

Newboys Appoint New Lead Singer

✖ Michael Tait, formerly with dcTalk and Tait, will replace longtime Newsboys' lead singer and founder Peter Furler as touring lead singer, although Furler will make special appearances throughout the year. The band's newest project, *In the Hands of God*, releases May 5 and features lead vocals from Furler, who will continue to work on the band's studio recordings.

"While the decision to replace Peter on the road was a painstaking one, when the idea of dcTalk vocalist Michael Tait was presented it was a no-brainer to all of us," said Newsboys manager Wes Campbell. "No one can replace Peter, but we know Michael will bring a new attitude, energy and vocal style that will thrill our audience. To be able to continue a world-class show and still have Peter behind the scenes guiding the career and making of Newsboys music is a huge opportunity for all of us."

Tait said he was "speechless" upon receiving the offer to join the Newsboys: "This is a definite highlight of my career and for my 20-plus years of walking with Jesus, and I am humbled, proud and privileged to call myself a Newsboy."

In a statement, Furler said he is looking forward to focusing on the studio work and spending more time at home and added that he will go into more detail about the announcement on the band's Web site in the coming days. Recently, the band also welcomed guitarist Jody Davis back into the tribe after the departure of Paul Colman.