



## "God's Larger Story in the World of Missions"

*Mission Sunday*

*Luke 24:36-53*

*Meditation Dr. Peter B. Barnes*

May 15, 2011

### Introduction

Our son Jason has been living in Houston working at a church there doing youth ministry. Earlier this year he started seeing a young woman, and they went out a few times. One day a couple of months ago I asked him how it was going with Laura, and he said, "Oh, it's over."

"Over? Didn't you just start dating her?"

"Yeah, but I could tell it wasn't going to go anywhere, and the relationship didn't have a future."

"Why?"

"Well, #1 she never wants to leave Houston, and I'm not going to stay here forever, and #2 she doesn't like *"Lord of the Rings!"*

If someone doesn't understand one of the greatest meta-narratives in modern Western literature, then there's no sense wasting your time pursuing a relationship with that person!

The *Lord of the Rings* is a wonderful trilogy of books which is a story about redemption and the triumph of good over evil. It is the story of Frodo and Samwise Gamgee and the Fellowship of the ring. Each had their own personal stories, but here was a much larger story of redemption of which their own smaller stories were a part.

The same is true for us. Each of us has a story, but our stories fit into God's larger story, and we are invited to join Him on His mission of love for a lost and broken world.

The mission statement of our church is that **WHPC's mission is "to invite people into God's larger story as we follow Christ together."**

**This morning, we have an opportunity to hear the stories of two of our mission partners as they share with us what God is doing in His larger story in another part of the world. Paul Friesen and Susie Frierichs.**

Please listen to their stories (click on the audio file).

