

**Discussion Questions for *Penelope Pumpernickel: Precocious Problem-Solver*
by MaryAnn Diorio**

(Can be used with children)

1. Penelope Pumpernickel had a thorn in her flesh. What did she mean by calling it that? Have you ever had a thorn in your flesh? What did you do about it? Do you know anyone in the Bible who had a thorn in his flesh? What did he do about it?
2. Grandy continually annoyed Penelope with his antics. Have you ever had anyone annoy you or get on all your nerves? What did you do about it? What does the Bible say we should do when someone annoys us?
3. Sometimes children—and grownups, too!—do wrong things to get attention. Grandy lied to get attention. Why is lying wrong?
4. Grandy's father died shortly before the story begins. Have you ever lost someone you loved dearly? Maybe a parent? A sibling? A best friend? How did you feel? Did you talk to God about it?
5. Sometimes people think that God makes bad things happen. They then blame God for the bad thing that happened. Why is it wrong to blame God for the bad things that happen in our lives?