## discussion guide for George MaeDonald's Phantastes

## KEY SCRIPTURES:

## 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

## Ephesians 6:12

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Why do you think Anodos struggles with believing in Fairy Country, even after the bizarre occurrences in his room? Why is it harder believing in an unseen supernatural world?

What are some ways you can see the evidence of God, His Word, and His ways in the everyday things of life?

What do you think of using fantasy or fairy tale elements to tell a biblical story? Do you think there is a correct way and/or an incorrect way of portraying it?

How is folklore imagery of fairies and goblins similar to biblical accounts of angels and demons (Exodus 37, Matthew 1, Luke 2 Mark 5, to name a few)?

What do you think Anodos' shadow represents (the shadow claims it is inseparable from Anodos)?

Fae Cottage is a woman living on the border of Fairy Country, but she claims her husband doesn't believe in it. How does this compare to the believer and the unbeliever? Why would her husband not believe when it's obvious his wife is literally living in a real fantasy world?

How is Ephesians 6:10-20 similar to Percival's ongoing game of chess? What does Percival mean by "nobody checkmates the King"? What about "always goes after the Bishop"?

According to the song, how is the kingdom of God "upside down" to the rest of the world?

