“The Good Lie”  
Discussion Questions

1. Explain Theo’s sacrifice.

2. Compare and contrast these two settings:

   Village in Africa  
   Apartment in Kansas City

3. If you were the boss at the restaurant, would you have hired these men? Why or why not?
5. Why was Carrie told by her boss not to “get involved in these people’s problems?” Do you agree/disagree? Explain.

6. After learning about Huck’s lie in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain, what does Mamere say makes a lie a “good” one?

7. Now that the men have “settled into” their American lives, are things getting easier or harder for them? Explain.

8. When did Carrie start to relate to the refugees with greater compassion? (What was her turning point?)
9. In what ways do “these people’s problems” become her own, and what does she do as a result?

10. What is the difference between responsibility and guilt?

11. How does Jack help Mamere to understand that Theo’s capture was not his fault?

12. Explain the “good lie” in the story.

13. What is one theme of this story?

For more information, visit these websites:

Interview with Kuoth Weil and Ger Duany: https://youtu.be/j-F06DbRU5A
Former child soldier turned rapper Emmanuel Jal: emmanueljal.com
To join the movement to Stand for Peace in South Sudan: enoughproject.org/apps/thegoodlie/