

# 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 (rebellious 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*.

