

Discussion Questions for *To Dance in the Desert* by Kathleen Popa

1. Dara's father has stressed to her an unqualified message, that "it's not a safe world." In Dara's case, an abusive marriage and her father's murder only serve to prove him right. What experiences in your life have confirmed or denied his assessment?
2. The story of the pearl embedded within *To Dance in the Desert* explores the role calamity can play in the life of one God loves. What role has calamity played in your life?
3. Jane's relationship with God as a lover who invites her to dance contrasts sharply with the principles outlined in Finis' worksheet program, *Ten Easy Steps to Turn the Hand of God*. How do you relate to God?
4. Jane says to Dara, "No one knows all about you. Not even you." Do you agree that God is the only one who knows all about you? How would believing that change the way you relate to him, to the world around you, and to yourself?
5. Holly's song says, "You never will march anyplace that's worth going, not knowing the Lord of the Dance and him knowing you." What do you think she means? Do you agree with her?