

## ***One More Sunrise Discussion Questions***

Like most marriages, Joe and Meg's got off to a great start—seemingly genuine love and care for each other, easy interaction between them, lots of laughter and humor. Where did things get off track between them? Was it simply the shattering of their dreams?

What are some of the affects in your own life regarding broken dreams?

When Luke turns up at the Daley home, his flattery touches a chord deep within Meg—certainly understandable with her need for Joe's love. How did Meg handle the situation? What might she have done differently? What should women do when a man's approval lights a tiny flame within? Is it all right to enjoy it for a moment, then move on?

Saint Augustine said, "It was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men as angels." What were the affects of pride in Joe's life? In Luke Ramsey's life?

In what ways was Ferguson, the angel, biblically accurate? How is he different from the usual understanding of these messengers from God?

"Contentment is not fulfillment of what you want, but the realization of how much you already have." How does it sometimes take a life-altering event to wake us up to the gifts we already have?

The father/son dynamic is a central theme in this story. In what ways did Joe's relationship to his father affect his relationship to his own son, Danny?

Meg's mother Sylvia seems to want Meg to swallow her own unhappiness and stay in her marriage to Joe partly because of the scandal her departure from the home might cause. Have you ever done something you didn't want to do, or didn't feel you should do, purely for the sake of appearances?

Much of the novel deals with the issue of the characters' faith—not only in God but in their relationships with each other. How does one affect the other?

When did you first believe (or did you ever believe?) that Ferguson was more than just a stranger passing through Greenville?

Ferguson tells Joe "on earth there is no heaven, but there are pieces of it." What did he mean by this statement?

Meg seems stuck in her unhappy marriage until Norma, her old friend from high school, moves back to town and shares that she has left her own husband. Do you think Meg would have made the decision to leave Joe without Norma's influence? Does it always take a big step to fix a big problem?

The citizens of Greenville are amazed by Ferguson's simple statement he left behind in the field. Has your faith ever given you a "second chance" at something?

Was Meg right in "protecting" the two children from the truth about their father's weekend binges? Particularly Danny, who figured it out? What are the downsides of this natural reaction of a mother to defend and shield her offspring from the hard realities of life?