

# BOOK CLUB GUIDE

## **Gutsy Girls: Strong Christian Women Who Impacted the World**

### Book Two: Sisters, Corrie and Betsie ten Boom

#### Guiding Questions for Book Club Discussion

- Although *Gutsy Girls* is an illustrated picture book, all of the text and illustrations are based on true events (this includes young Corrie wanting to stay home from school!). What details from the Ten Booms' story stand out to you? What do you still wonder about?
- *Gutsy Girls: Book Two* draws on many experiences discussed in Corrie ten Boom's book *The Hiding Place*. Have you ever had a favorite hiding place? The Ten Booms had a hiding place in their own house, but the Bible discusses another type of hiding place. Look up the following verses: Psalm 32:7 and Psalm 119:114. What kind of hiding place do these verses describe?
- What fictional heroes do you know from other books and movies? Do you know anyone you would consider a godly hero?
- Can you think of any heroes from history or from the Bible who relied on God for strength to act bravely?
- In *Gutsy Girls: Book Two*, what are some things young Corrie imagines for her future? Did Corrie's life turn out as she imagined? How do you imagine your life when you grow up?
- Corrie and Betsie ten Boom were in their fifties when they started helping people hide from Nazi soldiers. If you look at a photo of the Ten Boom sisters, you might be surprised to discover they looked more like grandmothers than heroes. What do heroes look like? Do heroes share any of the same personal characteristics?
- Sometimes the "t" in Ten Booms is capitalized, and sometimes it's not. Do you have any idea why this might be? (Hint: It's not a mistake!)
- After German soldiers invaded the Ten Booms' home country of the Netherlands, they made it illegal for people in the Netherlands to sing their national anthem. Why do you think this rule was created? Do you know your country's national anthem? Can you sing the first few verses?
- What is the Star of David, and why would the Nazi leaders require people who are Jewish to wear it on their coats?
- In the *Historical Note* at the back of the book, we learn Corrie was released from a concentration camp due to a clerical mistake. Discuss this as a group. Do you believe her release was a mistake or a part of something bigger? Explain your answer.

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## Additional Gutsy Girls: Book Two Activities

- **Virtually visit the Ten Booms' home.** Take the official 360 Degree Virtual Tour at the Corrie ten Boom Museum virtual website (<http://tenboom.com/en/>). Although completing the entire tour takes more than an hour, shorten the visit by allowing book club members to choose places in the home to click on and visit. Make sure to click stops 12, Corrie's bedroom, and 13, the hiding place. If possible, project the tour on a smart TV to allow the group to interact together.
- **Talk with the author.** Create a list of questions for the author, Amy L. Sullivan, and set up a time to chat via Skype. For more information go to [AmyLSullivan.com](http://AmyLSullivan.com).
- **Make Dutch Letters,** a traditional Dutch pastry (<http://www.bhg.com/recipe/cookies/dutch-letters/>). To simplify the recipe, use puff pastry instead of creating pastry from scratch. Yum-uh.
- **Learn more.** Grab an adult in your life and read *The Hiding Place* together.
- **Watch the movie version.** Depending on the age of book club members, consider watching *The Torchlighters Heroes of the Faith: The Corrie Ten Boom Story* (free on Right Now Media) or *Return to the Hiding Place* (free on Amazon Prime). Parents, please preview the movies to determine appropriateness for your child.

