Book Group Discussion Questions for *Rebecca’s Rose* by Jennifer Beckstrand

1. What motivates Rebecca to do things she doesn’t want to do?
2. Rebecca feels guilty about leaving her mother to go out with Levi. In what ways does a misguided sense of guilt paralyze us? Levi feels guilty for his role in the buggy accident and has a hard time forgiving himself. How does refusing to forgive ourselves keep us from progressing spiritually?
3. What does Levi realize about all the girls he’s dated over the years? Why do these types of girls lose their appeal for him?
4. The Amish believe in taking care of their neighbors. They do not buy insurance or accept Social Security money. They pitch in and help out when someone needs help with medical bills or house construction. How can we instill the attitude of giving and service in ourselves and our children?
5. The major theme of *Rebecca’s Rose* is forgiveness. Both Rebecca and Levi must forgive very weighty transgressions. How do you find the strength and the will to forgive someone?
6. Nathaniel tells Levi, “If you believe that Jesus suffered and died to pay for our sins, then you either choose to accept Jesus’ payment for those sins or you decide that what Jesus did was not good enough.” When we refuse to forgive, how are we rejecting Jesus’ sacrifice?
7. Discuss the statement: “The cycle of evil is broken when we choose to absorb a hurt instead of hurting in return.” How can we break evil and destructive cycles and create new and Jesus-centered patterns in our lives and relationships?
8. Rebecca’s mother says, “If there is no pain in losing someone, there is no love in life. Pain is part of love.” Do you agree with this statement?
9. What is Rebecca really afraid of and how does she overcome those fears? Why are people afraid of loving others deeply?