

Discussion Questions: Adoring Addie

1. Describe Addie. What are her goals? What are her strengths? What are her weaknesses?
2. Addie's brothers live under a different set of rules than she does. What are some of the reasons for this? What impact does it have on the family?
3. Addie has aimed to please her parents her entire life. What makes her decide to stop? Do you think she's disrespectful in her response to them? Would you have handled the situation differently? If so, how? If not, why not? Is it possible for children to honor their parents but not please them?
4. Jonathan is a disappointment to his father, and yet he feels loved and accepted by his heavenly Father. What relationship in Jonathan's life do you think impacted his view of God? Does his relationship with God keep all of his worries at bay?
5. Addie's mother has kept a secret her entire adult life. How has it impacted her relationships? How has it impacted her the atmosphere of her home?
6. Hannah's family seeks treatment for her mental health. Were you surprised by this? Why or why not?
7. Aenti Nell is Addie's ally through much of the story, but she has a change of heart toward the end. What makes her stop supporting Addie?
8. Jonathan shares a favorite verse of his with Addie, Revelations 21:5, "Behold I make all things new." Give an example of God making "all things new" in your life.
9. In *Romeo and Juliet*, Romeo says, "He that hath the steerage of my course, direct my sail!" In *Adoring Addie*, Jonathan "borrows" from Romeo and says,

“We’ll set our sails by his direction.” Even though the characters have similar values, the stories end differently. Is fate to be blamed? Or something else?

10. In *Adoring Addie*, what convinces the parents to revisit the past? What finally leads to healing in the two families?

11. Which character in the story did you identify with the most? Why do you relate to him or her?