



Book Club Questions

Book: *Bittersweet: Faith Lost and Found, and the DNA Test that Brought a Baby Back to Life*
By: Christina Marie Hales and Catherine Anne Lewis (with Latasha Colander Clark)

Chapter Listing:

Foreword, Latasha Colander Clark

Introduction, *The Gift*, Catherine Anne Lewis

Prologue, *Stillborn*

Chapter 1: **The DNA Test**, Present Day

Chapter 2: **Messes Into Miracles**, Past

Chapter 3: **Cowgirl at the Burlesque**, Past

Chapter 4: **Dead Ringer**, Present Day

Chapter 5: **When the Lights Dim**, Past

Chapter 6: **A Friend of Bill's**, Past

Chapter 7: **The Dead Baby**, Present Day

Chapter 8: **My Second Birthday**, Past

Chapter 9: **Life Sentence**, Past

Chapter 10: **Hitting a Brick Wall**, Present Day

Chapter 11: **Bucket List**, Past

Chapter 12: **Telling A Secret**, Past

Chapter 13: **Miracles**, Past

Chapter 14: **Throwing the Baby Out With the Bathwater**, Present Day

Chapter 15: **God's Left Turn**, Past

Chapter 16: **I'll Apologize Now**, Past

Chapter 17: **The Fires of Hell**, Past

Chapter 18: **Dad and the Go-Go Dancer**, Present Day

Epilogue, *Two Years Later*

Afterword, Christina Marie Hales

Christi and Cat would like to thank you for selecting our book for your Book Club! We hope Christi's story has impacted you in some way, and that you found takeaways to apply to your own life!

First, Two Important Things:

1. Contact Form information. Yes, we know there are some errors and word omissions in the book. We didn't have a big budget or huge publishing house behind us. This book is a grass roots effort, and we're not even crowd-sourced. We did the best we could to send a 400+-page published book to market with support from some amazing people, but mostly using our own resources and determination with God's help. To alert us to errors, please use the **form on the book's webpage** www.catherineannelewis/bittersweet. We'll do our best to have those corrected in future printings.

2. Negative Reviews are 'death' to independent authors. If you enjoyed the book, please leave a POSITIVE review at the retailer from which you purchased our book (Amazon, Xulon Press, or Barnes & Noble, etc.). That helps us incredibly and we are grateful for you taking the time to do that. If you want to leave a negative review, please DO NOT. While bestselling authors can withstand some negative reviews, independent, self-published authors like us cannot. We DO realize that this book may not be everyone's cup of tea. *How can ANY book please everyone?* So, please keep that in mind. **We appreciate your support of independent authors!**

Thank you for reading those two important things. Now, on to the discussion...

Suggested Group Meeting Schedule

Welcome!*

Ice Breakers and Personal Introductions

Book Discussion

Closing and Thank You

**HOST: Please start and end on time. Usually 2 to 2.5 hours duration. Appoint a time-keeper if needed. This makes everyone feel that their time is valued as we all have busy lives. Make sure that everyone is heard, so if the 'talkers' are dominating the conversation, redirect and encourage the 'quiet' ones to participate (i.e., "That's great, Lara, thanks for that, say, Eva, what do you think about this subject?"). Conversations that continue beyond end time should take place outside of the meeting location to respect the host/venue as well as other members. Decide if you want to serve snacks or meals and what types of drinks to offer, and if the host will be responsible or if the members will pitch in. At the very least water should be provided. If you're so inclined, please feel free to pray or have a moment of silence at the beginning and end of your meeting.*

Discussion Questions

1. What did you think of the book? The way it was written?
2. What would you tell the authors? Would you read another book like this one or not? Why?
3. Was this a “page turner” for you or not?
4. What was your favorite part of the book? Least favorite?
5. What did you learn about storytelling and how valuable your own story is?
6. If you were to write your life story, what would you choose for the title?
7. What is the difference between someone’s ‘life story’ and a ‘testimony’?
8. What childhood memories popped up while reading about Christi’s? Did you have some similar experiences? Or, totally different ones?
9. What part of Christ’s journey spoke to you the most? The least?
10. Did you find encouragement from Christi’s various experiences and outcomes? What made you question why these were put in the book?
11. Can you imagine that there were things that happened to Christi that were intentionally left out of the book?
12. Thinking of your own story, personal struggles and outcomes, what are things that you would put in *OR* leave out of your own book? Can you share those with the group, or do you prefer just to think about them on your own? No judgment.
13. Have you rethought some things in your own life based on reading this book? Do you think you can take some of Christi’s life lessons and apply them to your own life? What would those be?
14. Was the way this book was written (by going back and forth between the present and the past) good or bad? How would you have written the book differently?
15. What secondary characters in the story stood out to you the most? Why?
16. What things do you think Christi handled well? Handled poorly? What did you see coming and what were surprises?

17. Did Christi's life story (up until the end of the book) turn out the way you thought it would? How do you think she is doing today?

18. Share your overall thoughts about the book and how it impacted you (or how it didn't) and how that made you feel.

Please visit www.catherineannelewis.com for your own writing inspiration.

Thanks again for hosting our book for your Book Club!