

### Rebellious Heart Discussion Questions

1. Susanna struggles with whether she should break the law. She doesn't want to go against Scripture's mandate to obey our earthly authorities. And yet, she also wants to help the runaway. Do you think it's ever okay to break man-made laws? If so, under what circumstances?
2. Do you think Susanna should have told her parents right away about Dotty? Why or why not?
3. Did you realize education of women was given such a low priority during colonial times? How do you think you would have reacted to being treated as an inferior to men?
4. In the beginning of the book, Ben is concerned with winning the esteem of his peers. He's always been put down, even ranked lower at Harvard because of his lack of status and means. Why do we often fall into the trap of seeking the approval of men rather than God? Is it ever okay to seek after the approval of others?
5. During the colonial era, suitable matches were important for maintaining lifestyles. Did you think Ben was wrong for pursuing Hannah Quincy? Why or why or why not?
6. Friendship was foundational to Ben and Susanna's relationship. How important do you think friendship is to a satisfying marriage relationship?
7. What were some of the boundaries that stifled Susanna? What boundaries constricted Tom and Phoebe? Do you think they should have worked harder to push free of their constraints? Why or why not?
8. The American Revolution obviously began many years before the first shot was fired in April of 1775. In this story which takes place over ten years prior, what are some of the conflicts that are already developing?
9. Sacrifice was another important theme in this book. What are some of the sacrifices the characters made for one another? Have you ever had to make a big sacrifice for someone?
10. Mother-daughter and father-son relationships can sometimes be really stressful and sometimes an incredible blessing. How has your relationship with your parents influenced decisions you've made?