



# *Love Where You Live* Book Club questions

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## Chapter 1 - The Town of Six Traffic Lights

1. How would you describe your town?
2. Do you believe God has you here for a reason? How has that become clear or what is causing you to wonder if this is true?
3. "Faith is the heart response. Obedience is the physical response." What does this mean to you?
4. Dream of what could be in your community. Share one dream.

## Chapter 2 - The Comfortable Life

1. What speaks comfort to you where you live?
2. Could any of these be desensitizing or dangerous for you?
3. "When comfort is treasured above all else, we have made it an idol." Do you agree or disagree? How so?
4. If you believe comfort is a gift rather than a destination, what adjustments do you need to make in your life and thinking?

### Chapter 3 - Thanks, Queen Esther

1. “The voices outside of me couldn’t derail the Voice inside of me.” What does that mean to you?
2. Tension can be present in decision-making. What makes the tension so difficult as we discern God’s calling and leading?
3. “When God gives us abundant life, He wants us to live it. When God gives us an income, He wants us to steward it well. When God provides direction, He wants us to go.” What is God giving you to give back to Him?
4. God used Queen Esther’s story to intersect with Shauna’s story. Who in Scripture or what passage in Scripture has God used to get your attention?

### Chapter 4 - Start to Stay

1. Do you have a “staying mindset”? Explain.
2. “Everything arrived when we moved to San Francisco. Everything except my heart.” Is your heart here? How can this group help?
3. “A fear of missing out is not from God...He wants us to [do] what He’s called us to do.” Look back on page 56 at the rest of the paragraph. Why are you fearful? How does this cause us to hold back from living sent?
4. Some of us are living sent in a new home every few years (ie military, traveling jobs, etc). How do you live sent even though you know you will move again soon? On the other hand, how is longevity attractive?

### Chapter 5 - Jesus is Here

1. Is Jesus here in this town? How have you seen Him at work?
2. “I could stay because Jesus was here. And that started to matter more than anything else that had comforted me in the past.” (pg. 67)
3. Does your attitude tend to reflect that Jesus is present in your city?
4. The chapter ends with the description of standing on a welcome mat. Does this message personally speak to you or does it cause you to think of how you welcome others?

## Chapter 6 - God's Plan for Places

1. "Learn the culture that God loves more than we do." What have you discovered about your community? How are you learning the culture?
2. "We are to use our gifts and talents to help cure, develop, teach, build, uncover, expand, multiply, and give to our corners of the world, which God can take and use for His good." (pg. 77) What gifts and talents are you using in your city/neighborhood?
3. Shauna points out that God wants us to leave footprints, plant gardens, and learn the culture. Which one(s) speak to you?
4. Thus far, how would describe the big picture you have for living sent where you live?

## Chapter 7 - The Enemy Has a Plan, Too

1. Do you believe that there is a battle going on between good and evil, between the forces of dark and light?
2. How does the enemy keep others in the dark and discouraged in your town?
3. How does the enemy keep you scared, secluded, and superior as it relates to your culture?
4. "Proclaiming Jesus will lead to pushback. Not experiencing pushback? One of two things is happening. You are only surrounded by people who think like you. Or you aren't having conversations about Christ." (pg. 87) Do you agree with this? Why or why not?

## Chapter 8 - Meet the Neighbors

1. What's something you've done or your neighbors have done for you lately?
2. Why is it important for neighbors to know one another in this day and time?
3. What keeps us from getting to know those who live right beside us?
4. What ideas has this chapter sparked in you for your street or floor?

## Chapter 9 - Meet the Faith Family

1. Who first welcomed you or invited you to church?
2. Are you comfortable inviting friends to your church? Discuss.
3. How is the church the cure for isolation, paralysis, and seclusion?
4. What does it mean for the faith family to "grow close to one another but is not closed off to others?" (pg. 99)

## Chapter 10 - Walking Shoes

1. If you were to go to a part of town you never venture out to, where would that be?
2. Have you ever done a prayer walk where you live? How might this change your perspective?
3. The Good Samaritan is a familiar story in the Bible. What do we learn about walking from this parable?
4. Which way will you try this week: walk to learn, walk to celebrate, walk to pray?

## Chapter 11 - Seeing Eyes

1. Who is the newest to town in the group? What do you see that might help bring freshness to those who have been there for a while?
2. How can you and your family *look up before you look out*?
3. According to this chapter, what's the difference between tunnel vision and wide-eyed wonder?
4. How might you apply this, "do something with what you see, and don't beat yourself up for what you don't or can't see" (pg 124)?

## Chapter 12 - Listening Ears

1. What is everyone talking about around town? What's the buzz?
2. What did Remy ask for more of?
3. Who in your community has your attention? What are you hearing them say?
4. Where can you go to listen to your city? Where can you go to listen to the God of your city? If you don't have a place, ask God to show you.

## Chapter 13 - Compassion Stickers

1. Name a time this place or someone here has made you mad.
2. When has brokenness been both a healer and a blessing?
3. Look at Matthew 13:24-30. In your context, what does it look like for "both to grow together?"
4. Do you believe God can use your hurt to help someone else heal? Reflect on the band-aid analogy.

## Chapter 14 - Choose to Stay

1. What does your town celebrate? How can you join in?
2. Where do you see yourself today: having to stay or getting to stay?
3. In what ways is living sent a lifestyle rather than a job for missionaries or ministers?
4. What's your favorite dweller tip in the book? Create your own to share with the group.

