

Book Club Questions for “Joseph”

1. "Joseph" provides a unique perspective on the aftermath of Jesus' death and resurrection through the eyes of his younger brother. How does the novel offer insight into the challenges faced by Jesus' family in the wake of these monumental events?
2. Jenifer Jennings portrays Joseph as a character caught between loyalty to his family and the desire to follow Jesus' teachings. How does Joseph navigate this tension throughout the novel, and what internal conflicts does he grapple with?
3. The novel delves into Joseph's relationship with his older brother, Jesus, and the impact of Jesus' resurrection on their family dynamics. How does Joseph's perception of Jesus evolve over the course of the story, and how does it influence his decisions and actions?
4. "Joseph" explores themes of faith, doubt, and reconciliation as Joseph seeks to mend his fractured family and navigate the uncertainty of their future. How does Joseph's journey of faith parallel his search for his missing sibling, and what lessons can readers draw from his experiences?
5. The character of Joseph serves as a bridge between Jesus' followers and his family, who remain skeptical of his claims of resurrection. How does Joseph navigate the divide between these two worlds, and what insights can we gain from his perspective on Jesus' ministry and message?
6. Jenifer Jennings incorporates elements of historical research and cultural context into "Joseph," offering insights into life in Jerusalem during the tumultuous period following Jesus' death. What details or descriptions from the novel helped you visualize the historical setting, and how did they enhance your reading experience?
7. Joseph encounters various challenges and obstacles throughout the novel, from navigating familial tensions to searching for his missing sibling in a dangerous and divided Jerusalem. How does Joseph demonstrate resilience and determination in the face of adversity, and what moments in the novel highlight his strength?
8. The theme of family and belonging is prevalent in "Joseph," as Joseph grapples with his sense of duty to his family and his desire to follow Jesus' teachings. How does Joseph reconcile these competing priorities, and what lessons can readers draw from his experiences in seeking reconciliation and unity?
9. Joseph's role as a peacemaker and mediator within his family is central to the narrative, as he seeks to mend the rifts caused by Jesus' ministry and death. How does Joseph's efforts to find his missing sibling reflect his commitment to healing and restoration, and what insights can we gain from his example?
10. In what ways does "Joseph" resonate with contemporary issues and experiences, despite being set in ancient times? Discuss how the themes of faith, family, and reconciliation portrayed in the novel offer timeless lessons for readers today and reflect universal aspects of the human condition.