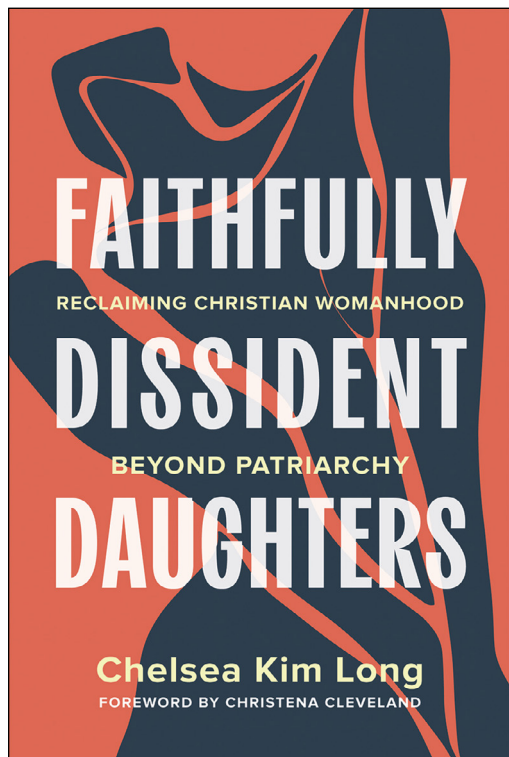


Book Club Questions for Chelsea Kim Long's *Faithfully Dissident Daughters*



1. What messages did you receive about womanhood or manhood as a child? Were those messages rooted in religion or some other source? At what age did you start to question them, if necessary?
 2. How do you see the apostle Paul's writings on flesh and spirit influencing our relationship with our bodies? How does the author's use of "ego" in place of "flesh" (see p. 17) land emotionally or practically for you?
 3. Read the author's definition of patriarchy on page 26. Is there anything you would add to or articulate differently in that definition? Where have you seen patriarchal theology cause harm—to bodies, relationships, or communities? What has helped (or might help) repair that harm?
 4. What Scriptures have you seen most frequently used to defend a patriarchal view of "biblical womanhood"? What other Scriptures or interpretations best support a more liberating reading, in your opinion?
5. Throughout chapter 2, the author mentions pre-Christian and non-Christian examples of womanhood being not only valued but revered. Which of these examples did you find most compelling or provocative?
 6. What does it mean to you that the church has largely advanced a masculine image of God (and even "whitemalegod," as Dr. Christena Cleveland is quoted on p. 26)? How has gender shaped access to leadership, credibility, or influence in the churches you've been part of?
 7. The author says, "the body is not a distraction from faith; it is one of its primary sites. What happens in our body was never meant to be excluded from spiritual knowing" (p. 44). What does it mean to you for your body to be a site of spiritual knowing?
 8. Have your reproductive experiences or lack thereof been significant in your spiritual journey or your view of yourself?
 9. What pronouns and metaphors do you primarily use for God? Did any of the feminine biblical language for God that the author names on pages 63–66 surprise you? What images feel most compelling for you?

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More Questions for *Faithfully Dissident Daughters*

10. Consider the comparison of childbirth and breastfeeding to the Eucharist on page 75 and the image of Christ's crucifixion wound as a vulva on page 95. What feelings arise when you consider seeing femininity in Jesus?
11. On pages 98–99, the author points out how both the image of God (*imago Dei*) and Internal Family System's "eight C's" of the Self are already present in each of us. How does this idea contrast with religious pressure to avoid or cast out certain emotions or bodily experiences to maintain "purity"?
12. Were you taught that "the heart is deceitful" and that you could not trust your own emotions or desires? How does the author's exploration of Jeremiah 17:10 in chapter 7 encourage you to trust yourself and your intuition more? How might locating God in intuition change things for you?
13. Do you consider church tradition, reason, and experience to be sources of theological understanding alongside Scripture? What surprised you about early Christian understandings of the Spirit and Mary Magdalene?
14. How have changes throughout your faith journey affected your relationship to church and your overall sense of belonging and community? What individual or communal practices described in chapters 10–12 feel appealing and authentic to where your faith is today?
15. What lines in the "Manifesto for the Faithfully Dissident" speak to you most? What steps do you need to take to become faithfully dissident?
16. Did any writers, traditions, or ideas referenced in this book spark your curiosity? What do you want to explore next?

Invite the Author to Your Book Club!

Author Chelsea Kim Long invites you to hear what inspired her to write *Faithfully Dissident Daughters*. This video can be shared with your book club as they decide if this book is right for them and is also the perfect opening to your meeting.



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