranged through misunderstandings. I try to explain Jesus in my music."

Phil Keaggy and his music had a strong impact on Bob's early faith. Bob's prayer of faith came as the result of a musical experience and almost immediately he became a wellspring of Christian music. You may have heard Bob's vocals in the past on the Praise albums as a member of Maranatha! Singers. (See page 3 in this issue.)

Bob's musical expressions mirror Phil's touch. You'll recognize Phil's influence in the simplicity and elegance of Bob's music. Most of the songs on *First Things First* were recorded with all the musicians in the studio together (a rarity in this day of multi-track recording. Bob plays the guitar and sings eight of his own songs (plus two more) on this lp.

*First Things First* is Bob's biography. "Carpenter Gone Bad" is a thought-provoking look



at the diety of Christ. *Some say He is the Son of God. Others laugh and call Him mad. Well do you think he's who he says he is or just a carpenter gone bad?*

In "The Night Shift," with Kelly Willard on background vocals, Bob relates the desperation of

his search for true meaning while playing "top-forty tunes in the bar."

"Whistling in the Dark" reveals the answer Bob found to his questions: *Why aren't there many roads? Well, I just don't know. But the Bible says there is a narrow*

*way that we must go. Jesus said He was the way and you must be born again. And if you disagree don't complain to me. You can argue with Him.*

You can feel the joy in the soothing prayer, "You're Welcome Here." Some rock and roll also comes through in Bob's style in "Forgive and Forget." He shares with you his first, most valuable lesson in faith: *And I fought it for a while but then I just had to smile 'cause I let the Lord forgive and forget.*

Bob's knowledge of music history serves him well on *First Things First*. "(I Know that) My Redeemer Lives" is Bob's adaptation and arrangement of the John Hutton tune "Duke Street" written in 1793 with the praise lyrics of "Samuel Medley" written in 1775.

Another impeccable touch on this first album is the production expertise of Jonathan David Brown, producer of *Sweet Comfort, Blame It On the One I Love*, and *The Misfit*, to name a few.

Bob's music is an honest invitation to come closer to the Lord with *First Things First*.

**Contents:** Carpenter Gone Bad? • The Night Shift • Whistling in the Dark • The Best • You're Welcome Here • Forgive and Forget • My Redeemer Lives • The Garden Song • I Belong to You • Healings.  
**Album MM0061A**  
**8-Track MM0061T**  
**Cassette MM0061C**