**Study Guide Questions:**

1. Chapter 3 opens with a description of the object of Tip Lewis’ admiration and longing: Mr. Minturn’s beautiful white house and sparkling fountain. God uses these things to speak to Tip’s heart and give Mr. Minturn a ministry. Read the following verses. In light of what you read, what are we to do with our admiration and desires, and why do we have them in the first place?
   1. **Proverbs 13:12**
   2. **Psalm 37:4**
   3. **Philippians 4:8**
   4. **Psalm 104**
2. The Lord put it on Mr. Minturn’s heart to invite the poor, ragged children of the town to his Fourth of July celebration. He used the celebration as an opportunity for ministry, and his generosity and selfless love reflect Christ’s heart for us. Read Matthew 25:40.
   1. Why do you think the author chose this verse?
   2. Can you think of a time in your life when God showed you love even when you didn’t deserve it?
   3. Can you think of any stories in the Bible where God shows love to one who does not deserve it? Find the passage that tells that story and read it, then share it with someone else by telling the story in your own words.
3. Chapter 3 has a very joyful, lighthearted tone to it while chapter 4 is very serious and sober. God used both experiences to touch Tip Lewis’ heart. This teaches us that we can view both joy and sorrow as opportunities for drawing near to God. Read James 4:6-10 and Romans 8:28.
   1. According to these verses, how should a believer view suffering?
   2. Can you think of a time when you became closer to God through suffering?
   3. Can you think of a time when you became closer to God through a joyful experience?
4. At little Johnny’s funeral, Mr. Holbrook spoke of how Jesus might look at fathers, mothers, and little children and say, “I want you, too, to give me your hearts, so that when I gather my jewels, I may come for you.” What is your heart’s response to being one of God’s precious treasures? Read the following Scriptures and write down one verse that both explains and expresses God’s heart for you.
   1. Psalm 34:18
   2. Psalm 103
   3. Luke 12:6-7
   4. Psalm 56:8-11