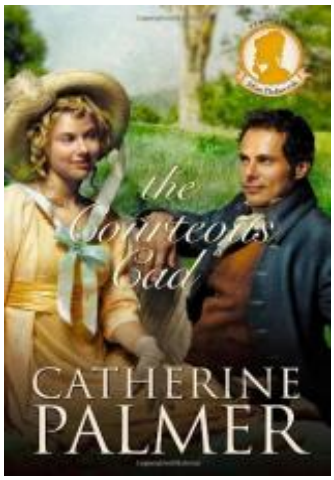
ReadingGroupGuides
The online community for reading groups

The Courteous Cad: Miss Pickworth, Book Three

by Catherine Palmer



About the Book

On her tour of the English countryside, a chance encounter in the streets alerts Miss Prudence Watson to the inhumane working conditions at the worsted mill. She learns that the owner is William Sherbourne, a Royal Naval officer just returned from sea. Following in his wake is his reputation as a cad and a secret so ghastly he?ll do anything to protect it. Even worse, he?s handsome and charming and not at all the villain Prudence expected him to be.

Discussion Guide

1. Prudence Watson was waiting to hear God?s call. When she received her mission to save the mill children, how did God speak to her? Has He spoken to you? In what ways?

2. Mary chastises Prudence about her crusade, saying, ?You would do better to marry a rich man and redeem the world by bringing up moral, godly, well-behaved children.? Can this kind of work be a valid call from God?

3. Mary and Sarah waver wildly in their advice to Prudence about William Sherbourne. Why do they want her to pursue and marry him? Why do they urge her never to marry such a man?

4. How do you feel about the way Prudence managed her deep love for Mr. Walker? How did she succeed in letting him go --- to a more appropriate woman and a better life?

5. Jealousy rears its ugly head throughout the book. Of whom is Prudence jealous? Who does William fear may take his place in Prudence?s heart? How can a Christian manage feelings of jealousy and suspicion?

6. Prudence and William are quick to act on their physical attraction to each other. How does this affect their relationship as time passes? Might they have handled this better? How?

7. Describe William?s relationship with his brother Randolph. How does each rely on the other?

8. What was Prudence?s view of morality at the beginning of the book? When William speaks of ?gray? shades, what does he mean? How do their positions change and shift? How do you view the world?

9. Does God truly love people who make such terrible mistakes as William made? What if these wrong things are not mere mistakes but are outright, intentional sins? Can God forgive them? How does reading Jesus? discussion with Nicodemus in John 3 affect William and Prudence?

Author Bio

Catherine Palmer lives in Missouri with her husband and sons. She is a graduate of Southwest Baptist University and has a master?s degree in English from Baylor University. Her first book was published in 1988. Since then she has published more than 20 novels. Catherine has won numerous awards for her writing, including Most Exotic Historical Romance Novel from *Romantic Times* magazine. Most recently she has been nominated for the Romantic Times Career Achievement Award. Total sales of her novels number more than 1 million copies.

The Courteous Cad: Miss Pickworth, Book Three
by Catherine Palmer

Publication Date: December 17, 2009
Genres: Christian, Romance
Paperback: 400 pages
Publisher: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.
ISBN-10: 0842375554
ISBN-13: 9780842375559