



The Wish – A Story of Hope, Faith & Generosity

Suggested Discussion Questions

Task: To guide the assembled group through all or some of the Discussion Questions below.

Objectives: To increase the understanding of organ donation and transplantation by providing accurate information and to demonstrate the need, including the need for living donors. Also, to show how donation is aligned with Christian beliefs.

- 1. What effect has the film had on your thoughts about organ donation?**
- 2. Do you know anyone who needs, has received or has donated an organ, eyes or tissue?**
- 3. How was KC's life affected by her need for a kidney transplant?**
(marriage, job, lifestyle)
- 4. How is KC's community affected by her illness?**
(husband, students, colleagues, friends)
- 5. In the film, we see Isaiah in the chapel asking God for forgiveness and help for KC. How is prayer is important in a crisis and in a marriage?**
- 6. What else does Isaiah do to support KC as she deals with her illness?**
(Volunteers to be a living donor - although he is not a match)
- 7. What role did Daniel, KC's colleague, play in encouraging KC?**
(He stayed in close touch and checked on her. Daniel also took KC to visit his cousin, Charles, who had received a transplant and gotten his life back.)
- 8. Charles is reluctant to share his story. How can providing personal testimony on going through hardship assist others in similar situations?**
- 9. In the film, KC's pastor provides support directly to KC. How does his sermon help KC? What else does he do to make a difference?**
(Pastor Abernathy gave a sermon that provided information about organ donation and transplantation, dispels myths and encourages his congregation to become informed and consider ways to help.)

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- 10. Although it was sometimes difficult for her to speak out in front of her peers, how did Courtney, one of KC's students, empower herself to make a difference?**
(She went to DonateLife.net and got information; she contacted a local organ donation agency and organized a school assembly and donor registration drive.)
 - 11. How did learning about organ and tissue donation help Myles to evolve and how can peer influence be used to make a positive change?**
(Myles used his position as a student ring leader to muster support for the cause of donation.)
 - 12. Although the kids in the high school were unable to save KC's life by giving her an organ, what did they do that led to KC's life being saved?**
(The students' concern for their teacher and enthusiasm for organ donation influenced bus driver, Mrs. Amanda, to investigate living donation and eventually save KC's life. In addition, they registered as donors, which provides hope to those waiting.)
 - 13. The subtitle of *The Wish* is *A Story of Hope, Faith and Generosity*. How are hope, faith and generosity shown in the film?**
 - 14. Why is organ donation a particularly important issue in the Black community?**
(African Americans are at risk for many illnesses like high blood pressure, diabetes and heart disease that can lead to the need for an organ transplant. That's why it is important to protect your health and prevent the future need for a transplant.)
 - 15. Why is it important for people of all races and ethnicities to register as donors?**
(According to the United Network for Organ Sharing, "successful transplantation often is enhanced by the matching of organs between members of the same ethnic and racial group. For example, a patient is less likely to reject a kidney if it is donated by an individual who is genetically similar. Generally, people are genetically more similar to people of their own ethnicity or race than to people of other races.")
 - 16. Read Luke 10:25-37. Draw a parallel between the man and KC. How can we be a neighbor to those sick, hurt and/or waiting for a transplant?**
 - 17. How does the dire need for organ donation allow members of a community to support one another?**
(Although the film focuses on living donation, deceased donation is equally common. Registering as a donor provides hope to those awaiting transplantation. Information about donation and registering can be presented through your church, school, place of business, community organization, etc. Local and state donation organizations are available to help with information and materials for donor drives. See DonateLife.net/get-involved/.)
 - 18. In what ways did the film move you to take action?**
(The simplest and most important action is to register as a lifesaving donor. This shows your commitment to helping those in need in your community. Please consider indicating your wish to be a donor. Your decision to do so makes a statement of your support for those in need of a lifesaving transplant in your community.)
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Biblical References:

From the beginning to the end, the Bible and God's word, direct us to be kind to one another and to focus on that which is eternal; belief, love and acts of giving and goodness which live on forever. Ashes to ashes and dust to dust, the state of our earthly body matters not in terms of the resurrection. The condition of your body at death is not reflected in your heavenly body.

1 Corinthians 15:51-55 The crucial fact that our bodies will be "raised imperishable" – that is, with a body that is perfect in every way, free from the vestiges of death and decay. In this life our bodies wear out, like a clock continually running down, but when we are raised, it will be with bodies that can never decay, never wear out, never suffer injury, never grow old, never get sick and never die.

Early on in the Bible, there are references to the life-sustaining gift one can give. For example, Adam's rib was used by God to create Eve. In addition, God tells Adam that his body is only a temporary, earthly body of flesh and blood, which will return to the earth.

Genesis 3:19 "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

One of the most compelling arguments for organ donation is that it demonstrates love, compassion and generosity toward others.

Matthew 10:8 "FREELY YE HAVE RECEIVED, FREELY GIVE."

Matthew 25:35-46 As Jesus was trying to convey this message of unconditional love for others, He spoke of caring for the hungry, thirsty, homeless, naked, sick and imprisoned.

Matthew 25:40 "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Mark 12:31 "THOU SHALT LOVE THY NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF. THERE IS NO OTHER COMMANDMENT GREATER THAN THESE."

Luke 10:25-37 Jesus also used the parable of the Good Samaritan to teach that we, as Christians, are to be kind and to show love toward everyone.

Luke 10:27 "and he answering said, THOU SHALT LOVE THE LORD THY GOD WITH ALL THY HEART AND WITH ALL THY SOUL, AND WITH ALL THY STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL THY MIND, AND THY NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF."

1 John 4:11 "Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

Rich or poor, old or young, organ donation gives each one of us the opportunity to give the gift of life, health and healing to our brothers and sister.

1 John 3:17 "But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?"

Philippians 2:4 "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

Galatians 6:2 "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ."

