



The Noticer

by Andy Andrews

ADULT SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The title character of the old man in the book – Jones – is “the noticer.” He seems to show up repeatedly where people are experiencing tough times. In this country today, we are experiencing challenges with finance, health, and relationships that some of us have never dealt with before, and it is scary. How does Jones’ proof of hope line up with our Christian beliefs?

In chapter 1, Jones says, “What would you think if I told you that, yes, your bad choices and decisions have had a part in your ending up under this pier, but beyond that, under pier is exactly where you should be in order for a future to occur that you can’t even imagine at this point?” Is there a specific experience in your life that made no sense to you at the time, but now you know it was imperative that you experience it in order to be where you are today?

Jones talks to a young business person named Henry about the principles of forgiveness. Though there is an issue at home for Henry, most of his challenges are with clients. How does one forgive someone who obviously doesn’t care if they’re forgiven or not?

Henry took Jones’ advice, and it didn’t work. Or at least it didn’t work like he thought it should have. Why does an apology sometimes seem not to work?

Walker’s idea of happiness is expressed as “an elusive, moving target that seemed to perpetually flit just beyond his grasp. His thoughts were consumed by possibilities of problems and mistakes, personal slights and professional sabotage.” How can a person’s success be sabotaged by his or her own inability to be happy? Has there ever been a time in your life when your own inability to be happy got in the way of your success?

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Self-perceptions can dictate your success. How does knowing that “every single action a person takes has far-reaching consequences” change your self-perception?

In chapter 5, Jones tells Willow, “If you are [still] alive, then you are still here, physically, on this planet. If you are still here, they you have not completed what you were put on earth to do.”

The first thing Jones ever said to Andy and the boy Jason at the pier was, “Move into the light.” Why was this so important to hear first? What does this mean to you?

Do you have a “Jones” in your life? Are you a “Jones” to anyone else? How can you make changes in your life to show your faith through bringing perspective?

How will you share what you’ve learned in this book with others? Do you think the life lessons taught throughout the book are lessons that line up with your faith? How will your Christian life be different now that you have a better understanding of “perspective?”

