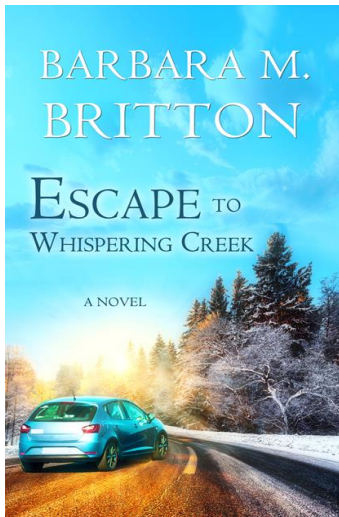


Discussion Questions



ESCAPE TO WHISPERING CREEK

Whispering Creek

Author: Barbara M. Britton

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About the Book

Emma Uranova enjoys her office job until her boss disappears with the investors' money. To avoid the media storm and false accusations, Emma flees to Whispering Creek, Tennessee to live on her best friend's secluded property. When a temporary position opens up in Nashville, Emma leaves small-town anonymity to pad her depleted bank account. With a handsome new boss and a steady income, Emma believes life is looking up...until she discovers she has transported the scandal in her backpack. Where is God when her life is falling apart?

Wade Donovan is recuperating from a crash that sidelined him from the family electrical business. Worse yet, his prodigal younger brother is getting the glory for Wade's accomplishments. Desperation, and physical setbacks, have him agreeing to let Emma help him manage the business office. But when trouble follows her to his doorstep, Wade must make some difficult choices. Sending Emma back to Whispering Creek may unknowingly place the woman he's come to love in danger.

TITLE: Escape to Whispering Creek

Discussion:

Question 1: Emma's life gets turned upside down by an event that is out of her control. Have you been in a challenging situation or dealt with an unexpected trial? How did you handle it? How did Emma and Wade handle their situations?

Answer 1: Emma and Wade have a relationship with God. They pray to Jesus and ask their friends and family to pray, too. They have a good support system in place. When I went through a cancer diagnosis, I had the support of my family, my church family, and my friends. Meals were brought to my door, friends offered to drive me places, and the encouraging cards I received blessed me. The Romans Road speaks to what Jesus has done for us: Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-10.

Question 2: Emma has a verse that is very important to her: Psalm 18:2. This verse was written on the rock next to Herbie. Do you have a favorite verse or saying that helps you get through difficult times, or helps you keep a proper perspective on life?

Answer 2: My favorite verses were used in "Christmas at Whispering Creek." I said these verses often during my cancer journey and life in general. Philippians 4:4-9 calm my spirit and get me focused on God.

Question 3: My favorite verses were used in "Christmas at Whispering Creek." I said these verses often during my cancer journey and life in general. Philippians 4:4-9 calm my spirit and get me focused on God.

Answer 3: I have visited Nashville for conferences and vacations. I enjoyed the music, history, and weather. When my sons were young, we would make a trek to Lake Delton, WI, to the Waterpark Capital of the World. My family has a lot of great memories from our visits.

Question 4: Emma and Wade have people in their lives that act like mentors. These friends/relatives give sage advice and encouragement. Who are Emma and Wade's advisors? Who is a mentor in your life?

Answer 4: Emma has her lifelong friend Sam to help her navigate life. Wade has his brother Cole for support. Both Emma and Wade also pray to God for guidance. I am blessed to have a husband, family members, and friends to help me make wise decisions. We also pray for guidance. Pastors, church leaders, and Christian counselors can help in difficult times.

Question 5: Different parts of the country have their own unique local cuisine. What is your favorite food from your town or city?

Answer 5: Emma is from Wisconsin. We are the original dairy state, and yes, we do like our cheese. Fried cheese curds are the best. Wade hails from Nashville where wings and dishes can be hot and sport cayenne pepper and sriracha. Sprecher is a local brewery near me that makes delicious root beer.

Question 6: Emma is a Christian with unbelieving parents. Her parents' lack of salvation weighs on Emma's heart. Can you relate to having unbelieving family members? How do you navigate the differences in beliefs

Answer 6: Emma prays for her parents and tries to shine a light for Jesus in their lives. I accepted Jesus as my Savior in grade school. My mom had come to faith in God through a bible study. My dad didn't believe in Jesus at first. Fortunately, he didn't mind if we went to church without him. Later, after a move across the country, he decided to attend church with us. He eventually became a Christ follower. Praise the Lord! I also have family members who aren't believers or if they are, they don't practice their faith as vigilantly as I do. I try to have a loving heart and let God sort out what I don't know.

Question 7: Wade owns a business and works very hard. Do you think he invests too much time in his work? What are the drawbacks to being a workaholic? How do you manage family life and work?

Answer 7: Wade needed Emma to drop into his life and steal his heart, especially after being in a hospital bed and having a long recovery. He focused on his company to the detriment of his social life. Work has to be kept in a healthy perspective or it can overtake all hours of the day. Check out Ecclesiastes 3:12-13 and Proverbs 16:3 on a healthy perspective on work. We should work as if we are doing it for God, but God and family come before tasks. Managing an active family and work is a rollercoaster depending on the time of year and workload. One must take care of their mental and physical health. As the saying goes, don't sweat the small stuff, and always take the time to make memories with your family. Children grow fast and they will be stretching their adult wings soon enough. I don't regret the time I invested in people, even if my manuscript took an extra week or two to finish.

Question 8: What was your favorite scene in the book? If you have read "Christmas at Whispering Creek," what came up in Wade and Emma's story that made you smile?

Answer 8: As an author, it is almost impossible for me to pick a favorite scene. I will say that my critique partners made me work extra hard on the firing scene.

Question 9: If you had to choose, would you prefer a story set in a smaller town or a big city? Do you think where a reader lives influences this decision? How is it affected?

Answer 9 Of course, Emma, Sam, Wade, and Cole prefer the small town of Whispering Creek. I enjoy stories set in places where I have not lived. I haven't lived in the South, so it's fun for me to read about southern states. I lived in a small town for five years, but otherwise I am a suburbanite.

Question 10: My novels fall under the Christian Fiction umbrella where the author writes about faith and uses Scripture in their stories. Is this type of book new to you? Do you enjoy issues of Faith in a novel? Why or why not?

Answer 10: Answers will vary here. Some readers enjoy a lot of spiritual themes in a novel, and some prefer none to very little. My background is in Biblical Fiction where Scripture is the foundation of the story. I enjoy writing a faith journey into a book or having characters act upon their faith. My books are able to go to places that need the light of Jesus. John 8:12. Thank you for reading “Escape to Whispering Creek.”

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