Discussion Questions

Chapter 1

- 1. Name the characters introduced in this chapter.
- 2. Why did Annette think of Christmas as a "sweet, sad story..."?
- 3. What was the present Annette's mother gave her for Christmas?
- 4. What was the Mother's wish before Annette left the room?
- 5. What happened to Annette's mother that night?

Chapter 2

- 1. How does Annette demonstrate love for her brother in this chapter?
- 2. What was Father's trouble he told Annette? What was her solution?
- 3. What was Father's idea?
- 4. From what did the Grandmother suffer?
- 5. Which of the subjects did Annette dislike? Which one did she enjoy studying?

Chapter 3

- 1. How many years passed since the last chapter?
- 2. What was Dani's prayer on Christmas Eve?
- 3. What did Dani see in his slipper the next morning?
- 4. What were the explanations of this event according to Father, Annette, and Dani?

- 1. Why did Lucien have to milk the cows every morning?
- 2. What happened while Lucien was distracted by his mumbling down the hill with his sled?
- 3. What should Lucien have done after he hit Annette's sled?
- 4. What did Lucien do to Dani in this chapter?



Discussion Questions

5. What were Lucien's main sins?

6. What did Annette think of while at the door of the chalet? What did she do instead?

7. What did Lucien think while he walked home? What did he do?

8. Why did the quarrel between the two main characters begin according to the author?

Chapter 5

1. Why did Dani want to go up the mountain?

- 2. Who did Dani encounter at the top of the mountain?
- 3. What did Lucien plan to do with Dani?
- 4. What was it that Dani said that frightened Lucien the most?
- 5. What happened to Dani?
- 6. How did Lucien react?

7. Who do you think would be watching even if Lucien thought "No one so far knew that he had had anything to do with this incident..."?

Chapter 6

1. What did Grandmother do while Annette and Father searched for Dani? What picture did she see in her mind?

2. Whose house did Annette visit looking for Dani? What did she find out there?

3. What picture did Grandmother see after being informed that Dani fell down the ravine?

4. Had Grandmother seen correctly? What had happened to Dani?

5. How did Father rescue Dani?

Chapter 7

1. Who thought most about Lucien after Dani was rescued?

2. What was going through her mind while she thought of Lucien?



Discussion Questions

- 3. What song did Dani want Annette to sing to him? Why did Annette refuse to sing that song?
- 4. What did Grandmother tell Annette about punishment? Did Annette heed to this?
- 5. What were Grandma's words of wisdom to Annette?

Chapter 8

- 1. Of whom was Lucien's mother so afraid that she couldn't even comfort her son?
- 2. What about Lucien surprised his mother after the incident?
- 3. What was Lucien's plan to avoid going to school?
- 4. While Lucien avoided school, what did Lucien start to craft to pass some time?
- 5. What made Lucien almost happy? Why did it make him almost happy even after the incident with Dani?
- 6. How did Lucien answer his mother when she asked him about school?
- 7. How long did that lie last?

Chapter 9

- 1. By the time Annette and Dani reached the village, who knew about Dani's injury?
- 2. Do you think it was wise for Annette to tell everybody what Lucien did to Dani? Why or why not?
- 3. Why did the whole village pour out their love and care for Dani?
- 4. What were some gifts that were given to Dani which showed his neighbor's love towards him?

- 1. How did Lucien's life and relationships with others change after the accident?
- 2. What was the only way for Lucien to forget his loneliness?
- 3. Who did Lucien meet in the forest while he was carving wood to pass some time?
- 4. After entering the man's chalet, what opportunity did the man give to Lucien?
- 5. As Lucien walked back home from the old man's chalet, what plan did he think of?



Discussion Questions

6. What other opportunity was given to Lucien at school?

7. What was the old man's reply after Lucien confessed to injuring Dani, and that he wanted to make a peace offering to him by giving him the ark? Are there truths in that statement? Why or why not?

