

Discussion Guide for Desecration

Just-for-Fun Facts

- 1) How far is it from Mizpe Ramon to Petra?
- 2) Explain what Operation Eagle is and identify the Bible verse upon which the name is based.
- 3) What is David Hassid's greatest worry after the crash and the faked deaths of the Quasi Two quartet?
- 4) What is the name of the female uniformed guard who is struck with catatonic paralysis when she attempts to shoot Micah for calling the risen potentate by his name, Carpathia?
- 5) What is the significance of Chaim's asking to be called Micah for his assignment in Jerusalem?
- 6) What is the name of the boy who is searching for Mr. Miklos in the old dump?

Discussion Questions

Prayer

- 7) How does it make you feel to see Chaim struggle in prayer about his upcoming assignment to confront the Antichrist on the Via Dolorosa? What do you recall about similar struggles you may have encountered on the night before a major event in your life?
- 8) How have your prayers for the salvation of loved ones and others been answered? What is your personal reaction to seeing Chang's mother begin to question Nicolae's motives? (see pp. 226, 389, and 395)
- 9) When Chaim/Micah offers a prayer of praise to God after his sermon (see p. 233), how does it remind us to acknowledge God's glory in all his grace toward mankind? How do you feel about those characters who ran from God's love?

Boldness

- 10) How would you respond to being asked by God to speak on his behalf, as Buck was in the hotel room during Chaim's soul-searching prayer? (see p. 15)
- 11) What sorts of thoughts and feelings does Micah's commentary on Nicolae's statements and acts in the temple (see p. 169) trigger in you? Do you identify with Micah's response? If so, how?
- 12) When you consider Hattie's confrontation with Nicolae (see p. 55), how has God encouraged and enabled you to boldly proclaim the truth in the presence of unmitigated evil?
- 13) How does George Sebastian's obedience and courage (see pp. 371—80 and 396—98) inspire you?

Sharing Faith

- 14) How would you describe the ways in which God empowered Micah to share the gospel with the unbelieving Israeli Jews (see pp. 227—28 and 231—33)?
- 15) With whom would you identify more Albie or Rayford in using the fifty-calibers on the GC troops (see pp. 192, 195, 223, and 287—88)? Why?
- 16) Which other great sermons in the history of the church does Micah's sermon to the unbelieving Israeli Jews (see pp. 230—32) remind you of? In what ways are they similar?

Prophecy

- 17) Why do you think Carpathia ignores Micah's prophetic warning that the second (bowl) judgment will rain down if Nicolae attempts to lay a hand on one of God's chosen people? (see p. 181)
- 18) Describe the first judgment (the plague of boils) that afflicts those who take the mark and worship the image of the beast (Revelation 16:1-2, the first Bowl Judgment). What gut reaction does this evoke in you to see the suffering this judgment causes?
- 19) Then I heard a mighty voice shouting from the Temple to the seven angels, Now go your ways and empty out the seven bowls of God's wrath on the earth. So the first angel left the Temple and poured out his bowl over the earth, and horrible, malignant sores broke out on everyone who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his statue. (Revelation 16:1-2) It had escaped Buck's notice that the prophecy was being

fulfilled, but not Micah's. How do you think this fulfillment relates to Micah commencing his mission?

Fellowship

- 20) Thinking about David Hassid and Hannah Palemoon, can you describe how the resolution of interpersonal problems within the church body have both challenged and surprised you?
- 21) What evidence is there that the believers discovered at The Place (see pp. 307—11 and 391) bear the fruit of fellowship?

God's Sovereignty

- 22) Do you remember times when God may have allowed painful things to come into your life to redirect you, such as when Rayford forgot to use earplugs while firing the fifty-caliber? (see p. 230)
- 23) Why do you suppose God healed Rayford through the archangel Michael (see p. 235)? Can you think of other times when God has acted supernaturally to heal someone so they can glorify him further?
- 24) Taking into account Rayford's attitude toward the threatening GC chopper and Mac's attitude toward the GC chasing him on the ground (see pp. 240, 243, 245, and 248), how do you think you would respond in similar circumstances?

Answer Key for *Desecration* Just-for-Fun Facts

- 1) about fifty miles (see pp. 42 and 173).
- 2) The plan to transport all Israeli Jews who have chosen to believe Jesus the Christ is their Messiah to Petra, where God has promised to protect them from the Antichrist (see pp. 2 and 132). Based on Revelation 12:14: But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.
- 3) Chang Wong's safety while remaining at GC headquarters (see p. 20)
- 4) Corporal Riehl (see p. 114)
- 5) He feels God has called him into a new personhood like a prophet of old. Also, Micah is an anagram of his own name, Chaim. (see p. 94)
- 6) Marcel Papadopoulos (see p. 298)