

ONE OF THE GREATEST ACTS OF COURAGE IN WORLD HISTORY

THE ISLANDS

INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS

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Bible Study

1. Which characters or events in this movie relate to you the most? Why do you feel that way? How has your life been similar?
2. Imagine leaving your life behind, including all your family and friends, and travelling to a distant mission field. How do you think you would respond when the going got tough? Can you empathize with Mary Thornton, who wanted to go home? Have you ever been in this situation, maybe on short-term missions? How were you able to stick it out?
3. In Mark 16:15, Jesus commands His disciples to evangelize to the World. We observe how the Thorntons and Hiram Bingham leave everything behind to evangelize the Hawaiian islands. God does not call everyone to be a missionary to exotic lands, but how does this verse relate to us where we are now?
4. In the beginning of the movie, we see some conflict between Chiefess Kapiolani and the missionaries. How can we break down the barriers between ourselves and other cultures? So that the Gospel may be presented without wrong perceptions? How would you have handled the questions from the Chiefess?
5. When evangelize to those who are not believers in Christ, what obstacles do you (or have you) faced? What is the most difficult part of being a witness for Christ in your own experience?
6. It is a fact that every person is prejudiced towards some people or some other cultures. In the movie, how did the missionaries manage to break down their own prejudices towards the Hawaiian people? In what ways were they able to bond with those of another culture?
7. What was the turning point in changing Mary's heart from one of bigotry, to one of love and concern for the people of the Islands? Pray to the Lord, that he changes all of our hearts, so that we will not be hypocrites when we witness to the world!
8. In the movie, you see the willingness of Hiram Bingham to give the ultimate sacrifice to save the life of his friend. How were you personally impacted by his love and courage for a man he didn't even know until he came to the Islands?
9. Read the Book of Daniel, Chapter 3. In what way was the faith of Chiefess Kapiolani, in bravely walking up the mountain to the volcano, the same kind of faith as that of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? What lesson can we learn from the faith of these men and the Chiefess?
10. In Matthew 5:44 Jesus commands us to "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Do you believe this is the hardest commandment in the Scriptures to obey? How did Chiefess Kapiolani exhibit this mature Christian behavior in the film? Were you inspired to follow her example?