

# I CAN ONLY IMAGINE <sup>(PG)</sup>



## Fast Sell:

The inspiring true story behind the best-selling Christian song of all time, "I Can Only Imagine" is a moving and heartfelt testament to the power of faith and forgiveness.

## Synopsis:

Although he found faith at a young age, life wasn't easy for Bart Millard. Leaning into an active imagination and his love of music as escapes from a troubled home life, as he grew older, he turned to football in hopes of connecting with his abusive father. However, a career-ending injury combined with the vision of a teacher who saw unlimited potential, set Bart on a musical pathway.

Chasing a dream while running from broken relationships with his father and childhood sweetheart Shannon, Bart hits the road in an old, decrepit tour bus with his new band MercyMe - named for his grandmother's favourite expression. With the guidance of a grizzled music-industry insider, the band begins a journey none of them could ever have imagined.

## We Like It Because:

Telling the true story behind a song that touched and inspired so many, it should come as no surprise that the Erwin brothers' latest directorial effort is just as poignant, yet uplifting, as the song that inspired it. "I Can Only Imagine" is not just about the writing of a song, but of having the courage to overcome life's challenges, to rebuild broken connections, and find redemption through God.



## RELEASE DATE

In UK Cinemas 10th August 2018

## KEY TALENT INFORMATION

### Directors:

- **Andrew Erwin and Jon Erwin** ("October Baby")

### Screenplay:

- **Brent McCorkle** ("Unconditional") and **Jon Erwin**

### Stars:

- **J. Michael Finley** ("Book of Mormon")
- **Dennis Quaid** ("The Day After Tomorrow")
- **Madeline Carroll** ("Flipped")
- **Trace Adkins** ("Stagecoach: The Texas Jack Story")
- **Priscilla Shirer** ("War Room")

## CONTACT / ORDER MEDIA

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Following a career on stage in productions of “Les Misérables” and “The Book of Mormon”, J. Michael Finley brings a genuine sincerity to his outstanding feature film debut as Bart Millard, showing a deep and careful understanding of both the man’s dreams and insecurities without overplaying either. Starring opposite, Dennis Quaid delivers an equally heartfelt authenticity as a man marred by a life of alcoholism and abuse. At times we’re left in fear of his next outburst, yet at others find ourselves wanting to reach for his shoulder; a powerful reminder that even in our darkest hours, the light of redemption is never out of reach.

### Hot Quotes:

“I Can Only Imagine is an extraordinary, inspiring and moving film” - The Christian Film Review

“As entertaining as it is uplifting. Actor J. Michael Finley makes a winning debut “ - The Aisle Seat

### Editor’s Notes:

About “I Can Only imagine”:

The debut single of Christian rock band MercyMe, “I Can Only Imagine” inspired America following its major label release in 2001. Inspired by the passing of vocalist Bart Millard’s father, the song considers what it would be like standing before God in heaven.

In the years that followed, the song received significant airplay on Christian radio stations, before finding popularity on mainstream stations. A re-release in 2003 saw major commercial success, including peaking at #5 on Billboard’s Adult Contemporary chart. Certified 3x platinum by Recording Industry Association of America, “I Can Only Imagine” is currently the best-selling Christian single of all time.

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