

## **Scripture and Film**

### ***Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus ~ Reflections on Sacrifice in “The Chronicles of Narnia: the Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe”***

#### **Purpose:**

The Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus is central to our faith. Christ’s sacrifice of love, by dying on the cross, gave humanity the gift of new life. By using the film “The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe,” youth and adults are given a new perspective on the story of Jesus’ passion, death, and resurrection.

#### **Objective:**

Multimedia is becoming a popular tool to teach aspects of faith. In watching “The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe,” individuals are invited to deepen their understanding of Jesus’ sacrifice of love through the character of Aslan. After the film, individuals are invited to discuss the similarities between the character Aslan and Jesus’ Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

#### **Materials:**

1. TV/DVD player
2. DVD of “The Chronicles of Narnia: the Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe”
3. Discussion sheets photocopied for the entire group

**Film Rating:**    **PG** (battle scenes; images of death; and wolves presented in a frightening manner)

**Duration of Film:**    125 minutes

#### **Procedure:**

1. Before you begin the film, invite those watching to pay particular attention to the character Aslan. The purpose of this is to have those watching figure out the importance of his character.
2. Once the film is finished, provide a break.
3. Hand out the questions to those present (and ensure those who may not stay for the question period to have questions to take home with them). Invite them to break into small groups and discuss the questions provided. Go over the questions with them first and then give them 30 to 45 minutes to discuss among themselves.
  - With the length of the film being 2 hours long, it may be beneficial to separate the film night from the question period if a three hour event is too long for your group
4. After the small groups have had an opportunity to discuss the questions, bring everyone back together for a larger group discussion (approx. 20 minutes)

## Discussion Questions on “The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe”

In small groups discuss the following questions:

1. List some of the key characteristics of Aslan.
2. List some of the key qualities of Jesus
3. What are some of the similarities between the character Aslan and Jesus?
4. Aslan sacrificed his life for Edmund. Why did Aslan sacrifice his life for Aslan? What is the importance of the sacrifice of Aslan to the story?
5. Jesus sacrificed his life so humanity may have new life. Why is Jesus' death on the Cross important for us to reflect on and always remember?
6. How are we living the message of Christ's sacrifice in our lives?

### **Further Reflection and Study:**

#### **Passion Narratives:**

Matthew 26:14 - 27:66

Mark 14:1-15:47

Luke 22:14 -23:56

John 18:1 – 19:42

#### **Novel:**

C.S. Lewis, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (1950)

