

Discussion Questions

Based on the novel *Rightfully Ours* by Carolyn Astfalk

1. Paul's life has been uprooted multiple times due to his dad's job, making it difficult for him to form lasting relationships and attachments. Have you experienced something similar? Have you lost friends due to moves (theirs or yours)?
2. Rachel and Paul argue about how he's grieving his father. How could they have handled their hurt/disagreement better? If you've experienced the death of someone you love, what is the best, kindest thing someone did for you in your grief?
3. Rachel doesn't recognize what she feels for Paul right away because it's so different from her previous crush. Have you ever thought you were in love only to realize it was merely an infatuation?
4. Paul and Rachel are friends long before romance develops between them, in spite of the feelings they hide. How important do you think friendship is as a precursor to a romantic relationship?
5. What about Paul and his circumstances make physically expressing his love for Rachel so tempting to him?
6. After Rachel is injured, her father unjustly refuses to allow Paul to see her. Have you ever been in a similar situation in which you felt you were being punished without cause? Do you think Paul handled the situation well? What would you have done differently?
7. How well did Rachel's parents and Paul's brother handle the deepening relationship between Rachel and Paul? Were they too involved? Not enough? Or just about right?
8. Sean expressed concern that Paul only parroted what he'd been taught about saving sex for marriage, that he didn't have any personal convictions about it. How important do you think it is to come to your own conclusions concerning morals and values? From what perspectives was Paul able to draw to come to a better understanding of the Truth and what he himself believed?
9. Throughout the book, discovered treasure is used to symbolize authentic love. How can we treasure the gift of love? In what ways does contemporary culture treat love and its

physical expression as something casual and disposable rather than profound and permanent?

10. Paul remains connected to his dad through a variety of memories, objects, and experiences. Have you experienced an ongoing connection with someone you love from beyond the grave? A family member, loved one, or a saint?