

Discussion Questions for WHERE TOMORROW LEADS

1. Despite having a price on his head, Paul Farid continues to travel around his home country of Sudan, speaking to people about the love of God and encouraging them in their faith. What drives him to reach out to his countrymen? Are his actions too reckless? Is Paul risking too much by putting his life on the line . . . and even endangering others?
2. Why is Larson reluctant to tell Paul the results of her pregnancy test? What repercussions does she fear? If you were friends with Paul and Larson, what counsel would you give them about starting a family, given their work and callings?
3. Colonel Ben Alier spent more than two decades fighting for freedom from an oppressive government. What reasons does Ben have to be skeptical of the peace accord that was brokered between the North and South in 2005? Are his fears justified? When you've dedicated much of your life to a certain movement, what makes it difficult to let go when the time comes?
4. In the midst of the 2005 peace talks, there was a humanitarian crisis happening in Darfur, where the government of Sudan was carrying out a campaign of ethnic cleansing, primarily targeting non-Arabs. What do you know about the conflict in western Sudan that has affected nearly three million people to date? What responsibility does the global community have when a government is committing acts like genocide?
5. When Larson reminds Paul that God is in control of situations that feel overwhelming, his response is "I have to do my part." How much truth is in that statement? What pitfalls might Paul fall into by wholeheartedly believing that idea?
6. Paul wrestles with a decision to meet with his brother in person, especially when his prayers for wisdom seem to yield only God's silence. Aside from an audible voice from heaven, in what ways might God answer a prayer like Paul's? Does Paul make the right decision in the end? What should you do when it seems like God's ignoring your pleas?
7. Why is Ben so opposed to telling his friends and family about his diagnosis? Why do you think he chooses to forgo treatment? What does it take to change his mind?

8. After Larson is shot, Paul is filled with feelings of hatred toward the perpetrators and anyone who may have had knowledge of the shooting. His emotions are so intense that he cries out to God, asking to bring Him these negative feelings “in small pieces.” When you encounter an issue that feels overwhelming, what do you do to tackle it? What might it look like to take a problem to God “in small pieces”?
9. When Larson becomes an “instant mother” by adopting Thomas, she is consumed with a need to see to the baby’s physical safety—even if it means abandoning the duty she has to serve in Sudan. Would she show a lack of faith by leaving the village and not trusting God to provide a safe place for their baby? What does she do to find peace? What would you do in her shoes?
10. Ben is willing to go to nearly any length to be a father to his son, even fabricating feelings about the young man’s mother. Is he doing the honorable thing in marrying her? What eventually convinces him to pursue a different sort of relationship with her?
11. As Larson finds herself facing an uncertain future, she lists some of the regrets she has over the way she’s behaved recently. What steps can you take to avoid living with regrets, no matter where tomorrow leads?
12. At the end of the story, when all seems lost, rescue comes from a surprising direction. Why do you think that person steps in to save the day? Does that action demonstrate a change of heart or redeem the person in your eyes?