

Restoring Hope – Book Club Questions

Unplanned Pregnancy and Life Choices



*This guide is intended for book clubs who want to explore **Restoring Hope** in a thoughtful, compassionate way. The questions focus on the story of Ruby who is navigating an unplanned pregnancy, the characters who support her, and the emotional experience of decision-making during uncertainty. Participants are encouraged to share only what feels comfortable; listening is as important as speaking.*

Warm-up question (optional):

- What drew you to this book, or what were you most curious about as you started reading?

1: Ruby's Experience and the Weight of Choice

- How would you describe Ruby's emotional state when she first shares that she is pregnant?
- Which scenes best captured the complexity or heaviness of her decision for you?
- Did you find yourself empathising with Ruby, even when you didn't fully agree with her thoughts or reactions?

(Facilitator's note: Keep the focus on Ruby rather than debating "right" outcomes.)

2: Support, Influence, and Being Heard

- Ruby is surrounded by people who care about her. Which forms of support felt most helpful to you as a reader?
- How does the novel show the difference between offering guidance and applying pressure?
- Were there moments where simply being listened to seemed to help Ruby gain clarity?

3: The Past, Fear, and Self-Doubt

- How do Ruby's past experiences shape how she views herself and her options?
- What fears seem to hold the most power over her?
- How did the novel show that old wounds can resurface during major life decisions?

4: Expectations, Motherhood, and “Getting It Right”

- How do the different characters in *Restoring Hope* like Nova and Hope challenge common assumptions about readiness, responsibility, or what makes a “good” parent?
- What pressures—internal or external—does Ruby feel around making the “right” choice?
- How does the story push back against the idea that life decisions should be neat or certain?

5: Hope, Trust, and Moving Forward

- How does Ruby’s understanding of hope change by the end of the novel?
- What role do trust and self-belief play in her growth?
- Does Ruby’s final decision feel more like an ending, a beginning, or something in between?

Closing Reflections

Choose one or two:

- What moment or relationship in the novel stayed with you the longest?
- Did the book shift how you think about supporting someone facing an unexpected or life-altering decision?
- What do you think people need most from others when they’re overwhelmed or unsure?

Optional Gentle Closing

- If this story were to offer one message about navigating the uncertainty of an unplanned pregnancy, what would you say it is?