## Chapter 15 - Quadrants

1. How does Shauna describe quadrants?
2. What did you discover about your lifestyle and rhythms as you worked on your quadrants?
3. What are some additional benefits to quadrants than those listed?
4. Discuss challenges that will come as you making adjustments to doing more in less space.

## Chapter 16 - Circles

1. How are circles defined?
2. Name a circle in your life that formed itself. Name one you formed intentionally. Name a circle within a circle.
3. In Brett's story, he pointed out that easy isn't satisfying; purpose is. How is this true in your circles?
4. Respond to this statement, "Jesus also mixed the circles up, and this infuriated the religious leaders. Jesus was a friend to rebels, misfits, prostitutes, tax collectors, fishermen, children, and women. His circles were always intentional." Do your current circles match up with this principle?

## Chapter 17 - Hubs

1. When you have been in a home that was a hub, what appealed to you?
2. How can you make your home a refuge? How can you make your home a blessing?
3. Which of Shauna's creative ideas to build a hub resonated with you?
4. "We create the hub to be the welcome. If those who live near us are to know we are Christians by our love, it must be on display." (pg. 167) Who can you invite over that lives near you?

## Chapter 18 - The Sacred Field

1. Shauna's sacred field was a sports field. "Name that place where you don't want to be but where you find yourself standing."
2. What makes a place sacred?
3. Where in your life are you praying, "whatever, God; have your way?"
4. What are you learning on the sacred field?

### Chapter 19 - Strategic Family

1. Name a tradition or rhythm that has carried over from your childhood.
2. What reasons does the chapter point out are important to "hold hands" with our kids as we do life where we live?
3. "Let God use the people, the culture, and the surroundings to shape their thinking." (pg 181) How does this make you feel?
4. What impact do you want your family to have on your city?

### Chapter 20 - Position Matters

1. As a group, call out gifts you notice in one another or share your passion card answers with the group.
2. "Her influence is far reaching, and yet she's never had to go one step further than where God has wanted her to go." How does Eugenia's story inspire you?
3. "...The live-sent lifestyle, is when we see placement as God positioning us with the ultimate goal of pointing others to Jesus." (pg 189-190) How do we practically speak of Jesus at work?
4. Share examples of this: "Our position is significant to the bigger, wider, more creative story God is writing." (pg 190)

### Chapter 21 - Connector

1. What does *dwell* mean to you?
2. Shauna shares four connector stories. Share a personal connector story with the group.
3. "Not all conversations lead to people coming to church...But all of them can lead us to stepping into their world and them stepping into ours." (pg 198) How is this so?
4. How do you think the sowing and reaping principle apply to connecting?

### Chapter 22 - Storyteller

1. What are some fun facts or pieces of history about where you live?
2. Do you ever find it difficult to share stories of what God has done in your life with others? Do you believe your story is worth sharing?
3. Shauna writes, “what you would call mundane and ordinary, God calls significant and sacred.” How might this truth reshape your perspective?
4. How might you use the “come and see” approach (pg 207) as a way to tell your story?

### Chapter 23 - Grace Giver

1. The chapter opens with this statement: “When I don’t love where I live, compassion is the first thing to go.” Do you agree or disagree? Why?
2. How are interruptions used by God as grace-giving moments?
3. What does it mean to you that we can’t earn God’s love, it’s freely given to us?
4. How is it a relief that judging isn’t up to us, but giving mercy and giving grace is?

### Chapter 24 - Intercessor

1. What is intercession?
2. Name some ways we intercede specifically for where we live.
3. What intercessory moment stood out to you in this chapter?
4. What are some ways to use intercessory prayer (pg 222)? What others could you add?

### Chapter 25 - Caretaker

1. What’s a restful place in town?
2. How does rest open us up to receive?
3. What encouragement do you find in this quote, “He sees you and me trying to live with purpose in the very place He has sent us and that brings Him great joy”? (pg 227)
4. Which one of the 4 C.A.R.E. principles speaks to you?

### Chapter 26 - Your Story Isn’t Over

1. Have you ever felt like you didn't have a story worth telling? With those sitting around you, break it down and tell another person what God did for you today. Try to add what you are trusting God for in the future.
2. Name some ways you and others are in process of leaving your community better than you found it.
3. Why is it much easier to watch from the sidelines rather than get in on the story God has for us personally?
4. Who is someone who came before you and because of their story, you have hope? Reference page 238.

### Chapter 27 - Their Story Isn't Over Either

1. How can the case of the "what-ifs" paralyze us?
2. Which of the "to be continued stories-ongoing stories" sparks ideas for your own stories?
3. How many people live in your town? Collectively as a group, consider how many of that number you have reached. Let this encourage and challenge.
4. Is your life set up in such a way, that unless God shows up you've got no chance? Share any specifics with the group.

### Chapter 28 - Global God

1. If you have traveled overseas (or even in your own backyard), who have you met that is "overqualified for any Nobel Prize... [yet] invisible to world leaders" - page 251? What is their story?
2. Global Christianity is a key part of understanding the fullness and creativity of God. How do you (or how can you) learn or be involved in the global church (ie praying for Christians in a certain country, mission trip, supporting a missionary overseas and asking them specific questions, etc.)?
3. If you live in a country that is not your home country, how do you live sent?
4. What did you learn from Florin?

### Chapter 29 - Heavenly City

1. Who in your life do you want to see in heaven, but isn't a believer yet?
2. What does heaven have to do with living sent here on earth?
3. Who is helping you represent your corner of the world for the sake of Christ?
4. How does Mother Teresa's words encourage you? And you? And you?