8. What did Annette do to the ark Lucien offered to Dani?

Chapter 11

1. What was the news Dani's father received from the doctor?

2. For what reason was Dani downhearted after his father mentioned going up to the high pastures to feed the cows?

3. Did they come up with a solution to solve this? What was it?

4. What did Dani request before going to bed?

Chapter 12

1. Whose carving did the boys at school admire and thought would win? What did Lucien think about it?

2. What was Annette entering for the handcraft competition?

3. Why was Madame Morel nervous during the haymaking season? Did Annette's father cut the meadow for them that year?

4. What did Annette see before she went into the Morel kitchen?

5. According to Annette, why didn't she want Lucien to win the competition prize?

6. After a little thought on her actions, what did Annette do to Lucien's entry for the competition?

7. Was Annette's character the same after she destroyed Lucien's entry?

8. Was Annette aware of what caused her character to change?

Chapter 13

1. After seeing his competition entry scattered as splinters, what conclusion did the Morels come to as to what happened to the horse?

2. What was Lucien thinking while he hiked up the mountain to the old man's chalet?



Discussion Questions

3. According to the old man, how did Lucien waste his time? And what was the old man's approach to earning back the love and trust Lucien lost?

4. Even when the whole village seemed not to love and trust Lucien, who did?

5. Through the words of his master and his wife, what did the old man come to believe? And what was his encouragement to Lucien?

6. How did Lucien take this to heart?

Chapter 14

- 1. What puzzled Dani about Annette?
- 2. Why was Lucien unhappy?
- 3. Who did Lucien see on his way back from the village? And what was he playing with?
- 4. What was Dani's first reaction? What did he say afterward? What caused Dani to answer Lucien's question?
- 5. Why didn't Annette tell Dani the truth about the carving?
- 6. What did Annette wish while she was alone outside at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 15

1. Why was Christmas a special day particularly for Dani?

- 2. How did Grandmother answer Dani when he asked about giving a present to Jesus? How did Dani apply it?
- 3. What realization shocked Annette when she considered asking Christ into her heart?
- 4. What was something else that bothered Annette after seeing Lucien?

- 1. What analogy did Grandmother use to illustrate the state of Annette's heart?
- 2. What turmoil did Dani face in the morning and on for the whole day?
- 3. Why did Dani want to go to bed so early?
- 4. After changing into his nightshirt, what did Dani pray for?



Discussion Questions

5. Why did Annette go outside?

Chapter 17

1. What happened to Annette while she was walking on the little bridge that crossed the river?

2. After realizing she sprained her ankle badly, what did she remember that might help her back home? Did she get the help she needed?

3. Did Annette hear something while she was pondering on what to do? Who and what was it?

- 4. How did Annette respond after discovering that the very one she cried out for help was Lucien?
- 5. What was Lucien's response? What was his plan?

Chapter 18

1. What was the first thing Annette said to Lucien after he came back with the sled?

- 2. What was his response?
- 3. While Lucien stood at the Burniers' doorway, what did Grandmother see in him?
- 4. Who returned home safely after Annette did? What did she bring back with her?

Chapter 19

1. While Annette and Lucien were sitting in the room, what did Grandmother say to them?

- 2. According to Annette, when did she forgive Lucien?
- 3. Which Bible verse did Grandmother remind Annette? According to Grandmother, what does this verse mean?
- 4. Who did Annette go to meet in the morning?
- 5. How does the author describe Annette's father?
- 6. What did Annette confess to the schoolmaster?
- 7. What was the prize for the handcraft competition?



^{8.} What did the schoolmaster suggest to Annette? How did she respond? What did she think of before she made that decision?

Discussion Questions

Chapter 20

1. Retell what happened on the following school day.

2. What deal did Annette and Lucien make?

3. Describe the shadow that came between Lucien and Annette after Lucien carried Dani back to his house.

4. What should Annette concentrate on when ugly, selfish thoughts try to get into her mind according to Grandmother?

5. Which event in the Bible did Lucien remember when he opened up the Bible to read? What did he do after he read that passage?

6. Who did Marie mention which caught Lucien's attention?

7. What were the three difficulties Lucien faced?

Chapter 21

- 1. Where was Lucien headed in the middle of the blizzard? Why did he go there?
- 2. What did the old man do after hearing Lucien's request and the doctor's name?
- 3. What were the old man's instructions on what to say to the doctor and what not to?
- 4. Which words of Annette's Grandma did Lucien remember before he went out to the Pass?
- 5. After many struggles, was he able to cross the Pass?

