

Book Club Questions for “Midwives of Moses”

1. "Midwives of Moses" sheds light on the story of Puah, one of the courageous midwives mentioned briefly in the Book of Exodus. How does the novel breathe life into Puah's character and experiences, expanding upon her role in the biblical narrative?
2. Jenifer Jennings portrays Puah as a woman of strength, resilience, and faith in "Midwives of Moses." How does Puah's character defy societal expectations and stereotypes for women in ancient times, and what qualities make her a compelling protagonist?
3. The novel delves into Puah's relationships with other characters, including her fellow midwife Shiphrah and the Israelite and Egyptian women they serve. How do these relationships shape Puah's actions and decisions throughout the story, and what insights can we gain from her interactions with others?
4. "Midwives of Moses" explores themes of courage and resistance in the face of oppression, as Puah defies Pharaoh's orders to kill Hebrew male infants. How does Puah demonstrate bravery and moral integrity, and what lessons can readers draw from her example in standing up against injustice?
5. The character of Pharaoh plays a significant role in Puah's story, particularly as the antagonist threatening the lives of Hebrew newborns. How does the novel depict Puah's interactions with Pharaoh, and what insights can we gain from her confrontations with authority?
6. Jenifer Jennings incorporates elements of historical research and cultural context into "Midwives of Moses," offering insights into ancient Egyptian society and the role of midwives. What details or descriptions from the novel helped you visualize the historical setting, and how did they enhance your reading experience?
7. Puah encounters various challenges and obstacles throughout the novel, from navigating her duties as a midwife to risking her own safety to protect Hebrew infants. How does Puah demonstrate resilience and determination in the face of adversity, and what moments in the novel highlight her strength?
8. The theme of faith and trust in God's providence is prevalent in "Midwives of Moses," as Puah grapples with questions of divine guidance and protection. How does Puah's journey of faith evolve throughout the novel, and what lessons can readers draw from her experiences in trusting God's plan?
9. Puah's role as a midwife and caregiver is central to the biblical narrative, and "Midwives of Moses" delves into her legacy and impact on future generations. How does Puah's courage and compassion shape the course of history, and what lessons can we learn from her example as a woman of faith?
10. In what ways does "Midwives of Moses" resonate with contemporary issues and experiences, despite being set in ancient times? Discuss how the themes of courage, resistance, and faith portrayed in the novel offer timeless lessons for readers today and reflect universal aspects of the human condition.