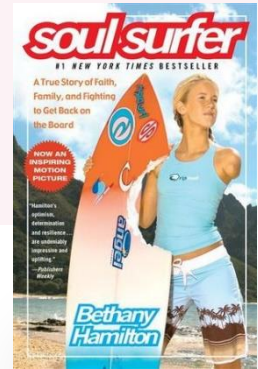




PARTICIPANT GUIDE

SOUL SURFER BY BETHANY HAMILTON



"I don't pretend to have all the answers to why bad things happen to good people. But I do know that God knows all those answers, and sometimes He lets you know in this life, and sometimes He asks you to wait so you that you can have a face-to-face talk about it."

BETHANY HAMILTON



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1

Q. What did you find most inspirational about Bethany's story?

2

Q. How did Bethany's family contribute to her healing, strengthened faith, and determination after the shark attack?

3

Q. On page 106, Bethany asks the question "Why me? Why did God choose me and what does He have in mind for me?" Can you relate to how Bethany was feeling?

4

Q. Bethany's response to "Why would you still believe in God?" is; "It's a tremendous relief to be able to put your trust in God and take the burden off your own shoulders" (p135). Do you trust God with your burdens, or do you hold onto them yourself out of fear?

5

Q. "I always try to say something about my belief in God" (p140). Do you share your faith at every opportunity?

6

Q. "You can do it...but quickly another voice inside my head yelled back, "Forget it, you're going to fail" (p179). Can you relate to Bethany's inner dialogue? How do you conquer feelings of inadequacy?



7

Q. Bethany says where we put our hope is crucial; "The only thing that will never...fail you is your faith in God"(p206). Is your hope and faith in Christ, or do you tend to rely on your own strength?

8

Q. "Father Damien" is a role model to Bethany (p136). Share an inspirational person or role model in your life.

9

Q. Bethany has a beautiful perspective on the sovereignty of God. She says; "So I think this was God's plan for me all along. I am not saying that God made the shark bite me. He knew it would happen, and He made a way for my life to be happy and meaningful in spite of it happening." (p208). Discuss.

10

Q. Bethany's story shows us that a relationship with Christ means no matter our circumstances, good things can come out of a bad situation. Share a time in your life where this has proven to be true.

