

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Dealing with death is difficult for most of us and often brings up unresolved conflict—with others, with God, and with ourselves. Have you had an experience like the Barrett's? If so, how did you handle it? Which character did you identify with the most?
2. Our view of God is often a reflection of our view of our earthly father. How has your view of your father affected your view of God?
3. Ellen and Mike let the busyness of their jobs crowd out their spiritual life. How did that affect their relationship? Has that ever happened to you? How were you able to get back on track spiritually?
4. Jane's pain, which resulted in anger toward her siblings, was tearing the family apart and making everyone miserable. Do you have a "Jane" in your family? Have you ever tried to discuss this person's actions with him or her to discover the reason for the pain?
5. Ellen stated that the "key to peace is to stop talking." Do you agree or disagree, and why?
6. What was your reaction to Diane, who always tried to smooth things over and see that no one was offended?
7. Reread 1 Corinthians 10:12–13. This would be a good verse to memorize and quote during times of temptation. Can you remember a time when you almost gave in to temptation but found a way to escape?
8. Have you ever felt the nudge of the Holy Spirit to pray for someone, and you found out later that he or she was in some kind of crisis at that exact moment? How did that feel?

9. We are commanded to confess our sins to one another. Have you developed relationships with those who would risk confronting you when you're wrong or whom you would risk confronting when they are wrong? Why is this important?
  
10. Dealing with death often causes a person to examine his or her own life. What emotions and memories did this story stir in your heart and mind? Are there areas of your life that you've tried to block out with busyness or other things so you don't have to deal with them? Are there people with whom you are angry? Are there people you hold a grudge against? How is your relationship with the Lord?