

The Giver – Discussion Questions

General Questions:

Did you enjoy the book (or whatever part you read)? Why or why not?

Did you like the community in which Jonas lived? What were the best and worst aspects of that community?

If you had attended the Ceremony with Jonas, what Assignment do you think the Elders would have selected for you?

Who was your favorite character other than Jonas, and why?

In-Depth Questions:

Jonas' community is described as a "utopia" because it is a perfect society with no war, pain or poverty. Is it *really* a utopia or are too many important things sacrificed in this world?

The Giver focuses on the importance of choice and says that people must be protected from making wrong choices. Do you agree with the kinds of choices that are taken away from Jonas' community (jobs, spouses, language they can use)?

Why do you think Jonas is the only one allowed to lie or be rude?

Were you surprised when you learned what "release" from the community really meant?

The Giver tells Jonas that without memories all knowledge is meaningless. Do you agree with that? What is the purpose of having memories and handing them down to others?

- Remembering joyous memories with others can make them last longer
- Sharing painful memories with others can make them easier to bear
- Teaching children about memories ensures they will not be lost