

BEYOND THE MASK

Discussion Guide

For Leaders: *Beyond the Mask* is a Christ-centered, historic action/adventure film set in the years leading up to the American Revolution. William Reynolds is an ex-employee of the corrupt East India Trading Company who is haunted by guilt of his past. He and Charlotte Holloway (ironically, the niece of his evil former employer) fall in love and Will sets out on a journey of redemption, faith, and a search for truth that will give him, and the whole country, freedom.

Opening Prayer: *Father in heaven, you are truth and we ask that you would reveal truth to us.
Give us the eyes to see that your mercy and grace can redeem the darkest of sins.
Thank you for providing truth through your Son, which sets us free.*

1. The opening line of *Beyond the Mask* is, "It would be difficult to grasp the depths to which I had fallen," talking about past guilt. Have you ever felt this way?
2. Charlotte asks, "How could we know the ways of God?" How do you feel that God acts most often in your life?
3. Will's guilt at the beginning of the film seems to drive him to anger. What type of response does guilt usually bring out of you?
4. Will hears the repeating words, "You are the same man you've always been. Your hands are stained..." as his past plagues him. Do past sins plague you with guilt? Do you think God sees you as 'stained'?
5. "Redemption, not revenge... there is only one name with the power to make you new." What do you think about that quote? How have you tried to 'avenge' or even just re-create your own life?
6. Charlotte explains, "Both redemption and love are not things to be earned. All you have to do is ask. They are gifts, gifts to be granted freely from the heart of God..." Do you agree or disagree? Why?
7. Will thinks that God cannot redeem him. Is there any person who is too evil for God to redeem?
8. The movie uses John 8:32 as a theme: "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." How did that verse play out in the plot?
9. As a way to justify his evil, Charlotte's uncle claims, "We all have to come to terms with our contradictions..." What do you think this looks like as a Christian? How does faith help us overcome the desires of our flesh?
10. Will says, "I am not in business for myself any longer." If you could put that phrase in your own words, what would you say? Would it be true?

*Closing Prayer: God, you know our sins and you give us the gift of love anyway.
Thank you for the redemption and freedom that comes through Jesus. Amen.*

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