



After watching the movie, please take some time to discuss the following questions. Please try to keep your answers brief so that everyone has a turn to share their thoughts. It's okay if you don't have time to get through all the questions.

Death

1. What happens after you die? How do you know?
2. Have you ever heard someone talk about the afterlife differently from you? What did they think happens after death?
3. Is death a sad or happy subject? Why? Can it be both? How?
4. Why do you think death is celebrated in Mexico but we do not celebrate it in the U.S.?
5. How can death be celebrated? How does your family keep the memory of your loved one(s) alive?

Family Obligation

1. What is a family? Why are families so important to humans?
2. What does your family do for you? What do families do for family members?
3. Do you owe gratitude to your family? If so, what? How do you show your family your gratitude?
4. Should Miguel have listened to his family and stopped playing music, even though it was his passion? Why or why not?
5. Are there limits to what we should do for our families?
6. What would you have done if you were in Miguel's shoes?
7. Was it fair of Miguel's family to tell him that he couldn't play music?

Identity

1. What passions do you have that make you who you are?
2. What can you learn about yourself through your family?
3. Was Miguel a different person when he thought Ernesto de la Cruz was his father compared to when he found out Héctor was his father?
4. To what extent does your family define who you are as a person?
5. Is it possible for you to be super similar to a family member? Super different?
6. Are there other parts of your identity that are not tied to your passions or your family?
7. What are the most important parts of your identity?
8. Are there times when you are confused about who you are? How do you overcome this confusion?

Stealing and Deception

1. Why did Ernesto de la Cruz steal Héctor's songs and guitar? Why was it wrong?
2. How did Ernesto deceive everyone into thinking he was a good person? Why was it wrong?
3. How do you think Miguel felt when he discovered Ernesto's true self?
4. Miguel also stole the same guitar and deceived people by pretending to belong in the land of the dead. Is he just as bad as Ernesto?
5. Why is it not okay to steal things from other people? Are there ever exceptions where stealing is the right thing to do?
6. Why is it not okay to deceive people? Are there ever exceptions where deception is the morally right choice?



This discussion guide was created by Tree of Knowledge Community Coven for the women of Madison Correctional Facility and encourages personal reflection around the topics of death, ethics, family, and personal identity. For more Pagan prison ministry resources, please contact support@treeofknowledgeindiana.com