The Hobbit: Reading Comprehension Questions

Chapter 1: An Unexpected Party

1. Why do you think it was important for the story to learn about "the fabulous Belladonna Took"?
2. What are 2 character traits that you would assign Thorin Oakenshield, Gandalf and the dwarves. (4 character traits each)
3. Biblo is an unlikely choice for a burglar (pg 18-19). People questioned Gandalf's choice. "There is a lot more to him than you guess, and a deal more than he has any idea himself." What are the attributes that, in Gandalf's opinion, makes Biblo an ideal member of the team?
4. God often chose unlikely people to do God's will. (1 Sam. 16:1-13; Amos 7:10-15; Mark 2:13-17; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31). Select one of the readings and answer the questions that follow.
   a. Why might the people in these texts be considered unlikely candidates for serving God? Why do you think God chooses them anyway? Do you think Bilbo Baggins would have been a person God might have picked?
5. Biblo is not excited about the adventure that Gandalf calls him on. "I'm looking for someone to share in an adventure… and its very difficult to find anyone" (pg 6). Why is Biblo reluctant to go on the adventure? What is stopping him? How do you think he will overcome his reluctance?

Chapter 2: Roast Mutton

1. What are the terms of Bilbo's contract? Do you think they are fair terms? Why or why not.
2. How does Biblo view his role as "burglar"?
3. Do you think Bilbo proved to be a good burglar in his attempt to pick the pocket of the troll. Provide evidence to support your answer.

Chapter 3: A Short Rest

1. Explain why Rivendell was so difficult to locate.
2. Gandalf is concerned with losing the road. Why do you think this is so?

Selected either question 3 or 4 to complete.
3.   "The narrow path lined with white stones is hard and not easy to see." What Christian idea does this remind you of? Why?
4.   The bridge over the water must be traversed carefully and thoughtfully one by one. How is this similar to a Christian's walk?