

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# DOCUMENTARY SHOWCASE PRESENTS FIRST DOCUMENTARY OF DESMOND TUTU'S LIFE STORY—CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT

Los Angeles, CA – August 9, 2019 – Scientology Network's DOCUMENTARY SHOWCASE, the weekly series providing a platform for Independent filmmakers to air films on important social, cultural and environmental issues, presents *Children of the Light*, the extraordinary life story of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, one of the greatest peacemakers of our time.

DOCUMENTARY SHOWCASE airs Fridays at 8 p.m. ET/PT on Scientology Network.

Children of the Light tells the incredible life story of Nobel Peace Prize winner Desmond Tutu. Follow his journey—from firsthand accounts of oppression at the birth of apartheid to leading his nation in nonviolent protests that helped bring an end to the regime of racial segregation in South Africa.

Written and directed by Nobel Peace Prize nominee and filmmaker Dawn Gifford Engle, *Children of the Light* uses extensive archival footage, family photos and never-before-seen interviews of Desmond Tutu to provide an unparalleled look into the legacy of one of the fathers of post-apartheid South Africa. Tutu reflects on the profound lessons learned being raised by his uneducated single mother, along with stories of a host of other inspirational figures that shaped his path. From his first meeting with Nelson Mandela and his days as a young teacher in segregated South Africa, to his becoming the secretary general of the South African Council of Churches and winning the Nobel Peace Prize, Desmond Tutu is celebrated in *Children of the Light* as a leader for social change and a champion of human rights. The film is narrated by Tutu's daughter, Naomi Tutu.

# ABOUT DESMOND TUTU

Born in 1931 in South Africa, Desmond Tutu established a career as an educator before turning to theology, ultimately becoming one of the world's most prominent spiritual leaders. In 1978, Tutu was appointed general secretary of the South African Council of Churches and became a leading

spokesperson for the rights of black South Africans. During the 1980s, he played a pivotal role in drawing national and international attention to the horrors of apartheid, and in 1984 he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts. Later, he chaired the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and continues to work tirelessly for the cause of human rights and equality.

#### ABOUT DAWN GIFFORD ENGLE

Dawn Gifford Engle, the film's director, is herself a Nobel Peace Prize nominee and runs the NGO PeaceJam, which counts on its board the Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu and 12 other Nobel Prize Laureates. Over the past two decades, more than a million youth around the world have participated in PeaceJam, improving communities globally. In 2005, the former President of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, awarded Engle and her husband the Man of Peace Award for achievement in the field of peace education.

### ABOUT DOCUMENTARY SHOWCASE

Fundamental to Scientology is a humanitarian mission that extends to some 200 nations with programs for human rights, human decency, literacy, morality, drug prevention and disaster relief. For this reason, the Scientology Network provides a platform for Independent filmmakers who embrace a vision of building a better world.

DOCUMENTARY SHOWCASE debuts films weekly from award-winning Independent filmmakers whose goal is to improve society by raising awareness of social, cultural and environmental issues.

For more information, visit <u>scientology.tv/docs</u>.

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The Scientology Network debuted on March 12, 2018. Since launching, the Scientology Network has been viewed in 237 countries and territories worldwide in 17 languages. Satisfying the curiosity of people about Scientology, the network takes viewers across six continents, spotlighting the everyday lives of Scientologists; showing the Church as a global organization; and presenting its social betterment programs that have touched the lives of millions worldwide. The network also showcases documentaries by Independent filmmakers who represent a cross section of cultures and faiths, but share a common purpose of uplifting communities.

Broadcast from Scientology Media Productions, the Church's global media center in Los Angeles, the Scientology Network can be streamed at scientology.tv and is available through satellite television, mobile apps and via the Roku, Amazon Fire and Apple TV platforms.

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