



***Diary of a Country Priest* by George Bernanos**
Reading Group Discussion Guide

Use the following questions as guides to deeper individual understanding of the novel or for group discussion.

- 1. As a young man, what is the country priest's attitude toward youth?**
- 2. What does he resolve to do about the future?**
- 3. The country priest says he is looking at death in what way? What does he mean by this?**
- 4. What does he say would happen if pride were to die within us?**
- 5. Why does the author not give the priest, who narrates the novel, a name? What significance does this have?**
- 6. What lessons about accepting and loving oneself can be drawn from the book? Discuss the relationship between the priest and his parishioners.**
- 7. Why do you think people find it difficult to deal with areas of their lives they do not like? Does ridicule from others play a part?**
- 8. Consider the Cure de Torcy's story about the nun who cleaned the church nonstop. The story is actually an allegory about life. In the story what does the role of "filth" play? What about the nun and the church?**
- 9. Consider the difficulties the priest has in deciding whether or not his journal keeping is a good idea. Why is this decision so difficult for him?**
- 10. Consider Dr. Delebende's death. Do you think the cause of the death was accident or suicide? Why?**
- 11. The country priest's last words to his friend are "Grace is everywhere." What is their meaning and significance? What about in our own lives?**

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