



C.S. Lewis

"If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world."

Clive Staples Lewis (1898-1963) is still beloved today for the wondrous stories he created in the *Chronicles of Narnia*, but his life was about much more. Lewis was born in Northern Ireland to a highly educated family. He lost his mother at the age of 9, and then spent his formative years away from home preparing for the university. Before attending Oxford, he fought with the British army in France during World War I. Upon returning, he thrived as a student and became a professor. In the years that followed, Lewis experienced a transformation that would have huge significance for the world. After drifting into atheism as a youth, Lewis embraced Christianity, not only adopting the faith but becoming one of its most outspoken apologists. He began writing popular books that incorporated Christian themes, such as *The Screwtape Letters*, an imaginary set of letters between a demon and his apprentice. He also composed theological writings defending the truth of Christianity that were highly regarded. During World War II, he appeared on a series of radio shows on the BBC to share his beliefs, which later became the foundation for *Mere Christianity*, still considered the most important apologetic work of the 20th century. Beyond his work, Lewis was part of a group of writers at Oxford University called the Inklings, which included *Lord of the Rings* creator J.R.R. Tolkien. Lewis experienced the extremes of life, marrying an American woman named Joy in 1956 only to see her die of cancer in 1960. In response, Lewis did the best he could, writing an intimate book about his grief in an attempt to help others going through the same thing. He passed away in 1963 as one of England's most celebrated authors.

C.S. Lewis brought not only immense joy to people through his marvelous stories, but he also strengthened the beliefs of many with his thoughtful arguments for faith. We honor his life and work that continues to impact the world to this day.