Chapter 22

- 1. How was Lucien faithful to the old man's promise?
- 2. What was the doctor's response after Lucien confessed to what happened to Dani?
- 3. What helped Lucien cross the Pass and safely arrive at the hotel according to the doctor?
- 4. Who did the doctor and Lucien thank before they had dinner? What did they pray for?

Chapter 23

1. According to Lucien's mother, why was it good that Lucien did not hear what people in the village were saying about him as he and the doctor passed by?



Discussion Questions

- 2. What was the doctor's method of curing Dani's leg?
- 3. Was that plan acceptable for Dani? What made him change his mind?
- 4. Did the doctor see something in Grandma after she greeted him at the door? What was it?
- 5. What was the important errand the doctor needed to do before leaving for the hospital the next day and why?
- 6. Who was this old man?

Chapter 24

- 1. As Lucien retold his experience in the Pass to Annette, according to him, what happened that day?
- 2. Which passage from Scripture did Annette read before bedtime?
- 3. What advice did Grandma give to Annette on her upcoming journey?
- 4. What did Dani bring with him on the train to the doctor's place?

Chapter 25

- 1. What did Annette remind herself whenever she felt cross and impatient with the children?
- 2. How was Dani's experience in the hospital?
- 3. What was one thing that comforted Dani while in the hospital?
- 4. What happened to Dani while he lay sleeping? Did Dani get well?

- 1. Why was Lucien no longer lonely or unhappy at school?
- 2. How was Lucien different from his past self?
- 3. What was one sadness that occurred to Lucien during that time?
- 4. Which carving did Lucien receive from the old man as a parting gift?
- 5. What did that cross remind Lucien of?
- 6. What did Lucien realize after Dani came off the train completely healed?





Chapter 1

- 1. Madame Morel, Lucien, and Annette
- 2. Annette thought of Christmas being sad "...when she thought about the inn where there was no room..."
- 3. A new little brother
- 4. Her wish was for Annette to bring him up, love him, and look after him in place for his mother.
- 5. She passed away

Chapter 2

- 1. Annette demonstrates her love by sacrificially caring for her brother just as any mother would.
- 2. Her father's trouble was that he couldn't afford to pay a woman to nurse Dani while Annette needed new winter boots as well as education for her school. Annette's solution was that she could look after Dani and do her schoolwork at the same time at home.
- 3. His idea was to see if Annette's grandmother would be willing to come and take care of the household while teaching Annette.
- 4. Grandmother was old and suffered from rheumatics.
- 5. Annette struggled with arithmetic but thoroughly enjoyed history.

Chapter 3

- 1. 5 Years
- 2. His prayer was for Father Christmas to drop by and give him a little present.
- 3. He found a tiny white kitten curled up in his slipper.
- 4. According to the Father, the kitten had strayed across from the barn. According to Annette, a pure white kitten must have dropped straight from heaven. According to Dani: Father Christmas.

Chapter 4

- 1. No one else would milk the cows because Lucien had no father.
- 2. His sled bumped straight into Annette's sled sideways and lifted her clean into the ditch.
- 3. He should have stayed with Annette and helped her out of the ditch, not losing his temper at once.
- 4. Lucien's temper flared up instantly, and lifting his foot, he kicked Dani's snowman into little bits.
- 5. Lucien had a problem with anger and he lacked humility.
- 6. She remembered what Grandmother told her that the Bible said "Don't go to bed angry." Although she hesitated while there was still time to apologize, she went in and slammed the door behind her.
- 7. He thought about how nice it would be to reconcile and start again. He could just go and say sorry to Annette, but he did not apologize to her.
- 8. The quarrel began because neither would be the first to forgive.

Chapter 5

- 1. He went up the mountain to pick flowers for Annette's birthday.
- 2. Lucien
- 3. He told himself he would not hurt Dani, but he thought he might take Dani's flowers.
- 4. Dani told Lucien that he would tell on him to his father.
- 5. Dani's feet slipped and he fell over the edge.
- 6. Lucien sank down on the grass. But as soon as he found out that no one saw what had happened, he thought that if he hurried home and behaved as if nothing had happened, no one ever would know.
- 7. God. God sees all things.

