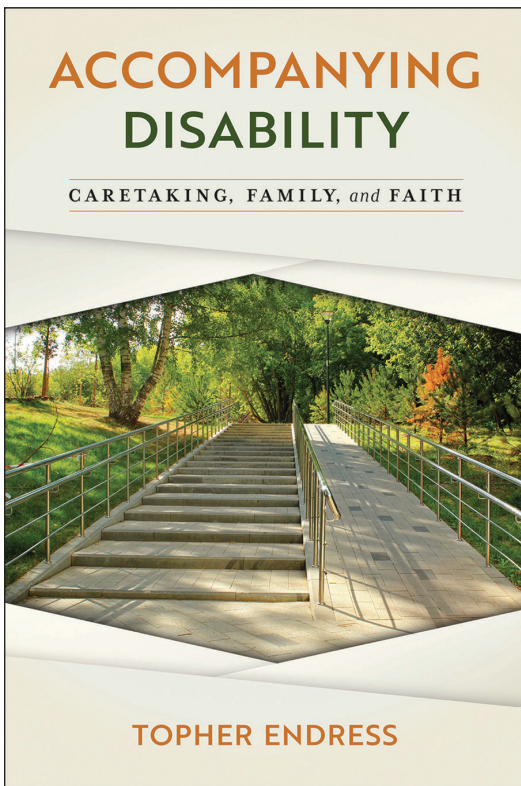


# Book Club Questions for Topher Endress's *Accompanying Disability*



1. Have you ever considered yourself a theologian? What do you find meaningful about the distinction between disability theology and accompaniment theology?
2. Do you have a preference between the terms “person with a disability” and “disabled person”? Did the author’s discussion of both terms’ value in chapter 1 cause you to reconsider that preference?
3. What role does disability play in how you describe yourself or tell your life story? Do you imagine a certain version of yourself or your loved one as ideal or essential that is lost in disability or regained in the afterlife?
4. What could people learn from the author’s comparison of how we view parents caring for new babies and caregivers accompanying disabled loved ones? What about the way we see God in the relationships between caregiver and care receiver?
5. Chapters 3 and 4 discuss ethical questions around assisted suicide, medical decision making, prenatal testing, and abortion. Did the book change the way you think about any of those issues?
6. Had you ever considered the way the Bible’s stories of Jesus healing people may be read by people with disabilities, or the impact of praying for a person’s healing? How should we approach the idea of divine healing?
7. What was the most memorable or impactful story, anecdote, or example in the book? Why did it stand out to you?
8. Did the book change the way you see (or will try to see) the mundane, difficult, and even gross parts of caregiving? How might this impact your relationships with God and with other people?
9. Did the inclusion of John’s own writing give you any new insight on disability or the work of accompaniment?
10. What are some of the questions or criticisms you have about the book? What would you ask or tell the author if you had the opportunity?

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