

WHAT A WOLF EATS

AR PETERSON

DISCUSSION GUIDE

For book clubs, churches, classrooms, and foster-care and youth groups.

1. On page one, a stepfather says, “Either you’re a wolf or you’re a sheep. If you’re not a wolf, then you’re prey.” Who taught you how the world works when you were young? What did they get right, and what did they get wrong?
2. By the end of the book, the author says he isn’t a wolf or a sheep. He’s a shepherd. What does that mean to you?
3. The title asks two questions: what a wolf eats to survive, and what survival eats away. Where in the book did you see the cost of surviving?
4. The author spent part of his childhood in foster care. Which moments helped you understand what that is like for a kid?
5. Some of the people who hurt the author also loved him. How do you hold both of those things at once?
6. The author says the skills he learned selling drugs made him great at selling shoes. Do you believe a person’s past can become their strength? What has your past taught you that you still use?
7. At the border, the first document anyone would accept with the author’s name on it came from a church. Where else in the book does God show up in a way the author didn’t expect?
8. Standing in front of a table of drugs worth seven million dollars, the author walks away. What made the difference that day? Have you ever faced a moment like that?
9. Many people gave the author a chance he hadn’t earned: a man with a BBQ trailer, a pastor, a hiring manager. Who gave you a chance? Who could you give one to?
10. The author is honest about his own mistakes, not just the things done to him. Why does that honesty matter in a story like this?
11. “Heed the message, not the messenger.” Has a hard truth ever come to you from someone you didn’t want to hear it from?
12. The book ends, “My journey isn’t done.” What is the next step in your own journey?

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