Chapter 6

- 1. She went indoors and prayed. As she prayed she saw a picture of an angel walking with Dani, and she saw in the shadow of those wings there was shelter and warmth and safety.
- 2. Madame Morel's chalet. She found out that Dani fell over the ravine.
- 3. Once again, she saw a picture of Dani, being caught up safely in the angel's arms.
- 4. Yes, she had seen correctly. Dani never reached the water at all. He had fallen onto a jutting-out boulder.
- 5. He secured a rope around a tree trunk and flung it over the boulder. Then gripping it with his hands and knees, he slid down the slippery rocks and disappeared into the ravine.

- 1. Annette
- 2. She told herself that she should never, never forgive him as long as she lives.
- 3. Dani requested her to sing Oh que Ta main paternelle, Me bénisse à mon coucher. Annette refused to sing that song because it was a prayer asking the Father in heaven to forgive all the wrong things done and said and thought during the day. She could not really sing about forgiving wrongs when her heart was so full of hatred toward Lucien.
- 4. She reminded her that when we do wrong, it often brings its own punishment without anyone else interfering. Annette did not take much notice of Grandmother's words, instead, she would see to it that everybody in the village would find out what happened until everyone would hate Lucien for what he had done to Dani.
- 5. Grandma told Annette to go on trusting the Savior to hold Dani, and do the very best for him, to have all our hatred melted away, leave Lucien to God, and that God loved Lucien just the same as He loved Dani.





Chapter 8

- 1. She was afraid of the Burniers, of the law, and afraid of the doctors' bills that she could not pay.
- 2. Lucien's change in attitude surprised his mother.
- 3. Lucien decided he would not go and hide all day in the woods and come back late in the afternoon so that his mother would think he had been at school and no one from school would ask questions.
- 4. He decided to try to carve out the shape of a chamois, one of the wild mountain goats.
- 5. He had found something to do in his isolated state. He could carve and he would not mind being alone again.
- 6. He lied to his mother about not attending school.
- 7. Not very long. Everything was revealed by his older sister, Marie.

Chapter 9

- 1. Almost everybody in the village knew about Dani's injury.
- 2. Answers will vary.
- 3. They had loved his mother who had grown up amongst them. When she died, they were all prepared to love her children.
- 4. Children wandered up the mountains in search of the first alpine flowers for him. The schoolmaster who sent fascinating picture books. The innkeeper sent brown speckled eggs. The baker made golden doughboys. The postman decided to write Dani a weekly picture postcard. He would toil up the hill to deliver it himself.

Chapter 10

- 1. Just as the village did all they could to comfort Dani, so they shunned Lucien. They took no notice of him.
- 2. Working hard and being silent.
- 3. The old man of the mountain.
- 4. He gave Lucien the opportunity to learn to use carving tools and introduce him to a friend who would sell woodcrafts for him.
- 5. He would make Noah's ark for Dani as the old man had done as a peace offering.
- 6. An inspector came to the school and set a handcraft competition for the children.
- 7. He told Lucien that it is hard work to win back love. If he spent 6. his time putting the love of his heart into his deeds for those who are not his friends, he may often be disappointed and discouraged. But if he kept on, he would find his happiness in loving others, whether he is loved back or not.
- 8. She flung Noah's ark with all her strength into the woodpile below.

Chapter 11

- He was informed that Dani would not be able to walk straight. The bad leg was shorter than the good one.
- 2. He suddenly realized that he could no longer follow the cows up the mountain.
- 3. Yes, He would follow them in a little wood cart to watch the

cows assemble.

