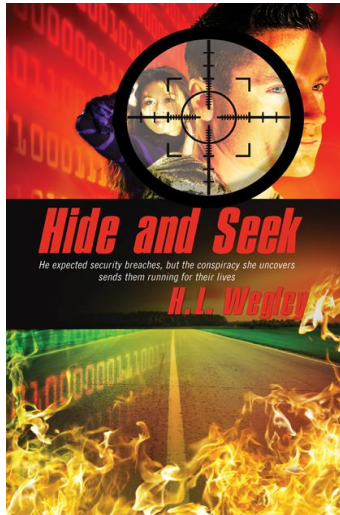


Discussion Questions



HIDE AND SEEK

Pure Genius Series

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About the Book

A computer security breach within a US defense contractor's firewalls leads investigators, Lee Brandt and beautiful, brilliant Jennifer Akihara, onto the cyber-turf of terrorists, where they are detected and targeted for elimination. Lee leads them on a desperate and prayer-filled flight for survival into the mountains of the Pacific Northwest. Will Jennifer's pursuit of truth about the conspiracy, and the deepest issues of life, lead her into the clutches of terrorists, into the arms of Lee Brandt, or into the arms of the God she deems untrustworthy?

TITLE: Hide and Seek

Discussion:

Question 1: Lee's supervisor, Barry, is not a people person. He seems to put his own agenda first, manipulating his people rather than managing them well. It is difficult to have respect for such a boss. But showing respect for your boss's position and authority is important for anyone who claims to be a follower of Christ. How well does Lee do in showing respect for Barry's authority? Is Lee's spirited defense of Jennifer, in the face of Barry's threats, warranted? If not, what should Lee have done when Barry threatened Jennifer and Lee with legal action?

Answer 1:

Question 2: The attraction level between Jennifer and Lee is high...through the roof. Knowing that Jennifer is a seeker, but not yet a believer, did Lee behave appropriately in his relationship with Jennifer? What did he do well in their pre-conversion relationship? If you were Lee and you met someone like Jennifer, what would you have done?

Answer 2:

Question 3: If you were Jennifer, with all of her reasons to distrust men, would you have trusted Lee as she did? Would you have followed his lead on their flight from the terrorists? Why or why not?

Answer 3:

Question 4: Try to imagine what it is like to contemplate God when you are a person like Jennifer, self-sufficient and having an Einstein-level IQ. What obstacles to faith in God might you have? Try to recall specific things that took Jennifer beyond the obstacles to a saving faith. Do you believe these things are limited mostly to intellectuals, or do they apply to us all?

Answer 4:

Question 5: Think about the beliefs of the Islamic jihadists, Abdul, Ratib, and Maram. How much does a person's beliefs about the nature of reality matter? What incorrect beliefs do the jihadists hold? How are those beliefs lived out in their lives? What do you believe about the nature of reality? Are you prepared to defend your beliefs against those who disagree with you?

Answer 5:

Question 6: When Jennifer and Lee discussed the presence of evil versus the existence of a good God, did you find Lee's approach to leading Jennifer through this difficult subject compelling or lacking in substance? Lee's presentation to Jennifer bumped along with

each successive response from Jennifer. In real life, such conversations seldom go smoothly. What approach would you take to help someone remove this obstacle to faith?

Answer 6:

Question 7: Jennifer developed algorithms that could efficiently reconstruct a record of an individual's activity on the Internet. Under what conditions, if any, do you think the FBI, NSA, or other government organizations should perform such investigations? How would you attempt to balance the privacy of individual people with the security of the United States and its citizens?

Answer 7:

Question 8: At one point in the story, Jennifer asks Lee if it is ever, under any conditions, OK to lie. Lee responds with an explanation of a hierarchy of moral truths. He defends lies to evil people when the lies are the only means to save innocent lives. Do you agree with his argument? Why, or why not?

Answer 8:

Question 9: The good/evil dichotomy of the Internet is obvious. What do you think should be done to stop its evil uses like terrorist activity, or crimes such as pornography, human trafficking, and drugs? What can you do to promote the good and beneficial uses of the Internet?

Answer 9

Question 10: When the customers at the diner congratulated Lee and Jennifer for their part in the war on terror, do you think their heartfelt thanks is typical of most Americans? If not, what do you think would be the attitude of the majority of Americans toward Jennifer and Lee's actions and accomplishments? What do you think is a good and just reaction by the United States to acts of terrorism by those who seek the destruction of our nation?

Answer 10:

