

Forsaken

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Reader's Discussion Question

- 1) At the beginning of *Forsaken* the reader discovers that Pastor JT Thomas is living a life of sin. Several of his members are also living in sin as well. If you attended a church where the pastor was openly sinning, would you stay? Would you fall into sin also?
- 2) Do you believe that a pastor is held to a higher degree of morality than the members of the congregation? If so, why?
- 3) JT turned his back on God after his first child died. Has there ever been a situation in your life that made you want to give your membership card back to Jesus?
- 4) Most people have fallen into sin at one time or another in their life. But do you know that through God's precious son, Jesus, we can be forgiven?

Acts 5:30-31 Ephesians 1:7 Colossians 1:14 1 John 1:9
- 5) Because of JT's actions, Cassandra no longer trusted him and their life together became unbearable. Even as JT began to change, Cassandra became angry about JT's ability to reach out to God. Do you think she was too hard on him once he began to change, or do you think she wasn't hard enough on him?
- 6) JT's mother-in-law, Mattie Davis, did not trust preachers at all, but she had secrets of her own. If you were counseling Mattie, what would you say in order to get her to understand that all preachers are not sinful?
- 7) Although Bishop Turner took care of Cassandra and was there for her when she needed him, he wasn't honest with her or the members in his fellowship. Bishop never came clean about the affair he had with Mattie. If that was the

only time Bishop Turner had fallen into sin, do you think it was necessary for him to confess this sin to the members of his fellowship? Why or why not?

8) JT could not control the actions of the other women in his life. Margie Milner called his house to inform Cassandra about her affair with JT. Diane Benson got pregnant and dropped the baby off on JT's doorstep. Finally, Vivian Sampson lost her mind and attacked JT's wife. Knowing what you know about how adultery can affect your family, do you think it is worth it? Why do you think people do it anyway?

9) God requires faith in believers. However, JT thought he had good reason for his lack of faith. What do you think? Is there ever a time when God excuses our lack of faith?

Deut 32:20

Matt 6:30

Mark 4:40

1 Tim 5:8

Psalm 12:1-3 Matt 24:48-51

Luke 16:10-13

10) Faith is an important aspect of the believer's life. Meditate on the following scriptures to see what the Bible says about being counted faithful.

Neh 13:13

Psalm 101:6-7

Prov 14:5

Prov 20:6-7

Matt 24:45-47

Matt 25:21

I Tim 3:1-7

Heb 3:5

Rev

2:10