



Colorado Book Club Resource

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THE PIONEERS BY DAVID MCCULLOUGH

1. What was the author's intention in writing this particular book?
2. Why might author David McCullough have chosen to rely so heavily on primary sources in his book?
3. Which two elements of the Reverend Cutler's personality does author David McCullough seem to admire the most?
4. Why was the natural area surrounding Marietta considered so beautiful?
5. Why were New Englanders so worried for their peers who had travelled west to settle in Ohio?
6. Why did Harman Blennerhassett and his wife find such peace at Marietta?
7. Which element of the new settlement of Marietta most interested the Reverend Cutler, when he first visited?
8. What was the overall effect of the treaty signed in 1789 between the confederacy of Delawares, Wyandots, and Ottawas on the one hand and the American settlers on the other hand?
9. Why does McCullough portray Dr. Samuel Hildrith as being selfless? Which actions does he undertake to merit this adjective?
10. How does McCullough characterize the complementary roles of the Reverend Manasseh Cutler and General Rufus Putnam, towards the end of the book?

Discussion questions adapted from Bookrags.com.



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