Discussion questions for *A River Between Us* by Jocelyn Green

- 1. In chapter 2, Cora Mae's mother warns her not to let her fear turn into hate. In what ways have you seen fear turn into hate in today's culture?
- 2. How do you think that having June in her care influenced Cora Mae's response to her circumstances?
- 3. How did Cora Mae change from the start of the story to the end?
- 4. Ethan had been so focused on dying in a way that counted for the Union cause. He needed the chaplain to tell him the way he lived was even more important than the manner in which he died. Once Ethan understood that, what difference did it make for him?
- 5. How did the months in Cannelton, Indiana, affect both Cora Mae and June?
- 6. Ethan remained in Marietta while the Union army continued its campaign south. Even though he felt stuck and useless at first, how did God use that time for Ethan's good? Have you ever felt stuck in a place that you later realized God was using for your benefit?
- 7. Which character in the book could you most relate to?
- 8. What was your impression of Daisy Buford, and how did your opinion of her change as the story progressed? How did your perspective of Zeke Aldridge shift?
- 9. In chapter 24, Mr. Aldridge reveals his true opinion of Cora Mae. At what point in the story did you begin to suspect he may have an ulterior motive with her? Did chapter 24 alter your perspective of Mrs. Aldridge at all? If so, how?
- 10. The theme of home and belonging runs throughout *A River Between Us*. Where, or with whom, do you feel most at home?