

Hollywood Producer Says God Wanted Him to Make 'I Can Only Imagine'

When *I Can Only Imagine* debuted in 2018, the movie shocked the box office, raking in significant money for an independent Christian movie.

Executive producer Travis Mann thinks some of *I Can Only Imagine*'s success boils down to MercyMe frontman Bart Millard's obedience to the Lord's calling.

"I felt like this was a powerful story, and I had a sense that God wanted that story to be told so it could impact more people," Mann told Movieguide®. "Because of Bart's relationship [with his father], God gave Bart the song that touched so many people's hearts and lives. I felt that we, as filmmakers, were fortunate to be the ones chosen, the ones who were lucky enough to be involved in telling that story. We were tasked with helping get that story in front of the bigger audience because God wanted more fathers and sons to know about how great a relationship could be, despite how bad it might have been in the past."

I Can Only Imagine won one of the Epiphany Prizes® for Inspiring Movies at the 2019 Movieguide® Awards.

Though *I Can Only Imagine* may be one of the most recognizable recent titles associated with Mann's name, he's been at work in the industry for more than 20 years and has multiple exciting projects in the works.

Mann revealed that one of his upcoming projects will focus on reporter Ben Malcolmson, the college journalist who decided to walk on to the University of Southern California football team under head coach Pete Carroll. What started as a firsthand

experience to write a story turned into the fluke of a lifetime, and Malcolmson received a coveted spot on the roster.

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