4. He asked them to carry him to the top of the mountain.

Chapter 12

- 1. Pierre's bear ink-holder carving. But Lucien thought that the bear could easily be mistaken for a dog or any other animal.
- 2. Annette was entering a dark blue jersey she had knitted for Dani to wear on Sundays and festivals.
- 3. She had been a little nervous that year, just in case, by way of revenge, Mr. Burnier refused to come. He was hard at work the following morning.
- 4. She saw Lucien's entry for the competition.
- 5. According to Annette, if he won the prize, everybody would perhaps like him for it and would begin to forget that he had hurt Dani. Annette made sure he was never to be happy again.
- 6. Annette pushed it over and stamped on it so that Lucien's horse lay in splinters.
- 7. No. All peace and joy disappeared from her and she became bitter, harsh, and cross.
- 8. She knew deep in her heart what happened to her. She had done a mean, deceitful action, and her heart was heavy and dark at the thought of it.

Chapter 13

- 1. They concluded that a cat may have pushed it over.
- 2. Lucien lost all hope and could think of nothing but his lost prize and disappointment.
- 3. The old man points out that if Lucien was using his own skill for his own ends, it will never buy him love, and he would be wasting his time. If Lucien would want others to love him again, he must use his skill in loving and serving others.
- 4. The old man of the mountain.
- 5. The old man came to believe in the love and mercy of God and the forgiveness of his sins. His encouragement to Lucien was that there is a way to start over again. He has to leave the past to God. And put his trust in God's forgiveness.
- 6. He thought about it a lot. He knew he couldn't restore Dani's leg, but one day thought of doing something good for him. Also, he realized he could change his attitude towards his mother.

- 1. Dani was puzzled by the dull and rather cross appearance of Annette.
- 2. He was unhappy that Pierre got the prize, and his thought of God not being so quick to forgive such a horrible boy as him.
- 3. He saw Dani playing with the wooden animals on the ark which Dani carved for him.
- 4. His first reaction was to yell at him but went on explain-



Answer Kev

ing to Lucien because he saw the unhappiness of Lucien, and unhappiness was a thing that his friendly little heart could not bear.

- 5. If Dani knew the truth he would forgive Lucien at once, and go and thank him. Annette did not want this to happen.
- 6. She regretted what she had done.

Chapter 15

- 1. Christmas was Dani and Klaus' birthday, as well as a day to remember Christ's birth on earth.
- 2. Grandmother answered that Dani can give his own self to the Lord Jesus, ask Him to make him very loving and able to do what He would like you to do. Throughout the day, Dani tried to be loving and obedient, in order to please God's Son.
- 3. She realized the hatred inside her heart towards Lucien.
- She did not want to admit what she had done to Lucien's prize, ⁸. nor did she want to listen to the Lord Jesus when He referred to it.

Chapter 16

- 1. She illustrated that the darker the room, the more it needs the light, and when love comes in, hatred and selfishness, and unkindness will give way to it, just as the darkness gives way when you let in the sunshine.
- 2. Dani had lost Klaus.
- 3. Dani wanted to say his prayers.
- 4. He prayed for Klaus.
- 5. She decided to go for a walk up the riverbed so that she might be able to see Klaus.

Chapter 17

- 1. She slipped on a sheet of ice and sprained her ankle badly.
- She remembered that there was a chalet where a young woodman and his wife lived there. If she could drag herself on her hands and knees to their door they would take her home on their sled. No. Nothing stirred in the little house. No friendly footsteps came towards her.
- 3. She saw Lucien and heard the sound of his skis running through soft snow.
- 4. She didn't care who it was that came for help. She forgot everything except that she was found and saved.
- 5. Lucien helped her get warm and told her to stay put until he fetched a sled to take her back to her chalet.

Chapter 18

- 1. She confessed that she broke Lucien's entry for the competition and asked for his forgiveness.
- 2. Lucien forgave Annette.
- 3. She saw Lucen's repentant attitude, hungry appeal, timid hope, and dawning courage on his face.

