Questions for “Dead Man Walking”

*Instructions*: Answer the following questions as you watch the movie. Be sure to **explain** your answers.

1. Why would many attorneys be reluctant to take on a death penalty case?

2. Do you agree with prison priest’s advice to Sister Prejean that all the people on death row are “con-men”?

3. If you had a close family member or friend on death row would you visit?

4. Why does Poncelet mean by “ain’t nobody with money on death row”?

5. Why do you think most states switched from using the electric chair to lethal injection for the death penalty?

6. How could a politician use the death penalty for their political advantage?

7. What kind of impact would it have on a family to have someone on death row?

8. Sister Prejean’s mother encourages her to worry more about trying to prevent other kids from becoming murders than helping Poncelet. Do you agree with her advice?

9. Why do you think the victim’s families attend Poncelet hearings?

10. Why do you think Mr. Delacroix is so upset with Sister Prejean?

11. Why would a women being a spiritual adviser to a death row inmate be so rare?

12. How does Sister Prejean’s religious face impact how she deals with others?

13. Why does Poncelet give interviews praising Hitler? Why would this harm his case?

14. Why do you think so many couples that lose a child split up?

15. Why do you think they have such strict rules for the execution process?

16. Why is it important to Sister Prejean that she get Poncelet to confess his crimes?

17. Why do you think they let the convict have time with their family before the execution?

18. What is purpose behind giving the criminal a chance to say some final words before the execution?

19. What were your impressions of the execution procedure?