

How This 'Touched by an Angel' Star Continues to Change Lives

It's been 15 years since Irish Christian actress Roma Downey starred in *Touched by an Angel*, but she continues to change lives today.

In 2013, Downey, along with her husband, Mark Burnett, produced the well-received television series *The Bible*, which premiered on March 3, 2013, and concluded on Easter Sunday of that year. By the finale, the show had been viewed by over 100 million people. Downey discussed how she wanted her show to impact people in an interview with :

I think several things will happen. The faithful will find us, and I think that that audience will see the beautiful stories come to life in new, fresh visual ways on screen. But, there's an opportunity here for many people who are unchurched or who have never read the Bible that it will show them just how amazing the Bible is and maybe draw people to it. That people will pick the book off the shelf and go back to it.

God brought Downey and Burnett together for the purpose of sharing God's love through media. The power couple is known as the "Noisiest Christians in Hollywood." These married business partners are so inspiring because they aren't afraid to speak about their faith in Jesus Christ.

During the early stages of creating *The Bible* series, Downey and Burnett were criticized for being so bold to bring the Bible to network television, but they didn't care what others thought. They only seek to serve God and do what they believe He's called them to do.

Downey won the Grace Award for Most Inspiring Performance by an Actress in a TV Program for her moving performance as Mary in *The Bible*.

Downey and Burnett are not slowing down, and they continue to spread the light of Christ in Hollywood. In 2015, the two produced the TV show *AD: The Bible Continues*, which was nominated for Movieguide®'s \$100,000 Epiphany Prize for Most Inspiring Television. Star Juan Pablo Di Pace won the Grace Award for the Most Inspiring Performance for portraying Jesus.

In 2016, the Christian power couple created a remake of *Ben Hur*.

In 2017, Downey and Burnett launched LightWorkers media, an online news site that publishes positive news stories that directly contrast with the negative news media.

Coming up this year, Downey and Burnett are set to produce the Netflix series *Messiah*, which will place a modern twist on Jesus' coming to earth. Instead of having Him appear more than 2000 years ago, it explores the question, "What if someone came to earth today claiming to be the Messiah?"

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