

## Discussion Questions

1. In *Veiled Freedom*, where we first meet *Freedom's Stand* protagonists Jamil, Steve, and Amy, each is involved in a quest for freedom. Having found true freedom in Isa Masih, Jamil feels impelled to share this good news. How does his experience sharing this message differ from his expectations?
2. The humanitarian code dictates not getting personally involved. Amy finds herself balking at this. Is she right or wrong?
3. When Steve finally finds a mission he can believe in, it requires laying aside his own future hopes and ambitions. What does the phrase “living sacrifice” come to mean to Steve? to you?
4. The life story of Amy’s young protégé Farah gradually unfolds throughout *Freedom's Stand*. How do you react to her story—and its reality for millions of women under Islamic totalitarian regimes?
5. In chapter 13, Amy struggles with seeing the Afghan children she loves leaving to an unknown future. How does she find peace to let them go? Into whose care does she find she can release them?
6. In *Freedom's Stand*, Steve starts off thinking aid work is just throwing away material resources. What changes his mind?
7. In chapter 20, Jamil’s hopes that the teachings of Isa Masih will transform his people have been dashed. What does Amy remind him is the only true way transformation can come to a people or nation?

8. In chapter 32, Steve forcefully makes a point on his embassy's stand regarding freedom of faith in Afghanistan: "What won't happen is that the 'free West' can keep enjoying forever their own freedoms while tacitly conceding those are now considered optional for the rest of this planet." Do you agree with him or disagree? Is freedom of faith simply a cultural distinctive Western nations happen to enjoy or a basic human right?
9. How do other freedoms—whether of thought, speech, media, assembly, action—hinge on the fundamental right to choose freely one's own personal beliefs of heart and mind? Can a society really enjoy these other freedoms while prohibiting freedom of faith?
10. In reading of Isa Masih's voluntary death on the cross, Jamil ponders what could motivate any person to such willing martyrdom. In chapter 47, what does he finally recognize as the only true motivation?
11. In what different ways is love portrayed in this novel? Which aspects of love speak most directly to your life?
12. By the end of *Freedom's Stand*, Jamil, Amy, and Steve must each in turn make a stand involving sacrifice and love. What is the cost to each of these protagonists? the reward? In the end, which outweighs the other?
13. Jamil literally risks his life for the truth he has found. What causes or truths are you willing to take a stand for?
14. What can you do to raise a voice on freedom of faith issues? What should you do on an individual level? a church level? a government level?