



A Dream for Tomorrow

by Melody A. Carlson

Book Group Discussion Questions

1. Some of the pioneers had difficulties lightening their wagon loads. What one possession would be hard for you to let go of? Explain how you would feel leaving it behind.
2. Describe your reaction when Mr. Taylor lost his life.
3. Mrs. Taylor isn't always easy to like. Is someone in your life like that? Compare your real person to Mrs. Taylor.
4. Elizabeth found herself in the middle of a love triangle. Which man were you rooting for? Why?
5. How did you feel when Brady took a thrashing after rescuing the boy in the river? Do you see a spiritual metaphor in that scene?
6. Why do you think the dance hall girl refused to let Elizabeth repay her for her kindness to Brady?
7. Why do you think Elizabeth was so certain that Eli was not the kind of man to settle down? Was she being realistic or just trying to protect her own heart?
8. Malinda's first letter (warning Elizabeth not to come) was alarming. Describe an instance in your life when you expected a disaster but it turned out all right.
9. What did you think when Mrs. Taylor changed her mind at the last minute, pleading to continue on with Elizabeth and her family?
10. Were you surprised that Elizabeth rejected Will's attempts to court her? Do you think that was realistic (for that time period) or not? Describe.
11. After all her hard work and planning and helpfulness, Elizabeth feels a bit left out once her family is actually on the frontier. Describe a time you felt like that.
12. What was your favorite part of this story and why?