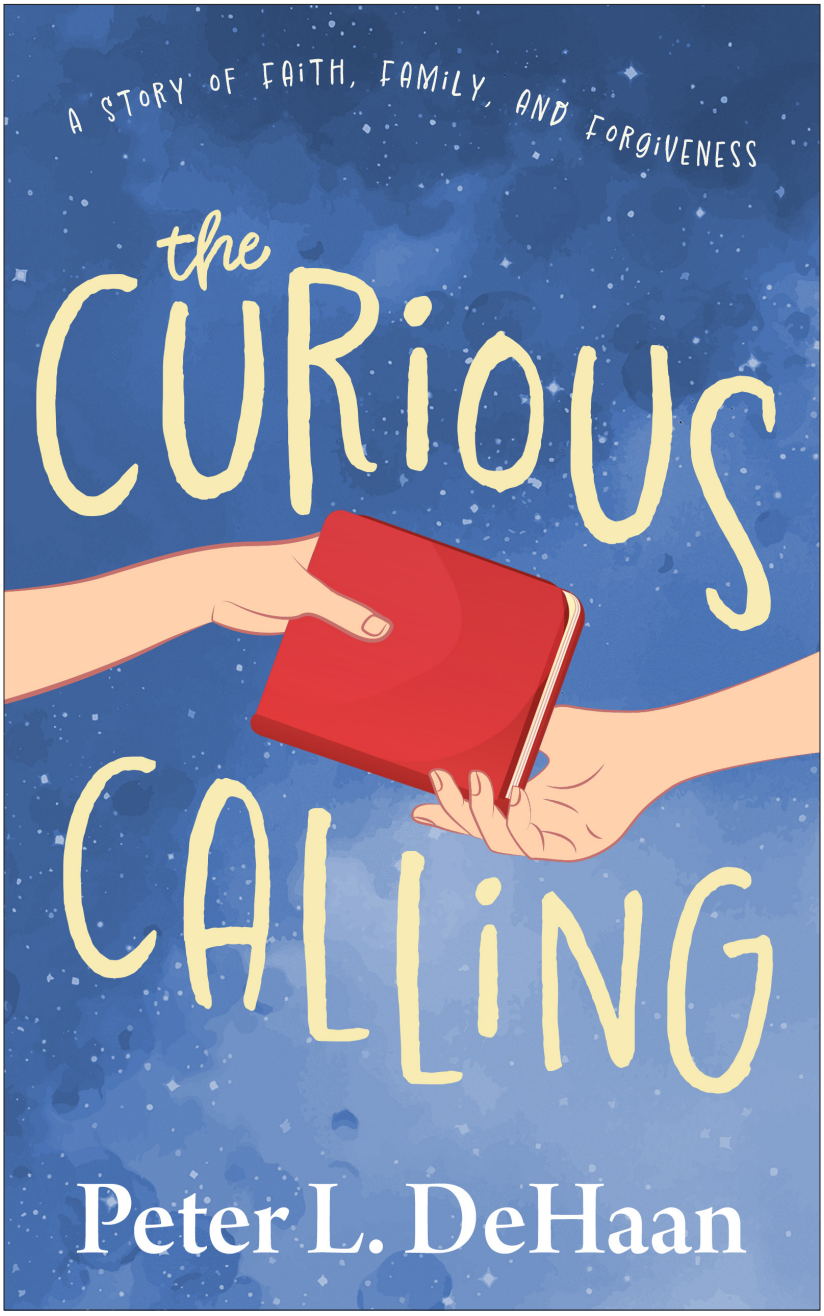


Discussion Guide for

The Curious Calling

by Peter L. DeHaan

For middle school classes

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How to Use This Guide

Please finish the book first, or finish each chapter group before discussing it. The questions mention later events in the story.

Work through the chapter sections in order, or choose the groups that fit your class period. There are no right or wrong answers—share what stood out to you. Save the whole-book questions for the end of your discussion.

Chapters 1–5: Lily Gets Her Book and First Instructions

Lily receives a new book from God that gives her messages, and she learns to listen, pray, and obey while cheering for Shea and starting to be mentored.

1. What did Lily hope the gift from Madison would be, and how did she feel when it turned out to be a different book?

2. Why did Lily pray about the book even though she felt awkward at first?

3. What happened when Lily cheered for Shea at the game, and how did it help Shea?

4. Why did Lily ask Mrs. Monroe to mentor her, and what did they start doing together?

Chapters 6–10: Hard Instructions and Hard News

Lily gets tough messages like visiting her mom and surprising Michael, faces disappointment, and learns her mom used her name to get credit.

1. How did Lily feel when she saw the message “Visit your mom in prison,” and what did she do about it at first?

2. What went wrong when Lily tried to surprise Michael, and how did Madison help her?

3. Why did Lily cross out one of the messages, and what did she learn later about obeying anyway?

4. How did Dad help Lily with her credit problem, and what did she learn about identity theft?

Chapters 11–15: New Steps of Faith

Lily makes up with Michael, finds ways to serve at church, befriends Bree, starts a Bible study at school, and learns what Jesus said about forgiveness.

1. On the drive back to Michael's college, what did Lily tell him she was sorry for?
2. How did Lily try to help Bree after Bree hurt her ankle?
3. Why did Lily and Madison start reading John together at lunch, and who joined them?
4. When Lily's book told her to forgive her mom, what story from Jesus did Madison share to explain why forgiving matters?

Chapters 16–20: Obeying Even When It Is Hard

Lily is taken to the police station, learns to respect authority, forgives her mom, visits her in prison, and receives four new instructions.

1. What did Lily say to the officer after she was handcuffed, and why was that hard for her?
2. How did Lily feel when she finally visited her mom, and what changed in their talk?
3. Why did Lily choose mercy instead of filing a complaint against the officer?
4. What new instructions did Lily get after forgiving her mom, and how did she feel about them?

Chapters 21–25: Final Lessons and Big Decisions

Lily learns to let someone down kindly, plants a seed with Jason's mom, pays rent like family, asks the Monroes to adopt her, and learns who needs the book next.

1. Why did Lily say no to Ian's date, and how did she let him down kindly?
2. What happened when Lily and Madison met Jason's mom, and what did Lily say that helped?
3. Why did Lily give Dad her first rent check, and how did it make her feel more like family?
4. What big question did Lily ask the Monroes on Sunday, and what did they say?

Whole-Book Discussion Questions

1. What is one way Lily changed from the first chapter to the last?

2. How did praying help Lily when she felt scared or unsure?

3. Why is it important to obey God even when the message is hard?

4. How did the Monroe family show Lily what a real family can be like?

5. What did Lily learn about forgiving people who hurt her?

6. Which message from the book surprised you the most, and why?

7. How did cheering for Shea and helping Bree show God's love to others?

8. Why did Lily want to be adopted by the Monroes?

9. What lesson about listening to God do you want to remember?

10. How did Madison help Lily grow in faith?

11. What would you have done if you got one of Lily's hard instructions?

12. How does this story show that God cares about every part of our lives?

About the Author

Peter L. DeHaan is an adult who dreams of being a teenager. When he's not contemplating grown-up thoughts, his mind retreats to the domain of invented worlds with his loyal and most real, yet still imaginary, friends. What grand adventures they have: righting wrongs, solving problems, and making their world a better place to live.

Read the Rest of The Curious Gift Series

The Curious Calling is book 2 of The Curious Gift Series. The full series:

1. The Curious Gift
2. The Curious Calling
3. **The Curious Command**

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