

## ***Riven* Discussion Questions**

Can you empathize with Brady's many mistakes? What's the one thing you've done in your life that you would change if you could?

When defending your position on capital punishment, do you rely on Scripture, statistics, or something else? And what conclusion do you come to?

Should Thomas have stuck with the ministry, or was God trying to tell him to get into a new line of work?

Did you find Katie a sympathetic or unsympathetic character? Why or why not? Was she a victim before her fate was settled, or did she cause her own problems?

Consider Rav and her frustration with her parents. Can we increase the odds that our children will communicate with us when times get tough? How?

Why does God allow people like Grace to suffer? Have you ever been in a similar situation—praying for a miracle, but hearing only silence? How did you handle that?

How does Grace's illness help nonbelievers (like Ravinia) understand the nature of God? Is there any way to make even this situation work for the good?

Have you ever been betrayed by a friend? How did you respond? Was there a better way you could have reacted?

How would you categorize the "types" who populate high school (or high school reunions)? How are you like—or unlike—Brady?

Why did Peter look up to his brother, Brady? How can we make sure that our children (and grandchildren) focus on positive role models? Are there any true heroes left?

Can a guy like Brady ever turn his life around? How can someone like Thomas know whether he's witnessed a true conversion or a scam?

Do you know anyone like Aunt Lois? What makes her faith so transparent and vulnerable?

Is there anything you and your family could do to minister to those behind bars?

Can guilt trigger spiritual growth? Does despair ever prompt rebirth? In what circumstances?