Viewing and Discussion Guide for   
*The Mission*

Respond to each of the following questions with two or three sentences on a separate sheet of paper.

Topic: Slavery and Sin

**1.** What event enslaves the slave trader Captain Rodrigo Mendoza? How is he deprived of his freedom?

**2.** Why does Rodrigo remain imprisoned?

**3.** Which of the biblical concepts of sin (rebelling against God, missing the mark, breaking God’s moral law, or living in spiritual darkness) would you use to describe Rodrigo’s action?

Topic: Repentance and Forgiveness

**4.** How does Father Gabriel motivate Rodrigo to find forgiveness?

**5.** What does Rodrigo choose to do for repentance? What burden does he symbolically and literally carry on his back?

**6.** What becomes a saving grace for Rodrigo literally and symbolically?

Topic: Conversion, Salvation, and Freedom

**7.** Why is Rodrigo’s experience of freedom a paradox?

**8.** What are signs of conversion or change in Rodrigo’s life? How does he mend his relationship with God, himself, and others?

**9.** What vices does Rodrigo let go of to continue his growth in moral goodness? What virtues or good habits must Rodrigo acquire to continue to pursue moral goodness?

**10.** Describe the signs and effects of social sin found in the film.

**11.** Describe in a few sentences what you consider to be one of the most significant scenes in   
*The Mission.*