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Sponsors announced for THE BIBLE, the epic TV mini-series, on Channel 5

Spring Harvest and *Buck Denver asks...What's in the Bible?*® are to sponsor the upcoming Channel 5 mini-series THE BIBLE which will air on Saturday 30 November at 9pm.

From Executive Producers Roma Downey (Touched by an Angel) and Mark Burnett (The Voice, Survivor, Shark Tank, The Apprentice) THE BIBLE is an Emmy® nominated, epic 5-part, 10-hour mini-series which combines one of the greatest collections of stories ever assembled with live action and state-of-the-art CGI. The series is narrated by BAFTA nominated actor Robert Powell (*Jesus of Nazareth, Holby City, The Detectives*) and features a musical score by the world renowned Grammy and Oscar-winning composer Hans Zimmer. From Genesis to Revelation, THE BIBLE series features some of the most famous stories ever written and some of the most iconic characters - from Noah's Ark, the Exodus and Daniel in the lion's den to the birth, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.

Event organiser *Spring Harvest* and video producer *What's in the Bible?* are delighted to announce that they will sponsor THE BIBLE series on Channel 5.

"Guests at our Easter-time events come to learn from the stories and teaching in the Bible" said Spring Harvest spokesman Malcolm Duncan. "Our sponsorship of this series reminds viewers that there are plenty of people out there who still have confidence in the Bible."

What's in the Bible spokesman David Dorricott commented: "The Bible is the best-selling, most influential book in history and yet it is probably also the least read book on many people's bookshelves. Channel 5's airing of THE BIBLE, the epic TV mini-series, dramatically introduces viewers to some of the greatest stories ever told. Through our own video series we seek to walk families through the whole amazing Bible story - from Genesis to Revelation; answering some of the big questions people ask, such as 'who wrote it?' and 'what difference does it make to our lives?'"

ENDS

Media enquiries only contact:

- Rebecca Bowater, on 01825 746513 or email press@springharvest.org
- Brett Pitchfork, on 01624 811744 or email brett.pitchfork@whatsinthebible.co.uk

See over for notes to editors.

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. *Spring Harvest* profile

Attracting thousands of Christians each year, Spring Harvest is a cross-denominational, multi-week event that takes place every Easter at Butlins Minehead and Skegness. This year's dates are Minehead 5-18 April (three events) and Skegness 14-18 April (one event). Both resorts offers comfortable self-catering and half board accommodation in units for up to 8 people. Availability can be checked at www.springharvest.org.

The event invites Guests to experience a comprehensive adult, youth and children's programme of Bible teaching, worship, workshops and seminars alongside a holiday experience using Butlins industry-leading leisure facilities - plus an evening entertainment programme including comedy, music and chat shows.

Book online at www.springharvest.org or call Butlins on 0845 070 4743.

2. *What's in the Bible* profile

Buck Denver Asks ... What's in the Bible?® is the 13-DVD series from VeggieTales® creator Phil Vischer. In his first new project since VeggieTales, Vischer has set out to teach kids (and parents!) the story of the Bible – God's great rescue plan! We know the stories of Moses, Noah, David, and Jesus, but in this groundbreaking new Bible DVD series, we learn how they all fit together to tell one big, redemptive story. Vischer's signature wit shines through with his all-new cast of characters, fast-paced flash animation, and catchy tunes.

Over half a million copies of the DVD and downloads have been sold worldwide so far.

More information about the series can be found at www.whatsinthebible.com

UK customers can purchase DVDs from www.whatsinthebible.co.uk

3. Selected comments

.....the most surprising television success of the year in the United States. Defying expectations that a simple retelling of the Bible stories, including depictions of Adam and Eve and Samson and Delilah, would not appeal to a modern television audience, the series has been creating headlines and major ratings figures.

The Observer's Paul Harris comments on the success of THE BIBLE series in the USA.

THE BIBLE series is an excellent dramatisation of the Bible. It is historically credible and put together with sensitivity and imagination. The producers have a wonderful ability to make you think about familiar scenes in an entirely new way.

Helen K Bond (Senior Lecturer in New Testament, University of Edinburgh)

Attempting to depict the whole span of the biblical narrative from Genesis to Revelation is a bold undertaking. THE BIBLE series pulls it off. It has paid very close attention to the text but at the same time imagined what it might have felt like for the different characters depicted.

Paula Gooder (Canon Theologian of Birmingham and Guildford Cathedrals)

THE BIBLE series is stunning - superbly acted and beautifully produced. It brings the stories of the Bible to life in an extraordinary way.

Nicky Gumbel (Vicar of Holy Trinity Brompton)

THE BIBLE series has stunning authenticity - a realism I've rarely seen. It grips the viewer totally, due to its sheer attention to detail and excellence of casting, costumes, and content.

Greg Haslam (Senior Pastor, Westminster Chapel)