

Character *in* CRISIS

Study Guide Questions—*Tip Lewis and His Lamp* Chapters 5 & 6

1. The theme verse for chapter 5 is Psalm 119:105. Mr. Holbrook takes this a step further, saying, “no matter how dark the road might be, this lamp will be a light unto your path.” Mr. Holbrook used this beautiful imagery to describe the effect of God’s Word on one’s life. Take a moment and read the full verse.

- a. Can you think of when God’s Word encouraged you (light) in a season of discouragement (darkness)?
- b. What was the Bible verse, and how did it help you?
- c. With whom could you share this verse and/or help them memorize it?

2. In chapter 5, Tip Lewis resolved to go to Sunday School, but he was ashamed of his shabby appearance. He wished for a smooth white collar or something nice to wear. But instead of wallowing in discouragement, Tip made the most of the resources around him and ran down to the rickety water pump. Something makes me think that this “sudden idea” was the result of Tip listening to good advice for the first time in his life.

- a. Whose words of encouragement inspired Tip to take this action? (Hint: Look at Chapter 3.)
- b. Who could you encourage today with your words? What will you say?

3. God was doing an amazing work in Tip’s life. Tip was listening to wise counsel, seeking the Lord, and taking action! Take a moment to read Matthew 7:15-20. In this passage, Jesus says that his children are known by their fruits.

- a. According to today’s reading, what “fruit” do you see in Tip’s life?
- b. What fruit might others see in *your* life?
- c. Think of someone you know who loves the Lord. What is the “fruit” in their life?
- d. Consider reaching out to them this week and asking them to share their testimony.

4. In chapter 6, Tip is sitting on the foot of his bed reading Psalm 32:8. The words within fill him with hope. Read Psalm 32.

- a. Is there a verse that strongly stands out to you?
- b. Commit this verse to memory.

5. What is profound about the next scene is the simple, direct prayer of Tip. God doesn't need us to use big fancy words or to carve out 5 hours to speak to Him—He knows the deepest, most intimate needs of our hearts (Psalm 139:1-6). Indeed, we find examples of short, powerful prayers peppered throughout Scripture. Take some time to look at the following verses and consider how this might change your approach to prayer, especially with the first example from Nehemiah.

- a. Nehemiah 2:1-4
- b. Mark 9:24
- c. Matthew 15:25
- d. Luke 18:13

6. In Chapter 6, Tip helps his sister Kitty for the first time. They work together to make breakfast for their sick parents. Although Tip doesn't know it, he is living out the words of 1 st John 3:18, "My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth." His act of kindness brings a wealth of blessing to Mr. and Mrs. Lewis. As you head into this week, is there an area in your life—it can be as small or insignificant as you like—where you are equipped to serve someone? It may be something as simple as making coffee for your spouse or parent? Maybe there's an untidy junk drawer in your house that needs to be cleaned or a close friend who needs some prayer this week. Whatever it is, resolve in your heart to do it, and don't forget to ask for the Lord's help!