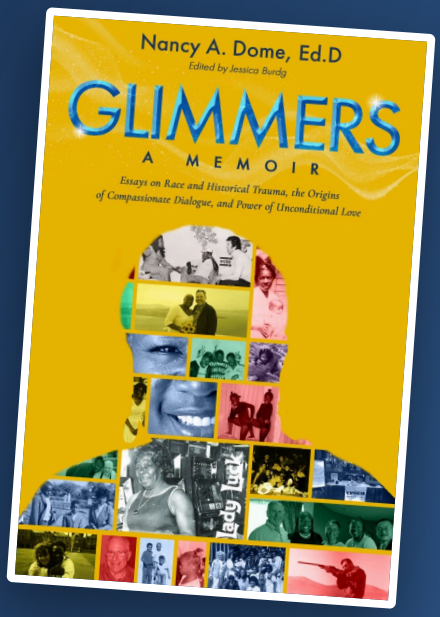
EPOCH EDUCATION

FREE BOOK CLUB GUIDE · FOUR SESSIONS

Glimmers: A Memoir

For book clubs, staff teams and reading groups. From Dr. Nancy Dome and Epoch Education.



Welcome

Glimmers is a collection of short, true stories from Dr. Nancy Dome's life, from childhood in unincorporated West Hollywood to the classroom, Europe, Africa, Montana and the founding of Epoch Education. Each story ends in a lesson about how we grow, heal and connect.

The book is guided by **Sankofa**, the idea of looking back in order to move forward. Glimmers are the moments that shine in the light of hindsight. This guide helps your group read the book together in four sessions of about 60 minutes, one for each part of the book.

How to run your book club

Size: 4 to 12 people works best.

Rhythm: Meet every two weeks. The chapters are short, so each part reads quickly.

Facilitator: Rotate the role, or ask one person to keep time.

Bring: The book and a journal. Before each session, note one moment from your own life that the reading brought to mind.

Care: Some stories touch on family hardship, discipline and loss. Invite people to share only what feels right, and to pass on any question.

Engagement agreements

Read these aloud at the first session.

1. **Start where we are.**
2. **Listen to understand.**
3. **Respect confidentiality.** Stories shared here stay here.
4. **Share your own story, not someone else's.**
5. **Pass is always an option.**

© 2026 Epoch Education · epocheducation.com

SESSION 1 Where It All Began

Part I

OPENING · 10 MIN

Share your name and one place you lived as a child that shaped you.

DISCUSS

1. Which story in Part I stayed with you most? Why?
2. Who showed you unconditional love growing up?
3. Where did you feel safe as a child? What made it safe?
4. What did discipline look like in your family? What would you keep, and what would you change?
5. Who was in your “village”? Who saw more in you than others did?

> **STEP BACK**
>
> In “The Whoopin'” (p. 35) and “Switches and the South” (p. 57), love and fear live in the same people. Looking across Part I, which glimmer from your own childhood holds both? What do you understand about it now that you couldn't then?

CLOSE

“One glimmer from my childhood is…”

NOTES

© 2026 Epoch Education · epocheducation.com

SESSION 2 The Journey

Part II

OPENING · 10 MIN

Share one person who showed up for you when you didn't expect it.

DISCUSS

1. Which story in Part II challenged an assumption you held? Where does that assumption still show up in your life?
2. What negative narratives have been told about people like you, or people you love? What helped counter them?
3. Where did you first see a bigger possibility for yourself?
4. When have you had to leave something you loved? What did you learn?
5. "The Wrong Girl in the Video" is about being misjudged. When have you been misjudged, or misjudged someone else? What would repair have looked like?

> **STEP BACK**
>
> From Ki and Kenyata in "The Transformative Power of Simply Showing Up" (p. 123) to the teachers in "Beyond the Call of Duty, Part II" (p. 131), Part II is full of people who simply showed up. Who did that for you, and who are you showing up for now?

CLOSE

"One person in my village I want to thank is..."

NOTES

© 2026 Epoch Education · epocheducation.com

SESSION 3 The Real World

Part III

OPENING · 10 MIN

Share a moment you realized what your calling was.

DISCUSS

1. What did the elders in your life do to survive? How does knowing that change how you see them?
2. What hard season led you somewhere you needed to be?
3. When have you not gotten what you asked for and later felt grateful?
4. What beliefs about race have you carried that weren't yours to carry?
5. What do you understand about a parent or caregiver now that you didn't as a child?

> **STEP BACK**
>
> In “From Wales, With Love” (p. 227), Dr. Dome re-meets her mother “with compassion and curiosity, accepting the beauty and the scars.” Looking across Part III, which relationship in your life would change if you met it the same way?

CLOSE

“*One place I feel I belong is...*”

NOTES

© 2026 Epoch Education · epocheducation.com

SESSION 4 Still Growing

Part IV and the Epilogue

OPENING · 10 MIN

Share one strength you've had all along that you're only now naming.

DISCUSS

1. When have you bet on yourself? What happened next?
2. Which of your assumptions about a place or a group of people has been challenged? What changed your mind?
3. What story about yourself are you ready to rewrite?
4. Where is it hardest for you to stay in conversation with people you disagree with right now?
5. The Epilogue is about forgiveness. What does forgiving yourself or someone else make possible?

> **STEP BACK**
>
> "On Hope" (p. 295) separates the doer from the deed and names the difference between hope and expectation. Looking back over the whole book, which glimmer are you carrying forward, and what are you hoping for, not expecting?

CLOSE

"One thing I'll carry from this book is..."

NOTES

© 2026 Epoch Education · epocheducation.com

GO DEEPER ONLINE

Glimmers Online Book Study

- A digital copy of the book and the family photos behind the stories
- A printable Glimmer Journal and Sankofa reflections for every session
- A Facilitator Guide for group sessions
- A certificate of completion

Group and organization licenses are available.

epochacademy.thinkific.com/courses/glimmers-book-study

Be Brave. Be Bold. Be Epoch!

Want Epoch to lead the conversation for your team? Email hello@epocheducation.com

EPOCH EDUCATION

© 2026 Epoch Education · epocheducation.com