4. Klaus with her kittens.

Chapter 19

1. She told the children to stop this quarrel and take the courage to forgive each other and start again, and be kind.

- 2. Annette forgave Lucien when he rescued her from the mountain.
- 3. 1 John 4:18-19. Perfect love sends away fear. When Jesus brings his perfect love into our hearts it drives out un-kindness and selfishness, and it can also drive out fear.
- 4. Annette went to see the schoolmaster.
- 5. He is a good, wise man, a very busy man, working hard from early morning till late at night to make his little farm pay enough to keep his children. He often thought about his children and prayed for them.
- 6. She confessed that she ruined Lucien's competition entry.
- 7. The prize was a beautiful book full of pictures of all the mountains in Switzerland.
- 8. The schoolmaster suggested Annette give Lucien her prize. Annette agreed after thinking of the Lord Jesus, with his perfect love, and that He wouldn't want her to keep back anything for Lucien.

Chapter 20

- 1. The master announced that he had decided to award a further prize to Lucien for his carving.
- 2. They decided to share the prize.
- 3. Both were thinking that however much they made up their quarrel, Dani still could not walk.
- 4. Think about the love of Jesus all she can. Read about the love of Jesus every day in the Bible and keep her heart full of it.
- 5. He remembered Christ's miracle about how He made a lame man walk. He prayed with all his heart that God would heal Dani and make him walk properly again, as he cured people in the Bible.
- 6. A very clever doctor who can cure almost anyone with broken bones.
- 7. 1. The doctor's fees were very high, and Lucien had no money 2. The Pass was probably blocked 3. He doubted that the doctor would take a local train with a boy he didn't know, and climb the mountain in a blizzard to see an unknown child.

- 1. He hiked up to the old man's chalet. He went to retrieve the money he provided for anyone in need.
- 2. He gave the money to Lucien and instructed him to give it to the doctor.
- 3. He instructed Lucien to tell the doctor that the money is a payment of a debt. He also instructed Lucien not to reveal where the old man lives.
- 4. Perfect love sends away fear... if we really believe that Jesus loves us perfectly there is nothing left to be afraid of. If he loves us perfectly, he will never let anything really harm us.
- 5. Yes



Chapter 22

- 1. He did not break the promise with the old man by refusing to tell the doctor.
- 2. He agreed to travel with him and take a look at his leg.
- 3. He didn't think anything but the perfect love of the Lord Jesus could have sheltered Lucien in that storm, or guided him on the right road, or kept him from being too afraid to go on.
- 4. They thanked the Savior for His perfect love, stronger than storm or tempest, which had guided Lucien's steps through the darkness and saved him from fear and death, and he prayed for Dani, that God would give him, the doctor, skill to heal Dani's leg.

Chapter 23

- 1. Since Lucien was spoken of as though he were some modern miracle, his mother thought listening to such things would have made him in vain.
- 2. His plan was to operate on Dani and have him stay long in the hospital.
- 3. He did not approve of it, but he changed his mind when he heard that Annette was traveling along with him.
- 4. He saw the sacrifice and the simple selflessness that gave up the children without question because it was best for them to go.
- 5. He had an errand to visit the old man of the mountain to ask some questions about the money.
- 6. The old man was the Doctor's father.

Chapter 24

- 1. He asked the Lord to send his fear away.
- 2. 1 Corinthians 13:4
- 3. The love of Jesus is kind and patient. If her heart is full of love, there won't be room for discontent. Grandmother told her to keep her heart full of the love of Jesus; read about it and think about it.
- 4. Klaus' white kitten.

Chapter 25

- 1. She would remind herself what she had learned from Grandmother's Bible reading that love is kind and patient.
- 2. All that week in the hospital, Dani lay feeling feverish and miserable.
- 3. A picture of the Lord Jesus sitting in a field of flowers, and the children of the world all around him, looking up into his face.
- 4. He recovered.

- 1. Lucien had proved to them that he was sorry by his dangerous journey across the mountain and the children had accepted him back as one of themselves.
- 2. Ever since the Savior had come into his heart he had known that there must be a difference. Lucien realized that as long as he kept close to the Lord by praying and reading his Bible every day, the love was stronger than the bad temper and laziness.



- 3. His old wood carving friend moved away to live with his son.
- 4. A wooden cross made of two pieces of rough wood.
- The cross reminded Lucien that there wasn't one bad thing left that couldn't be forgiven, not one person who had done wrong who couldn't be saved because the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins.
- 6. He realized that his great wrong was forgiven and forgotten forever. Dani could walk just as though he had never fallen.