

Counterfeit Kingdom



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DISCUSSION GUIDE



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CHAPTER ONE

1. The authors discuss the story of a child who died, and parents who believed she would be raised from the dead. Have you ever seen similar practices like this in your church context?
2. How would you summarize each of the strange spiritual practices that were detailed in this chapter? (Grave sucking, waking sleeping angels, making “apostolic decrees,” glory cloud, etc.) Which of these seem the most confusing or problematic to you? Were there any familiar to you? Why?
3. What did you know about the “New Apostolic Reformation” (NAR) before reading this book? What are some of your greatest concerns about the movement as it relates to the gospel?
4. What do you hope to gain from reading this book?

CHAPTER TWO

1. Who are the two spiritual figures described in this chapter? In what do they base their authority? What stands out most to you about their biographical sketches?
2. In this chapter, co-authors Holly Pivec and Doug Geivett share their own biographical information. In what ways do you share things in common with them? In what ways is your experience different?

CHAPTER THREE

1. In this chapter, one co-author encounters a group of students trying their hand at prophesying. Have you ever encountered something similar to this? If not, what about her experience stands out to you? Why?
2. In what ways is the “activation” of latent powers different than gifts bestowed by the Spirit? Why is this distinction important?
3. Which of the occultic practices detailed in this chapter is most concerning to you? Explain your concerns.

CHAPTER FOUR

1. Discuss the three tests from Scripture that help us identify a false prophet.
2. What is the basic mistake most Christians make when they encounter prophets who call themselves Christians? Why is this mistake so damaging?
3. What are the three types of prophecies false prophets give (thereby failing the fulfillment test)? Describe each one in your own words and give an example of each.

CHAPTER FIVE

1. Discuss why you think people succumb to manipulative and controlling spiritual leaders. What is the inherent authority structure—specifically within the NAR—that leads to spiritual abuse?
2. Outline the various control tactics NAR leaders use for exercising control over their followers. Have you ever experienced any of these control tactics, or heard this type of language? In what context?
3. Discuss the suggestions for breaking free from a painful church past and moving forward in your walk with God. Which of the suggestions do you find most challenging? Most helpful?

CHAPTER SIX

1. Before reading this book, how would you have defined “revival”? Where did that definition come from?
2. Discuss the thirteen clues that reveal a song, sermon, or event could be promoting a NAR revival. Have you ever attended a NAR event? If so, how would you describe what happened?
3. Outline the characteristics of true biblical revival. Highlight at least three ways that NAR revival is different from biblical revival.
4. In what ways has the NAR movement gotten “build the kingdom” language wrong? Explain your answer.

CHAPTER SEVEN

1. What do you know about The Passion Translation of the Bible?
2. Discuss the three reasons the authors give for steering clear of The Passion Translation. Which reason do you find most compelling? Why?
3. After comparing and contrasting the various printed Scripture passages from the NIV, the ESV, the NKJV, and The Passion Translation, what new insight about the NAR did you gain?
4. Moving forward, what trustworthy criteria can you set for yourself when it comes to finding reputable Bible translations?

CHAPTER EIGHT

1. How do you respond to this statement: “Contemporary Christian music is the catechism of today’s evangelical church”? In what ways has this been true in a bad way?
2. Which NAR music/worship songs are you most familiar with? Which ones have you sung in worship? When it comes to what you are learning about worship music in this chapter, what surprises you most?
3. The co-authors outline three dangers of NAR music. Have you seen these dangers come through in your own life, or the life of someone you know?
4. This chapter explores responses you can consider when it comes to NAR music. Which is most helpful to you? Why?

CHAPTER NINE

1. How do you respond to the question posed in the chapter’s title: “Is it always God’s will to heal?” Explain your answer.
2. Discuss the three peculiar NAR healing practices. What are the problems or dangers of each practice?
3. What are the ways you can test miracle reports to see if they are genuine?

CHAPTER TEN

1. What do you believe are the most dangerous aspects of NAR when it comes to influencing your children?
 2. What are the greatest challenges to protecting family or loved ones from NAR?
 3. If you feel convicted to protect your children or family from NAR, what practical steps will you take?
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CONCLUSION

1. The co-authors offer five ways to join the resistance against NAR. What was your response to each of these ideas? Are there any you want to put into practice now?
 2. What are the greatest challenges facing those who want to expose NAR?
 3. What are your most significant takeaways from this book? Did you receive what you were hoping to gain?
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