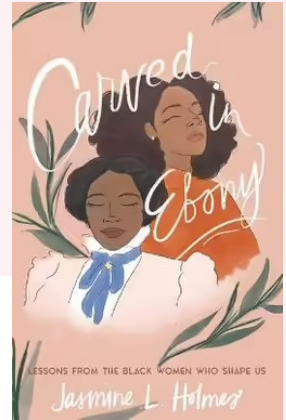




# PARTICIPANT GUIDE

CARVED IN EBONY  
BY JASMINE L. HOLMES



*"What if... we told the story of America as the story of God's faithfulness – and not our own?... It is from this perspective that I seek to tell you the story of ten incredible Black women."*

**JASMINE L. HOLMES**



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1

Q. 'Carved in Ebony' is a much-needed biographical contribution to help us remember the Black women who faithfully served God through brave, bold and lasting kingdom deeds. Which woman's life touched your heart the most? Why?

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2

Q. In the Introduction, Jasmine poses the question, "Is it unpatriotic to shine a light on America's unfaithfulness to God's word?" (p15). How did reading this book help you understand the importance of remembering the past accurately?

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3

Q. "Where they imitated their Savior, they imitated him well. Where they fell short, his grace was sufficient for them, as it is for us" (p22). Discuss.

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4

Q. The ten women featured in this book, "staked their claim to the dignity that all of us who have been made in the image of God are due" (p17). Discuss.

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5

Q. "If you're going to be a Christian, you've got to do something weekdays as well as talk and feel about it on Sundays" (quote from Nannie Helen Burroughs, p60). Why is it so important to live out our faith?

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6

Q. Motherhood has often been described as the 'crowning glory' of womanhood. Jasmine points out that although motherhood is a wonderful gift, many of these inspirational women were not mothers but still served God and led incredibly fruitful lives. Why is it so important to remember that motherhood should not define a woman's worth in the kingdom of God?

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7

Q. "Amanda described sanctification as God's 'enduring grace' and prayed that her sufferings would help to sanctify her" (p89). What lessons can we learn from her perspective on suffering and hardship?

8

Q. Lucy Craft Laney dedicated her life to forming schools that provide Black Americans with both a liberal arts education and vocational education in a time when it was common to offer one or the other. Why was it important to offer both?

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9

Q. In Appendix 1, Jasmine shares a brief summary of 'The Founding Fathers and Slavery'. Although many of these men abhorred slavery, they still owned slaves. Discuss this paradox.

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10

Q. Jasmine says, "We are not called to supernatural strength in any way, shape, form or fashion. We are merely called to a supernatural faith that he is all too ready to supply us" (p93). In what area of your life do you need a pouring out of supernatural faith?

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