

Circus of God



Partners in Motion

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1 x 60 Minute Documentary

Inside the tent revival movement.

Just as the evening sun sets on the horizon,
the mood reaches a fevered pitch in the large tent erected in the middle of a field.
The music builds as the preacher moves swiftly from person to person, touching their foreheads and sending them
backwards as if he manifests some unseen force. Worshipers throw their hands to the sky. Many weep.
Some fall to the ground, convulsing.

This is *Circus of God*, the newest documentary from award-winning Director Chris Triffo.
Circus of God is an anthropological look inside the phenomenon of the tent revival movement, which has found
renewed energy in the last few decades. The phenomenon appeals to such a large cross section of old and new
believers, and *Circus of God* accordingly follows the stories of very different evangelical preachers.

First, we meet Ron Hooper, a 70 year-old preacher who has been ministering since 1952.
We join him in his journey across the Canadian prairies, where he preaches primarily to First Nations groups.
We learn what effect he has on the community, how his family was born and raised in the faith.
We are introduced to his wife, who he met at a revival. Ron Hooper preaches the faith as he knows it,
very much in the steady evangelical style of the 1950's.

At the other end of the spectrum is young evangelist preacher Todd Bentley,
bringing the evangelical movement into the 21st Century. Dressed in styles of today's youth, he delivers his ministry
through his website. His ministry is large-scale, as his preaching draws thousands and he travels the globe, from North
America to Africa. Full of energy and spectacle, the young ministry contrasts heavily with the old-style preaching
appreciated by those like Ron Hooper.

Using a combination of video, still photography, and Super 8 footage, this is the documentary that has
unprecedented access to the lives of these and other preachers. We meet their families and their followers;
understand their faith, passions and motivations. This is a first-hand glimpse into the real lives intertwined
with the phenomenon known as tent revival.

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