



INTERVARSITY  
URBANA15



**A Call To Mission = A Call To Be Transformed**

*#urbana15*

# Homeward Bound

J. R. Tolkien, *Return of The King*

# Jonah: God shows us our sin

Read Jonah 3:1-5,10, 4:1-11

- 1. What was Jonah's response to the success of his mission?*
- 2. Why did he respond like this?*
- 3. What did God want to teach Jonah through his mission? How was God showing his transforming grace to Jonah here?*
- 4. Can you think of a time when God called you to minister to someone who is different to you and you learnt something new about your sin?*

# Paul: God shows us our weakness

Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-9, 12:1-10

- 1. What was cross-cultural ministry like for Paul? How did it make him feel?*
- 2. What was God's response to Paul's prayers for deliverance?*
- 3. What did God want to teach Paul through cross-cultural mission? How was God showing his transforming grace to Paul?*
- 4. Can you think of a time when God showed you your weakness? What did you learn through that?*

# Paul: God shows us our weakness

"Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps you understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right, and stopping the leaks in the roof, and so on: you knew these jobs needed doing and you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably, and does not seem to make sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from one you thought of - throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were going to be made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself."

C. S. Lewis *Mere Christianity*

# Abraham: God shows us where's home

Read Hebrews 11:8-16

- 1. What did God call Abraham to do and what was his response?*
- 2. What kind of life did Abraham lead?*
- 3. What did God teach Abraham through calling him to leave his home? How was he showing him his transforming grace?*
- 4. What effect might it have on us if we saw ourselves as foreigners on earth?*

# Abraham: God shows us where's home

"Alas! There are some wounds that cannot be wholly cured," said Gandalf.

"I fear it may be so with mine," said Frodo. "There is no real going back. Though I may come to the Shire, it will not be the same, for I shall not be the same. I am wounded with knife, sting, and tooth, and a long burden. Where shall I find rest?"

R Tolkien, *The Return of The King*

# A call to mission = a call to be transformed

- God shows us our Sin
- God shows us our Weakness
- God shows us where's Home