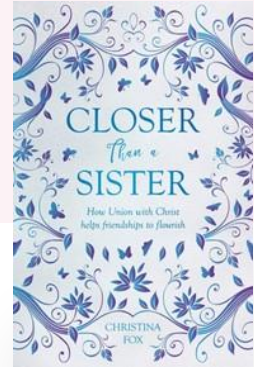




PARTICIPANT GUIDE

CLOSER THAN A SISTER BY CHRISTINA FOX



"We are one of those countless stars in the sky, a grain of sand on the seashore that together make up the people of God."

CHRISTINA FOX



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1

Q. In the foreword, Jen Wilkin shares "Like all good gifts, Christian friendship is to be sought and stewarded with wisdom and grace." (p14). What are your thoughts about this statement?

2

Q. 'Made for Community' paints a picture of what it means to be *Closer Than a Sister*. How did this chapter change your perspective of God's purpose for community within the body of Christ and your understanding of the Trinity?

3

Q. Christina states, "Like different colored threads, we are woven together to create a beautiful tapestry. My strand crosses with a sister in my church and our strands connect to your strand across the miles. We are knit together and part of the same whole." (p 45). How does this very 'visual' description help you ponder the importance of unity within the faith community?

4

Q. Chapter 3 appeals to our very real need for Christian fellowship. When you ponder your own life and friendships, would you say that you have deep friendships with Christ at the centre? Or are your friendships lacking Christ and, therefore, like any other 'worldly' friendship? Why is it essential to seek Godly friendships?

5

Q. "That day I encountered true Christian community; true gospel friendship and it changed me" (p 66). Can you pinpoint a time in your life when an act of kindness opened your eyes to what true Christian community is all about? Or maybe you can recall your very first Christ-centred friendship and the profound impact it had on you?

6

Q. What does it mean to you to "Rejoice with those who rejoice and mourn with those who mourn?" Has your perspective changed since reading this book?

7

Q. How does authentic and non-judgemental fellowship push us towards transformation and holiness?

8

Q. Christina teaches from Titus 2 about the very real command (not a suggestion!) for women to learn from other women, both as a spiritual mentor and being mentored themselves. Have you experienced being mentored or mentoring another? Why are mentoring relationships so valuable?

9

Q. "God creates community but we have to cultivate and nurture it" (p146). How has this statement been true in your life? How do you best maintain and nurture your community and friendships?

