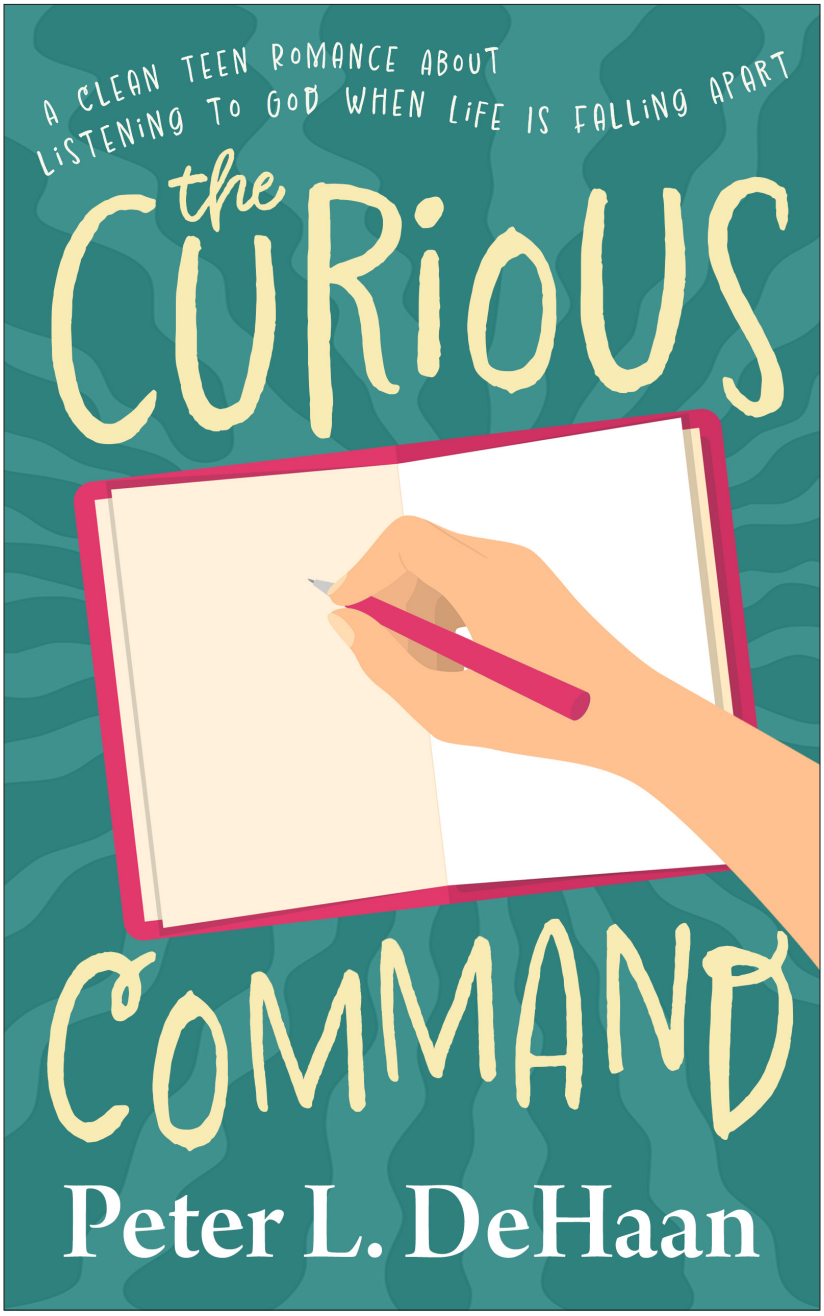


Discussion Guide for

The Curious Command

by Peter L. DeHaan

For middle school classes

PeterLDeHaan.com

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: A Bad Day and a Curious Book

Jason gets angry, leaves home, and forgets to meet Madison. Madison and Lily give him a book that starts to show him what God wants him to do, and he starts helping at home.

1. What do Madison and Lily give Jason, and what advice do they give him about it?

2. How does Claudia help Mom get to work on time?

3. What chores does Jason do to help his mom?

4. What is the first instruction in Jason's book, and how does he feel about it?

Chapters 6–10: Church, a Movie, and Dinner with Dad

Jason sits with Claudia at church and asks his teacher to pray for him. He spends Sunday afternoon with his sister, tries to talk with Mom about Dad, and has dinner with Dad.

1. Why does Jason ask Mr. Costner to pray for him?

2. What Bible verse does Jason share with Claudia, and why does it help her?

3. What happens when Jason talks to Mom about Dad?

4. What surprise does Dad show Jason at the end of their drive?

Chapters 11–14: Listening and Telling the Truth

Mom is upset when Jason comes home late, but later she listens and shares the family's problems. Jason tells Claudia about Dad, and Lily helps Claudia think about God as her heavenly Father.

1. Why was Claudia scared, and how did Jason comfort her?

2. What did Mom share with Jason when he listened to her?

3. What does Jason learn about spending time with God every day?

4. What happy memories does Claudia share about her dad?

Chapters 15–19: Pizza, Plans, and a Big Bow

Claudia sees Dad again over pizza, Jason decides to become an electrician, Dad gives Mom a new car with a big red bow, and Jason plans a surprise lunch.

1. How does Claudia act when she sees Dad again?

2. Why does Jason decide to become an electrician?

3. How does Mom react to the new car at first?

4. How does Jason get his mom and dad to sit down and talk?

Chapters 20–23: Moving Day and a New Beginning

Friends come to help the family move, but Mom doesn't come. Jason prays and waits. When Mom finally comes home, the family starts over, and Jason asks Madison to marry him.

1. Who shows up to help with the move, and why does Madison say they came?

2. How does Jason show he cares about Mom while she stays away?

3. Where does Jason find Mom on Saturday morning?

4. How does Jason ask Madison to marry him, and what does she say?

Whole-Book Discussion Questions

1. How does Jason change from the first chapter to the last?

2. Which instruction in the book surprised you most?

3. How does Jason become a better big brother to Claudia?

4. Why do you think Mom was so angry for so much of the story?

5. How did Madison and Lily help Jason?

6. What did Dad do to show he was sorry?

7. What does it mean to spend time with God?

8. Why is it important to pray before a hard conversation?

9. How did forgiveness help the Hayes family come back together?

10. Which scene would you most like to see in a movie?

11. Which character reminded you of someone you know?

12. What is one way you can invest in a relationship this week?

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 Command is book 3 of The Curious Gift Series. The full series:

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

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