

## The Shack Reading Guide

1. Were you drawn in by the plot of *The Shack*?
2. Why do you think Mack's encounter with God took place at *the shack*? If God were to invite you somewhere, where would it be? (In other words, where is the center of your doubt and pain)?
3. Do you think suffering makes people closer to God or causes them to distance themselves from Him? What has been the pattern in your life?
4. Were you satisfied with God's answers to Mack about suffering? Do you struggle with believing God is good in light of all the tragedy in the world? Does God play a role in your world view?
5. How is Young's description of God different from your concept of God? What parts of his description did you like and what parts didn't you like?
6. Did *The Shack* change any of your opinions about God or Christianity?
7. What were some of the things *The Shack* teaches about God, faith and life that you disagreed with?
8. Would you recommend *The Shack* to a friend?
9. How does the author's use of Willie's voice aid or hinder the telling of Mack's story?
10. How would this story be different if Mack had been of another faith? Would the central themes be altered? Who would he have met in the shack? How would Mack have resolved his pain had he been an atheist?

Adapted from [www.best sellers.about.com](http://www.best sellers.about.com)