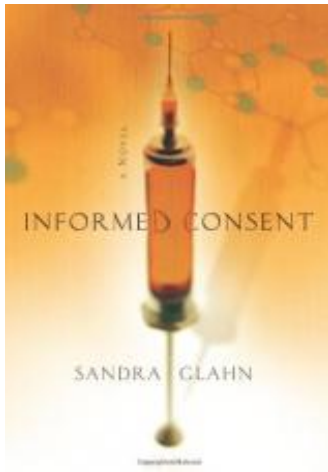


Informed Consent

by Sandra Glahn



About the Book

A medical researcher comes face-to-face with the unfathomable love required to sacrifice an only son.

Jeremy Cramer, MD, is the Einstein of infectious disease research. While working on a way to revive water-submersion victims, he makes a breakthrough discover in AIDS research that thrusts him into the center of a media frenzy. But the publicity turns negative, and his marriage reaches the breaking point when he accidentally infects a colleague and his negligence allows his son to contract a life-threatening disease. The viruses test the limits of his new formula?and his ethics. In the midst of his frantic efforts to save his son and marriage, he must decide whether to allow his child to die or violate the rights of a young transplant donor.

Discussion Guide

1. Why is saving drowning victims more important to Jeremy than saving millions of people dying of AIDS?
2. Do you agree with Jeremy?s research priorities? Why or why not?
3. What is your opinion of Jeremy and Devin?s relationship, both in the workplace and as doctor/patient?
4. What do you know about AIDS? What, if anything, has been your involvement with the issue?
5. How do your views on end-of-life issues compare with Devin?s?
6. Do you share Devin?s view of the afterlife? Why or why not?

7. What, if any, medical treatment would you want if you had a terminal illness?
8. What is your assessment of Angie and Jeremy's relationship? If you were counseling them, what would you advise?
9. What, if any, racial factors complicate Angie and Jeremy's relationship?
10. How would you describe Jeremy's relationship with Angie's parents?
11. Do you think Jeremy contributed to his father's death? To Jak's illness? Why or why not?
12. Is Jeremy's guilt false or valid? Why?
13. Do you agree with Devin's understanding of why bad things happen to good people? Why or why not?
14. What do you think drives Barlow?
15. Do you share Barlow's degree of commitment to patients' rights? Why or why not?
16. What motivates Castillo, the chief of staff? Have you ever had to work for someone who had the same weaknesses as Castillo? What was it like?
17. What, if any, is your experience with organ donation? Would you consider being a donor? Why or why not?
18. Do you think Jeremy made the right choice in the end? Why or why not?
19. What do you think would have happened if Jeremy had decided against taking the healthy heart? To his marriage? To his career?
20. These are the seven deadly sins: pride, envy, gluttony, lust, anger, greed, sloth. Which of these do you see exhibited in the characters and by whom?
21. The theological virtues are faith, hope and love. Which of these and in which characters do you find them in Informed Consent?
22. How would you describe Jeremy's spiritual journey?

Author Bio

Sandra Glahn teaches journalism, creative writing, and the role of women in ministry at Dallas Theological Seminary, her alma mater. She is the author of the Coffee Cup Bible series and is coauthor of eight additional books, including the CBA bestseller and Christy Award finalist, **Lethal Harvest**. She is also editor-in-chief of *Kindred Spirits* magazine, which received top honors in May 2006 from the Evangelical Press Association and in April 2006 from the Religion Communicators Council.

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