

Betrayed

by Jeanette Windle



About the Book

This action-packed international thriller brings readers to Guatemala, where anthropologist Vicki Andrews discovers that her sister has been murdered. Guatemalan authorities dismiss her death as another of the country's frequent muggings or a kidnap-for-ransom, but Vicki refuses to accept their verdict. Vicki launches her own investigation and uncovers corruption buried so deep that crossing international lines may cost Vicki her life.

Discussion Guide

1. "The end justifies the means" is a well-known phrase. Unfortunately, one cannot guarantee that the chosen "means" will ever produce the desired "end." Can you think of historic or current events where questionable means, even with good intentions, resulted in unplanned and undesired consequences? In **Betrayed**, what long-term effect did an "end-justifies-the-means" philosophy have on Central America and US involvement in the region?
2. When in crisis and frantic to make safe and wise decisions, Vicki is given the Sarah's daughter challenge: "You are [Sarah's] daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear" (1 Peter 3:6). In what crisis situations did the biblical Sarah find herself (Genesis 12:10-20; 20:1-18)? What role did her husband, Abraham, play in her predicament? From where --- and whom --- did her deliverance finally come?
3. What resulted from the one instance when the biblical Sarah forgot this principle (Genesis 16)? What consequences has this single wrong decision had for human history ever since?
4. One of the characters makes the comment: "It's all personal. It's all I, because as long as I can make it we, I don't have to make my own decision at the time on the spot as to the right thing to do." What does he mean by this? What does this mean in your own life?

5. In **Betrayed**, when certain decisions are made based on fear of future possibilities rather than what is morally right, what is this character saying about God's sovereignty and foresight? What assumption is the person making in determining that a morally wrong decision (or means) *today* is acceptable because it is necessary to secure a desirable end *tomorrow*?

6. Have you or someone you've known ever made a decision based on fear rather than right? What were the long-term consequences?

7. In the last chapter, a protagonist says to Vicki: "We were never called to save the whole world, just do our part. You're the one who told me what we're called to do, the difference one person can make." What had Vicki told this person?

8. If individual wrong decisions have impacted entire nations and changed the course of history, what could be the result of enough individuals accepting with Vicki the Sarah's daughter challenge: "Do what is right, and do not give way to fear"?

9. Is there a dilemma or crisis in your life right now to which this principle should be applied?

Author Bio

As the child of missionary parents, award-winning author and journalist Jeanette Windle grew up in the rural villages, jungles, and mountains of Colombia, now guerrilla hot zones. Her detailed research and writing is so realistic that it has prompted government agencies to question her to determine if she has received classified information. Currently based in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Jeanette has lived in six countries and traveled in more than 20. She has more than a dozen books in print, including **BETRAYED**, **VEILED FREEDOM** and **FREEDOM'S STAND**, as well as the political/suspense bestseller **CROSSFIRE**.

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