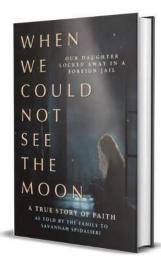
Book Club Discussion Prompts

WHEN WE COULD NOT SEE THE MOON

Our Daughter Locked Away in a Foreign Jail

As told by the family (Jan and Tammy de Weerd) to Savannah Spidalieri www.whenwecouldnotseethemoon.com



GENERAL DISCUSSION

- 1. Understanding the Experience
 - a. Why do you think this family shared this very personal, harrowing story? Would you have shared this experience?
 - b. What emotions or insights did this story evoke for you?
 - c. How did the family's journey reshape your perspective on handling crises?
- 2. Empathy and Support
 - a. How would you respond if a friend or family member faced a similar situation?
 - b. What practical or emotional support could you offer if they were far away or out of reach?

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FOR PARENTS

1. Preparation for Teen and Young Adult Travel

- a. What routines or precautions do you have in place when your children travel?
- b. What safety advice or resources should parents share with their kids before international trips?

2. Parenting During a Crisis

- a. How would you manage your emotions and responsibilities if your child was detained or in danger far from home?
- b. What steps can parents take to ensure their children know how to navigate emergencies abroad?

3. Balancing Freedom and Oversight

- a. How do you give your children independence while staying informed about their plans?
- b. Reflect on any changes you might make after reading this book.

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FOR PEOPLE OF FAITH

1. Faith as a Foundation

- a. How did the family's faith influence their actions and decisions during the crisis? Was there a specific moment in the book that spoke to you?
- b. Reflect on how your faith has guided you during your own challenges.

2. Community and Prayer

- a. How can a faith community support individuals or families in crisis?
- b. Do you turn to prayer or spiritual practices when you face the unknown? Why or why not?

3. Spiritual Resilience

- a. What does the book teach about maintaining hope and trust in God during extended adversity?
- b. Are there Bible verses or faith-based strategies that you rely on during difficult times?

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FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

1. Being a Pillar of Support

- a. How can friends and family provide meaningful help without overstepping boundaries during a crisis?
- b. Reflect on ways to communicate love and support when words might feel inadequate.

2. Boundaries and Self-Care

- a. Supporting someone in crisis can be emotionally taxing. How do you balance helping others with taking care of yourself?
- 3. Lessons in Community
 - a. How does the story emphasize the importance of unity and friendship?
 - b. Reflect on moments in your life when your "village" played a pivotal role.

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PERSONAL REFLECTION

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a. Are you the type who handles personal crises alone, or do you lean on your "village" How does this choice affect your journey through challenges?

2. Growth Through Adversity

a. Think about a past crisis you experienced. What lessons or strengths emerged, and how do they align with themes in the book?

3. Vulnerability and Strength

a. Do you find it easy or difficult to ask for help? Why do you think that is, and how might it change?

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PRACTICAL REFERENCES AND RESOURCES

- 1. Government Assistance for American Citizens
 - a. Discuss the role of U.S. embassies and consulates in providing aid to detained or endangered citizens abroad.
 - b. What steps can families take to contact their embassy in an emergency?
- 2. Non-Profit and Humanitarian Organizations
 - a. Highlight organizations that offer legal aid, crisis management, and family support in international disputes or detentions.
 - b. Share tips on identifying credible organizations and resources.
- 3. Preparedness and Awareness
 - a. What essential documents (e.g., travel insurance, emergency contacts, copies of IDs) should travelers have in case of emergencies?
 - b. Discuss how to research local laws and cultural practices before traveling to reduce risks.

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