

Wanda E. Brunstetter

Lose Your Heart in the Amish Life.

New York Times best-selling author.

Discussion Questions for *Betsy's Return*

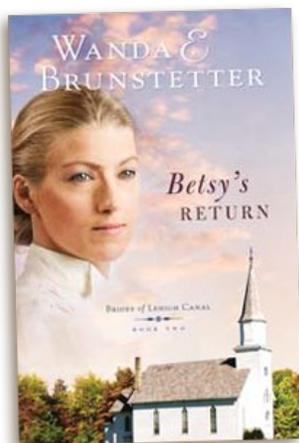
1. When Betsy received the news that her father was ill and had to retire from preaching, she decided to give up a job she enjoyed and return home to care for him. Despite the fact that Betsy liked her job, she loved her father more. Have you ever made a sacrifice to care for someone in your family? How did it make you feel?
2. When William was asked to interview for the position of pastor at the small church in Walnutport, PA, his well-to-do, rather snobbish parents, were very upset. They wanted William to have a bigger church where he could make more money, and hoped he would live closer to them. However, William cared nothing about wealth or prestige. His greatest desire was to minister to others. Why do you think some people put so much emphasis on money and prestige?
3. When Betsy discovered that another preacher was coming to take her father's place, she was sad and a bit resentful. Even so, she was willing to help out at the church when the new minister came. Sometimes, when a minister, whom we especially like, leaves the church, it's hard to accept the new preacher who takes over for him. What are some ways we can make the transition easier when a minister is replaced?
4. William's greatest concern when he took the church in Walnutport was that he wouldn't be able to fill the shoes of the previous pastor, Rev. Nelson, who had lovingly served the small canal community for many years. What are some ways we can help a new pastor feel accepted and welcome in his new church?
5. Since William was single, several women in the church decided he should have a wife, so they decided to play matchmaker. Do you think this helped or hindered Betsy and William's relationship?
6. Sometimes rumors get started because someone sees or hears something and misinterprets it. This happened to Betsy when someone saw a man trying to kiss her. What's the best way to handle rumors? Is there ever a time when the pastor should be told when one church member sees another church member doing something they feel is wrong?

7. William struggled with the pain of having been left at the altar. The woman he'd planned to marry backed out of the wedding because she didn't want to be a preacher's wife. What are some ways you might help your minister's wife feel like part of the church family?

8. Due to the fact that William had been jilted by his fiancée, he was leery of starting a relationship with Betsy, fearing that she might hurt him, too. What would you tell someone who has been hurt in a relationship so they don't close themselves off from love again?

9. For the benefit of the canalers who felt uncomfortable worshipping in a church building, William held some services along the canal. What are some ways we can reach out to others who either aren't comfortable attending church or are unable to attend church due to their jobs?

10. Was there anything specific from this story that spoke to your heart or helped you have a better understanding of the way God works in your life?



Wanda Brunstetter is an award-winning romance novelist who has led millions of readers to lose their heart in the Amish life. She is the author of almost 50 books with more than 5 million copies sold. Many of her books have landed on the top bestseller lists, including the *New York Times*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *CBA*, *ECPA*, and *CBD*. Wanda is considered one of the founders of the Amish fiction genre, and her work has been covered by national publications, including *Time Magazine* and *USA Today*.

For more information, visit www.WandaBrunstetter.com

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