

Family > Fame

Rising trio CAIN shares how they've learned to prioritize their growing families over their flourishing career.

River James Cain was born on March 17, 2022. That August, Calloway ("Cal") Davy Johnson arrived. Nineteen days later, Stevie Jhett Matz entered the world. The cousins didn't know it yet, but they had just formed a band. After all, it's not unreasonable to assume all three babies will one day show musical promise given that their parents are Logan, Madison, and Taylor — the siblings that comprise award-winning Christian trio CAIN.

Hailing from Alabama, the pastor's kids naturally harmonized growing up in the small room they shared for longer than they'd care to admit. They moved to Nashville thinking they'd make it big in country music, but every boot-clad, rhinestone-encrusted door they knocked on seemed to shut. That is until they began writing songs about their faith, and suddenly, doors they never even tried started opening. Ever since, life has been a whirlwind for the siblings, who went from loading in their own gear and setting up their own merch table to headlining their own tour.

After signing with Provident Entertainment, CAIN was off to the races, earning two back-to-back No. 1 singles with "Rise Up (Lazarus)" and "Yes He Can," a K-LOVE Fan Award, an American Music Award nod, and multiple GMA Dove Award nominations. In May, the trio hosted the 10th anniversary of the K-LOVE Fan Awards. They've quickly become known for their color-coordinated outfits and Logan's infamous backflips on stage. Furthermore, they've already played bucket list venues like the Grand Ole Opry House, Ryman Auditorium, and Red Rocks Amphitheatre; and they've opened for artists they've long admired, including Zach Williams, TobyMac, Matthew West, and Casting Crowns.



They were on tour with TobyMac, in fact, when River made her premature debut. "We had an induction scheduled, we had a plan in place, we had it ready to go ... and then she was born early," Logan, her dad, explains. "In that moment, I realized all throughout our career we're going to have to make choices between what's best for our family and what's best for our career. And what we've found is, at each turn that we choose our family, God just makes space in our career."

That fall, the siblings stood at another crossroads. In a matter of five months, they now had three newborns. They were all navigating parenthood for the first time, and Taylor's husband was signing on to spend a good portion of the year away from home to pitch for the St. Louis Cardinals. Regardless of the momentum they had achieved in such a short period of time, CAIN wasn't sure their new personal realities would ever mesh with a vocation that required consistent, arduous travel.

"We couldn't even think about leaving them behind," says Madison, whose son, Cal, was only seven-weeks-old at the time. "It felt like, well then, we just can't tour."

That's when they came to a pivotal — albeit extremely risky — resolution. They agreed to purchase a bus. It was a huge investment considering their band was still relatively new, the cost of buses had tripled since COVID, and, given that they were an opening act at the time, they would barely break even.

"Even when it didn't make sense, even when it cost us money, we just decided we were going to go ahead and

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAIN

tour like God was going to provide. We were going to go ahead and tour like there was space in our lives and our career for our families," Logan says. "And people have just come along and really supported that decision and enabled us to keep doing that."

Miraculously, CAIN made enough in merchandise sales that fall to make up the difference. "Now that's our new standard. Our family comes with us everywhere we go, or at least everywhere they want to go," Taylor says. "They're welcome anywhere we are."

Logan claims it was a "horrifying" step at first, but a choice he's glad they made early in their career — one that will undoubtedly set the tone for future decisions. Yet, in some ways, the trio felt like they'd be living a lie if they didn't prioritize their loved ones. "If we're out here Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday telling the people who come to our shows, 'This is how you should live. You should walk in health. You should let God be your provider. You should give your best to your family,' and then we come home three days a week and give the scraps of what's left to the people we left behind so we could make more money, that is just diametrically opposing what we're saying," he reasons. "So, we take care of our families; we let God take care of the finances."

"At each turn that we choose our family, God just makes space in our career." — Logan Cain

And He has. Although Madison admits it's still a daily temptation they have to resist to ensure all three of them are making healthy decisions for their respective families. Just like the roles they play on stage complement one another, the roles they assume behind the scenes must serve to support everyone's greater good. They confess they tried to assign tasks early on in their career, but that form of hard delegation just led to a huge disagreement. So now, they simply allow one another to gravitate toward their natural strengths, and they've found that tactic so much more effective.

"Between the three of us, there's this dance of making sure we have enough to pay our bills, making sure we have enough time at home, and then making sure our families get to come on the road," Madison shares. "Taylor's fighting for more time off. Logan is pushing us ahead. And then I'm always trying to make sure everyone gets to come. That's the beauty of being in a group."

And because of the hard, wise choices CAIN is making today, someday River, Calloway, and Stevie will discover the beauty of being in a group too. For now, they're just happy to be along for the ride. □

Honest Offering

When Logan, Madison, and Taylor Cain were teenagers, their family would host Bible studies for high schoolers in their living room. Each week, the siblings sang songs of worship at the top of their lungs scrunched in between their peers, and they've carried the fond memory of those moments with them well into adulthood.

Thus, the chance to craft a live worship album felt like a return to form for the rising act. CAIN recorded the six-track *Honest Offering* at Nashville's Ocean Way Studio — a former-church-turned-recording-space on Music Row. Backed by original stained-glass windows and a small choir, the trio captured the raw praise emanating from the room in one night across several originals and a few standards that have informed their own faith journey.

"This is who we are. Beyond all the colors and the family harmony, you'll find three hearts beating to worship Jesus. This is how we got started. On Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights, we were just singing hymns on stage with our dad, learning by example how to worship God — not because we felt like it that day, but because God is worthy of it," Taylor offers. "What a joy it is to share these songs with our listening family. They are an honest offering and the best gift we could try to give our beautiful King Jesus."

CAIN will share new music from *Honest Offering*, as well as all the hits from their debut, *Rise Up*, as they resume their first-ever headlining tour this fall.

For more, visit caintheband.com.



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