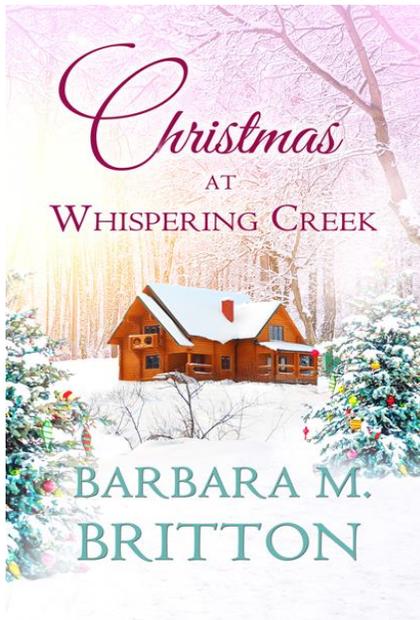


Discussion Questions



CHRISTMAS AT WHISPERING CREEK

Christmas Extravaganza 2022

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About the Book

“Fans of Christian romance will laugh and cry while reading this heartfelt Christmas story” says USA Today bestselling author, Laura Scott.

All Samantha Williams wants to do is to use her teaching degree to instruct a classroom of second graders. But, after a breast cancer diagnosis at the age of twenty-three, and failed reconstruction surgery, Sam finds herself without a job and temporarily living with her parents. This isn't the life Sam expected. When a family friend dies and leaves Sam a house and land in Whispering Creek, Tennessee, Sam must decide if leaving Wisconsin for Southern living is in her lesson plans.

Nashville native, Cole Donovan, left his family's electrical business to write country music. When Cole's song-writing partner and girlfriend dumps him for a country music star, Cole abandons Nashville to hole up in Whispering Creek and compose one more song. The last thing Cole expects to find in the sleepy small town is a deceased friend, estate squabbles, and a Northern beauty. Will the chaos in Whispering Creek help create a bestselling song for Cole and possibly help him find a life-long collaborator?

TITLE: Christmas at Whispering Creek

Discussion:

Question 1: Samantha is a breast cancer survivor at the young age of twenty-three. Her faith, family, and church friends gave her support through her cancer journey. Have you been through a health scare or another difficult situation? What got you through the storm?

Answer: Faith in God is important to Sam. She has a support system of caring people. She also gains strength through Scripture reading.

Question 2: Sam reads verses from Philippians for comfort. Philippians 4:4-7 appear in this novel. Cole also has a verse from Philippians that is important to him (4:13). Do you have go-to Scripture that encourages you?

Answer: Sam and Cole have their Scripture from Philippians. Philippians 4:4-7 are some of my favorite verses and were crucial in my breast cancer journey. Ted has the encouraging words from Psalm 46:1 on his headstone.

Question 3: Sam inherits a home from her former neighbor Mr. Ted. Have you ever inherited something of value that was precious to you?

Answers: Answers will vary. I have inherited jewelry and when I wear it, I think of my loved ones.

Question 4: Cole works in a family business. There is tension with his older brother Wade. Do you get along with all of your family members the same? Why or why not? What is God's guidance on this?

Answer: Family dynamics can be difficult. Jesus tells us that the two most important commandments are to love God and love our neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:37-40). How much more should we love our family? We may not like the way our family acts sometimes, but we should love and respect them. Safety must always come first. Praying for those we find difficult, can help us with our perspective.

Question 5: Who was your favorite character and why? Does anyone have habits to which you can relate?

Answer: I thought Cole would be the easier character to write, but he became the hardest character to bring to the page. I didn't see his family drama when I began to write this story.

Question 6: Sam was born in Wisconsin and Cole was born in Tennessee. Did you see any cultural differences from where they grew up?

Answer: I have lived all over the USA. I never drank iced tea before living in the South. My blood had to thicken in order to endure a Wisconsin winter. My football allegiance has changed to the Packers.

Question 7: Sam has lost a breast to cancer. Her body image and self-esteem waver at times. Where should she get her self-worth? Man, or God?

Answer: Man is focused on the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart. You may remember this with David when he was chosen to be king (I Samuel 16:7). David was not the handsomest son of Jesse. Also, look up Isaiah 43:1-7 and the beautiful allegiance that God reminds Jacob of. In John 3:16, we see the salvation message of Jesus giving his life for us, so we may live eternally with God.

Question 8: Sam and Cole's story is set at Christmas time. What is your favorite holiday? Do you have any traditions that you would like to share?

Answer: I am partial to Christmas and Easter. We attend church on both holidays to thank Jesus for loving us so much that he was born, died, and resurrected to life to pay for our sins. I love to bake so the desserts at these holidays are a bonus.

Question 9: Are you familiar with the Roman Road to salvation? Check out Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, and 10:9-10.

Answer: These verses tell why Jesus came, and what he did so we could be God's children and have a relationship with the Living God.

Question 10: What was your favorite scene in the story? Does one stick out to you?

Answer: Any scene with Daniel brought a smile to my face. I'm a mother of boys.

