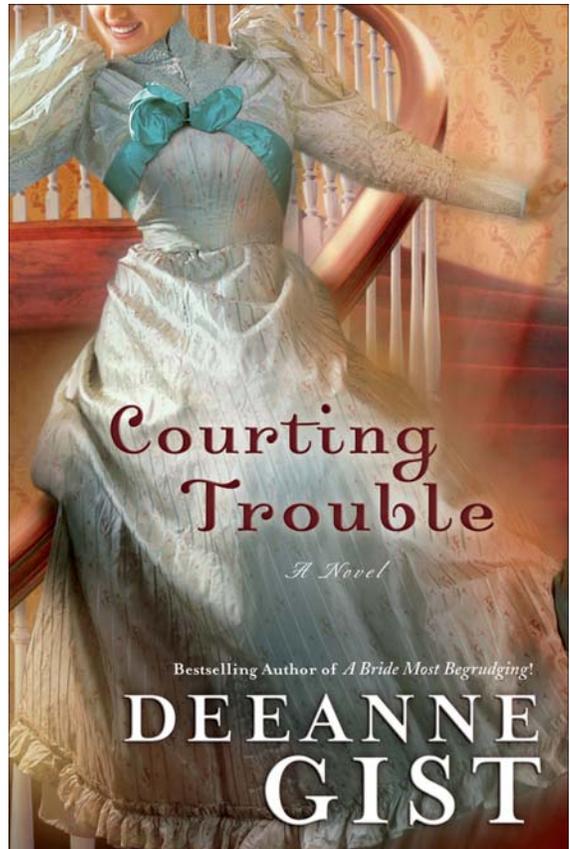


DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR  
**COURTING TROUBLE**

by Deeanne Gist

1. How did you feel at the end of the book when Essie didn't get a man?
2. Do you think a woman needs a man to be a "complete" person? Why or why not?
3. Do you think it's all right to marry a good, decent man you aren't in love with? Why or why not?
4. What is the difference between being "joyful" in life and "content" with the life?
5. What are some practical things we could do to change "content" into "joy"?
6. We live in a culture that goes two-by-two. What can we do to be more sensitive to the needs of our singles?
7. What was your favorite scene and why?
8. Essie learned a different lesson with each man in *Courting Trouble*. What lesson did she learn after her experience with Hamilton? With Adam? With Ewing?
9. What are some ways that Essie could have avoided being deceived by Adam?
10. What was the overall lesson Essie learned? What are some other situations (besides singleness) that we could apply this truth to? (barrenness, etc.)
11. On a five star system, how many stars would you give this book? Why?



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Additional Questions for Christian Groups;

12. I recall being introduced to a woman by her mother. There were two adolescent girls with them. I asked the woman if they were her daughters. They weren't. They were her nieces. The woman explained she had never been married, and the mother immediately reassured me that she just knew God had someone for her daughter. The daughter smiled politely but said nothing. After reading Essie's story, what are your thoughts about this exchange?
13. Do you believe Christ could really -- and I mean *really* -- be enough? Why or why not?