

Book Club Questions for "The Journey"

1. "The Journey" offers a fictionalized account of Rebekah's journey to marry Isaac, as described in the book of Genesis. How does the novel expand upon the biblical narrative, and what insights does it offer into Rebekah's character and experiences?
2. Jenifer Jennings portrays Rebekah as a woman facing uncertainty and challenges as she embarks on her journey to meet her betrothed. How does Rebekah navigate the difficulties she encounters along the way, and how does she demonstrate resilience and faith in the midst of adversity?
3. The novel delves into Rebekah's relationship with her family, particularly her father and brother, and the dynamics of arranged marriage in ancient Mesopotamia. How do these familial relationships and cultural norms shape Rebekah's journey and her understanding of her own destiny?
4. "The Journey" explores themes of faith, obedience, and trust in God's providence as Rebekah follows the guidance of Abraham's servant to meet Isaac. How does Rebekah's faith evolve throughout the novel, and what role does divine intervention play in shaping her journey?
5. The character of Isaac serves as a counterpart to Rebekah, as he awaits her arrival and the fulfillment of his father's promise. How does Isaac's patience and faithfulness parallel Rebekah's journey, and what insights can we gain from his perspective on waiting and anticipation?
6. Jenifer Jennings incorporates elements of historical research and cultural context into "The Journey," offering insights into the customs and traditions of ancient Near Eastern society. What details or descriptions from the novel helped you visualize the historical setting, and how did they enhance your reading experience?
7. Rebekah encounters various trials and obstacles on her journey, from physical dangers to inner struggles with doubt and fear. How does Rebekah demonstrate courage and determination in the face of these challenges, and what moments in the novel highlight her strength of character?
8. The theme of destiny and divine purpose is prevalent in "The Journey," as Rebekah grapples with the idea of being chosen by God to fulfill a specific role in Isaac's life and the history of their people. How does Rebekah reconcile her personal desires with her sense of calling, and what lessons can readers draw from her experiences?
9. Rebekah's role as a central figure in the patriarchal lineage of Israel is central to the narrative, as she plays a crucial role in the fulfillment of God's covenant with Abraham. How does Rebekah's journey reflect the broader themes of God's faithfulness and providence in the biblical narrative, and what insights can we gain from her example as a woman of faith?
10. In what ways does "The Journey" resonate with contemporary themes and experiences, despite being set in ancient times? Discuss how the themes of faith, love, and destiny portrayed in the novel offer timeless lessons for readers today and reflect universal aspects of the human condition.