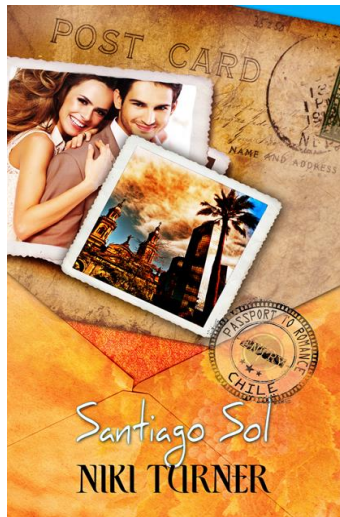


## Discussion Questions

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### **SANTIAGO SOL**

Passport to Romance

Author: Niki Turner

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### **About the Book**

When her elderly friend and mentor asks for a favor, Tansy can't refuse. But returning her friend's heirloom to its rightful owners will sweep her halfway around the world and into a twisted family history of romance, intrigue, and danger.

Frustrated by his grandfather's mounting pressure to locate a lost family treasure, Sebastian Sandoval decides that serving as a tour guide for the lovely American he met on the plane is just the distraction he needs. But the secrets they're keeping threaten both their blossoming romance and their faith in God.

TITLE: Santiago Sol

Discussion:

Question 1: Have you ever traveled to a foreign country? What was the scariest thing about it?

Answer 1: Not knowing the language and being unable to communicate was distressing, and gave me more compassion for immigrants to the U.S.

Question 2: Tansy agrees to travel to Santiago at the request of her aging friend. Is this an example of honoring your elders, being a good friend, or both?

Answer 2: Both. Tansy is acting on John 15:13, which says, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." She doesn't actually lay down her life, but she does have to lay down her fears, and her comfort zone.

Question 3: Sebastian doesn't agree with his grandfather's demands, but he's willing to submit to them anyway. Shouldn't he fight for his rights, instead of acquiescing?

Answer 3: Someone has said that the only right we have is the right to walk in love. Sebastian would rather step aside, giving up his "rights" as heir, out of honor for his grandfather than demand that his grandfather change his mind about the terms of the inheritance.

Question 4: In your definition, what is godly submission (as a wife, a child, or simply as a Christian)?

Answer 4: Godly submission can be defined as "a respectful response." It is not a blanket agreement/approval of authority, or enduring tyranny or abuse. Although Sebastian disagrees with his grandfather, he is always respectful of the man.

Question 5: The secrets in Sebastian's family history have a negative effect on subsequent generations. What kinds of secrets do we keep from our children/grandchildren that could come back to haunt them?

Answer 5: In families where harmful secrets are kept hidden, those negative behaviors are often passed down to the next generation. Open communication and honesty should be the hallmarks of the Christian family.

Question 6: Is it ever all right to lie, either by omission or commission, as Sebastian does when he gives Tansy a different last name?

Answer 6: The Bible is filled with examples of people lying to get their way, lying to get out of a bad situation, and sometimes just lying because they were bad people. Lying always comes back around and bites us, or causes harm to our loved ones, sooner or later.

Question 7: Would you be reluctant to marry someone from a different culture? Why?

Answer 7: Every culture has deep-seated differences, but with common ground in Christ and good communication, marriages between difference cultures can work just as well as marriages from similar cultures.

Question 8: At any point in the story did you feel Tansy was taking too much of a risk? What determines whether a risk is appropriate or not?

Answer 8: Risks taken for the right reasons are very different from risks taken in selfishness, or fear. Risks taken out of love for others, love for God, are good risks, with a heavenly reward.

Question 9: Have you ever had a much older friend who was like a surrogate parent or grandparent? Would you be willing to play that role for a young person in your own life?

Answer 9 There is much wisdom to be gleaned from our elders, and much comfort and care that we can offer them. Hopefully, if we will nurture those relationships in our youth, we'll find ourselves filling that role for others when we are in our sunset years.

Question 10: What kinds of things have you done, or could do, to honor your elders (parents, grandparents, elderly friends, etc.)?

Answer 10: Offer to help out with tasks that might not be easy for them anymore, like going to the grocery store, or tackling heavy housework. But most importantly, spend time with them, listen to what they have to say, and don't ever forget there's a young person in there in spirit!

