

Book Club Questions for “At His Feet”

1. "At His Feet" offers a fictionalized account of the life of Mary from Bethany, a prominent figure in the Gospels of John and Luke. How does the novel deepen our understanding of Mary's character and experiences beyond what is written in the biblical narrative?
2. Jenifer Jennings portrays Mary as a woman of deep faith, devotion, and love in "At His Feet." How does Mary's character exemplify these qualities, and what insights can we gain from her relationship with Jesus?
3. The novel delves into Mary's relationship with her siblings, Martha and Lazarus, as well as her interactions with other characters such as Jesus' disciples and the residents of Bethany. How do these relationships shape Mary's identity and choices throughout the story?
4. "At His Feet" explores themes of discipleship and spiritual intimacy as Mary chooses to sit at Jesus' feet and learn from him. How does Mary's posture of humility and receptivity reflect her devotion to Jesus, and what lessons can readers draw from her example?
5. The character of Jesus plays a central role in Mary's story, particularly as her teacher, healer, and friend. How does the novel depict Mary's encounters with Jesus, and what insights can we gain from their relationship as disciple and rabbi?
6. Jenifer Jennings incorporates elements of historical research and cultural context into "At His Feet," offering insights into ancient Jewish customs and the social dynamics of first-century Palestine. What details or descriptions from the novel helped you visualize the historical setting, and how did they enhance your reading experience?
7. Mary encounters various challenges and opportunities for growth throughout the novel, from facing criticism for her devotion to Jesus to witnessing his crucifixion and resurrection. How does Mary demonstrate resilience and faith in the face of adversity, and what moments in the novel highlight her strength?
8. The theme of worship and adoration is prevalent in "At His Feet," as Mary expresses her love for Jesus through acts of devotion and service. How does Mary's worship reflect her understanding of Jesus' identity and mission, and what insights can readers draw from her example?
9. Mary's role as a witness to Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection is central to the biblical narrative, and "At His Feet" delves into her unique perspective as a disciple. How does Mary's testimony contribute to our understanding of Jesus' identity and mission, and what lessons can we learn from her faithful witness?
10. In what ways does "At His Feet" resonate with contemporary issues and experiences, despite being set in ancient times? Discuss how the themes of discipleship, worship, and spiritual intimacy portrayed in the novel offer timeless lessons for readers today and reflect universal aspects of the human condition.