**THE RETURN OF THE KING: LOR Part Three**

**Lesson Two**

The armies of the Men and Elves, along with some unexpected allies, are pitted against the unholy hordes of the Uruk-Hai, Orcs, Corsairs and Trolls of Sauron in the siege of Minas Tirith.

**Discussion**: What essential character issues are yet to be resolved in this third movie of the trilogy?

**Watch scene 27:** Aragorn enter the Cursed Mountain to claim allegiance from the dead soldiers, who were cursed by his bloodline, Isildur, for betraying their oaths to him in a long ago battle with Sauron.

1. What finally persuaded the King of the Dead and his soldiers to come to the aid of Aragorn now?
2. What did Aragorn promise the dead in return for fulfilling their oaths?

**Watch scene 38**: As the enemy breaches the gate of the Citadel of Minas Tirith, Gandalf and Pippin have a brief but important exchange and contemplate the coming end.

**Discussion**: What can we learn about death from this scene?

**Watch scene 40-41**: In the final battle of Pelennor Fields, King Theoden is struck from his horse and mortally wounded by the Lord of the Nazgul, commander of Sauron’s forces. Lady Eowyn defends the fallen king, as does Pippin.

**Discussion:** In these scenes, both Hobbit, Pippin, and a maiden, Eowyn, prove their courage and determination, dramatically helping turn the tide of the battle of Minas Tirith. What truths can we take from these scenes regarding strength or bravery—or even possibility?

**Watch scenes 53-54**: Sam carries the greatly weakened Frodo up Mount Doom. They are attacked by Gollum as the battle with the legions of Sauron rages below.

1. Whey is the Ring so unbearably heavy for Frodo?
2. Why does Frodo’s resolve crumble at the brink of the fires of Doom?
3. What cause the Dark Tower to fall?

**Discussion**: Has Frodo fulfilled his mission or not? If you feel Frodo has failed, how great is his guilt? Has he been successful in any way? Should he be considered a hero?

**Watch scene 57**: When Aragorn is at last crowned King of Gondor, he acknowledges his comrades in arms and his love, Arwen. At last he bows down before the Hobbits saying, “My friends, you bow to no one.” Why does he do this?