



## ***Student Activity***

### **Nelson Mandela** **Great Hearts of Courage**

#### **Vocabulary:**

Boers, Afrikaners, townships, Draconian laws, advocacy, guerillas, sabotage, sanctions, humility, autocrat, autocratic

#### **Pre-Viewing Discussion:**

Why is Nelson Mandela such a renowned political figure?

What was Apartheid? What was the A.N.C.?

What motion pictures were based on injustices suffered under Apartheid? What did you learn about Apartheid from watching them?

How old was Nelson Mandela when he was released from prison? When did he become President of South Africa? How long did he serve as President?

#### **Post-Viewing Discussion:**

Why was Nelson Mandela able to connect with both Blacks and Whites in South Africa? What incidents in the documentary indicated that he did not see people as Black or White? What did his early education have to do with this?

Why did Mandela change his views about non-violence? Was he guilty of high treason? Should he have been imprisoned?

How was he able to maintain his spirit of forgiveness and humility while he was in prison? What did he understand that other political prisoners did not?

Why are statesmen, kings and queens, and ordinary citizens the world over so enamored with Nelson Mandela?

**Further Activities:**

Find other personal accounts of conditions under Apartheid. Attempt to understand the variety of attitudes people held toward this political system.

Interview a family member or older person who remembers Apartheid and the world's reaction to Nelson Mandela's imprisonment.

Research the lives of ANC members who did not survive their experiences in Robben Prison.

Find firsthand accounts of the Soweto Uprising and its effect on South African politics.