

Discussion Guide for The Remnant

Just-for-Fun Facts

- 1) What are the black poles attached to the two warheads floating down toward the assembled masses?
- 2) Where did George Sebastian hide his arsenal on the Rooster Tail he flew into Greece?
- 3) What is the fine print to which Socrates refers when Mac goes to the shack expecting to find George Sebastian?
- 4) Why does Carpathia want to see the view from the front side of the loyalty enforcement facilitator on the live video feed from Region 0?
- 5) What is the name of the elder's daughter who works on the computers at Petra?
- 6) What are the names of the three angels who have come to preach to the Muslims in China?
- 7) Which of the angels tells Ming something that she wants to know but is afraid to ask? What does he tell her?
- 8) Why does Mac think the archangel Michael likes to be called Roger instead?

Discussion Questions

Prayer

- 9) Chang is a computer genius, maybe even more skilled than his predecessor David. Nonetheless, when Chang realizes that Mac's charade in Ptolemaïs is crumbling, he falls immediately to his knees and asks for God's help in solving the problem (see pp. 141–142). Sometimes we tend to exhaust the limits of our own capabilities first and ask for God's help only after our efforts have failed. What do we learn from young Chang here? Share times when you or someone you were with decided to pray first. Or conversely, recall a time when prayer came as a last resort.

Boldness

- 10) After a harrowing night of being held prisoner by a GC hostage team in Greece, George Sebastian is informed by his captors that they will shoot him if he doesn't cooperate (see p. 39). George has every reason to believe they will do as they say, but he does not crumble. He accepts the probability of his own death with a calm spirit and the hope of heaven. None of us can know for certain how we would react to such horrifying circumstances, but see if you can share your feelings about facing such a situation.

Sharing Faith

- 11) Many people have been converted by reading the Word of God from a Bible someone gave them. Woo experienced such a conversion (see p. 262). If you were converted by reading a Bible someone gave you, give an account of that experience to the group. Also, discuss the power of God's Word to touch the lives of unbelievers.
- 12) As they are flying to Argentina, Rayford asks Lionel Whalum how he became a believer. Lionel says he loves it when people ask (see p. 310). Why do you think some people have the opposite reaction when people ask them how they became a believer? Describe your feelings about being asked this question.

Prophecy

- 13) Tsion is preaching to the assembled community living in Petra. He tells them Joel wrote that God is merciful, slow to anger, and abundant in loving-kindness. He relents from doing harm. Then to emphasize the point he tells them that Jonah wrote the same thing about God 125 years after Joel was born. And Moses said the same thing fifteen hundred years before these men lived. Tsion tells the crowd that those are the views of the prophets. Then he asks them where they get their view (see p. 230). Where do you get your view of God?
- 14) Rayford, Tsion, Chaim, and the elders of the community at Petra are discussing leadership issues and the fate of those in Petra who still have not given their hearts to God even after all the love, power, and protection God has lavished upon them in that place (see p. 119). Rayford cannot comprehend how anyone can remain undecided after experiencing God's miraculous intervention firsthand, but Tsion gently reminds him that such an ungrateful and irrational reaction is beyond human understanding. He goes on to say that God foretold it. Find the passage in the Bible to which Tsion is referring. What do those who refuse to acknowledge God and receive his mercy give as reasons for their repudiation?
- 15) Dr. Tsion Ben-Judah begins his first teaching since making the decision to emphasize God's mercy in all of his preaching from now on. He quotes from the fourteenth chapter of the Gospel of John, repeating the promise of Jesus that in his father's house there are many mansions and he is going ahead to prepare a place for believers (see p. 228). The challenge here is to live our lives based on this promise. If we live in this way, we will not have troubled hearts. Recall times when your heart has been troubled and how this promise restored the peace that Jesus provides.

Fellowship

- 16) Chloe and Hannah have just met Costas and Mrs. Pappas and are telling them about the plan to liberate George Sebastian. Chloe shares more information than is necessary, giving them details that could be harmful to the Trib Force and others if the Christians in Ptolemais are somehow compromised. Hannah attempts to gently reprove her (see pp. 44–46). Unsuccessful, Hannah patiently endures Chloe's impetuous and imprudent behavior. Discuss times when you have been in a situation like this with Christian brothers and sisters. Tell how you chose to handle these situations and why.
- 17) Tsion, Chaim, the elders, and Rayford are walking around Petra, discussing Tsion's thoughts about his ministry and gifts as a pastor-teacher (see p. 123). Tsion mentions his Internet audience of a billion and admits that he is unable to picture a group that big. He knows it would equal ten thousand stadiums, each filled with a hundred thousand people, but that is what he means. He simply cannot imagine that many people. Whether you are a member of a big congregation or a small church, there are probably some people you have not yet gotten to know as a brother or a sister. Try to imagine the glory of billions of people praising God and worshiping him in both spirit and truth. How does this make you feel?

God's Sovereignty

- 18) Rayford is flabbergasted by Tsion Ben-Judah's desire to be held accountable to him (see pp. 110–111). Tsion tells Rayford, "But God put you in a strategic place for me at a very dark time in my life." Discuss times when God has strategically used brothers and sisters in your life for your benefit. How did you feel about it? How did the other person react?
- 19) When Naomi initiates a program David had written that allows a computer in Petra to check on the palace computers, Chang gets a warning signal on his PC (see pp. 209–213). It scares Chang terribly but leads him to stop and pray. In a similar vein, we often hear about an acquaintance who gets an X ray for a relatively harmless problem only to find out very early that she has a form of cancer. Without the early warning she would have probably died from the disease. Or someone else gets a flat tire only to miss being involved in a terrible accident up the road. Talk about times when God has led you, your friends, or your loved ones into frightening circumstances only to find out later it was for a much greater good.

Answer Key for *The Remnant* Just-for-Fun Facts

- 1) The black poles attached to the noses of each bomb are standoff probes that detonate the warheads above the surface for a more devastating effect. (see p. 3)
- 2) George Sebastian hid his arsenal in the Rooster Tail he flew into Greece in a secret compartment inside the cargo hold behind panels. (see p. 36)
- 3) The fine print to which Socrates refers is that the hostage team has the right to move the prisoner at any time without informing the GC until they have reached their destination. (see p. 103)
- 4) Carpathia wants to see the front side of the guillotine so he can watch the heads drop into the bucket after they have been separated from the bodies of those refusing the mark. (see p. 203)
- 5) The young woman's name who works on the computers at Petra is Naomi. (see p. 212)
- 6) The names of the three angels Ming first met in China are Christopher, Nahum, and Caleb. (see p. 289)
- 7) The angel Christopher tells Ming that her mother will be alive to see the glorious appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ. (see p. 296)
- 8) Because when George assumes he's talking to Michael, Michael responds with the radio communication word for *yes* which is *roger*. (see pp. 214, 219)