

## Film Reflection: *The Mission*

Complete this handout as you view the film *The Mission* (1986, 125 minutes, rated A-III and PG).

1. How do the native people receive the missionaries when they first arrive? Why do you think they respond this way?
2. How do the missionaries begin to teach the native people about Christianity? Why do you think they use these methods?
3. How does Mendoza become a missionary? Summarize his journey in your own words.
4. Don Hontar and Don Cabeza do not care for the missionaries' position on the treatment of the native peoples. What interest do the wealthy men have in the native people? Are the missionaries correct in their decision to stand up to Don Hontar (the Portuguese governor) and Don Cabeza (the Spanish governor)? Why or why not?



5. Why does the cardinal come to visit the missions?
6. Compare and contrast Don Cabeza's description of the mission with what the cardinal sees when he visits the mission.
7. The film concludes with a battle. Identify the two sides in the battle. What does each side fight for?
8. Describe one incident in the battle scene that resonates with you. Why is it significant or powerful?

