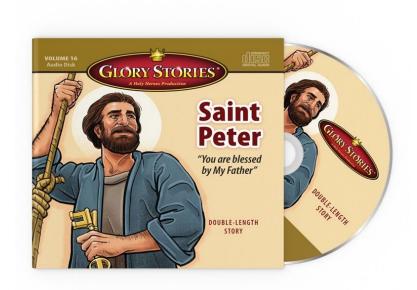


# Saint Peter "You are blessed by My Father" EDUCATION GUIDE FOR PARENTS



### Thank you for purchasing our Glory Story on Saint Peter!

We hope you enjoy listening to this audio drama as much as we had fun creating it!

Like many parents or teachers, you may be wondering how best to use your newly-acquired audio drama. Never fear!

Here are **7 ideas** on how to use your new Saint Peter Glory Story:

### 1. During Car Rides or Road Trips

"We love learning about saints, and my children ask me to play the glory stories over and over in the car!! They never get tired of hearing the stories!!" – Joanna from Friendswood, TX

Play the Glory Story while driving to your next field trip or event! Kids will stay interested in the story and characters (instead of the next pit-stop!)

### 2. In the Classroom

"It is great reinforcement for any reading you are doing on the Saints." — Mom of 5 from Albuquerque,

NM

Supplement your CCD or religious education classes with Glory Stories! Play small sections of the Glory Story each class and pose a discussion question. Our suggested questions on page 3 will aid you in lesson planning!

# 3. Celebrating Feast Days

"When your grandson calls you and is jumping up and down with joy over a gift you know you found the perfect item" — Diane from San Diego, CA

Use the Glory Story as part of your feast day celebrations! Mark February 22nd and June 29th in your calendar, and plan a day dedicated to his story! Play the Glory Story, eat some fish gummy candies, and have kids make a cool craft! For ideas on décor, activities, and more, check out our "Saint Peter" board on <a href="Pinterest">Pinterest</a>!

# 4. Gifts for Birthdays or Receiving Sacraments

"I love all the Glory Stories, but this is definitely one of my faves! What a perfect First Holy Communion present!"— Holly from Aberdeen, NC

Know someone named Peter or Simon? Is your child or grandchild receiving First Holy Communion soon? What better gift than a Glory Story to both further their religious education and let them know they are loved!

### 5. Parenting Tools

"Our whole family enjoys listening to the lovingly written & read stories. A great way to help us think like saints." – Michelle from Larkspur, CO

Use the Glory Story to bring up important and relevant topics with your kids. Listening to the story can help start conversations about treating others with respect, telling the truth, and other virtues!

### 6. Donations to Parish or School Community

"I can't say enough on how great these CDs teach and entertain." – Jennifer from Quincy, IL

Know people in your parish community who could use a Glory Story or two? Donate a copy to your parish library, Catholic school, or daycare!

### 7. Afternoon Down-Time or Bedtime

"A great way to use what would be wasted time; now we use it learning about God. Thank you!" —

Homeschool Mom

Give momma a well-deserved break! Entertain the kids without having to turn on the TV! Kids will exercise their imagination, creativity, and listening skills while learning about their faith...it's a win-win! Or, pop in a Glory Story Audio Drama before bedtime to help kids wind down from the day.

Collect the entire set! Visit www.holyheroes.com today!



### **Discussion Questions**

Not sure how to talk about the story with your kids? We've created a list of discussion questions for you! Of course, feel free to adapt or omit these questions based on your child's age, maturity, interests, attention span, etc.

Note: Saint Peter's Glory Story is a "double-length story," which means it runs about 50 minutes long, and does not pair with another saint's life (like many of our other Glory Stories).

- 1. What did the people of Israel think the Messiah would be like? *He would bring an army to drive out the Romans and He would be the new King of Israel.*
- 2. What was the new name that Jesus gave Simon? What does it mean? *Kephas, the Greek word for Rock.*
- 3. Simon Peter and his brother left everything behind in order to follow Jesus. Can you think of any modern people who do the same thing? Hint, you probably see them every Sunday! *Priests, but also other religious brothers and sisters*.
- 4. What prayer did Jesus teach His disciples? Do you know how to pray this prayer? *The Our Father!*
- 5. Jesus had a special friendship with St. Peter. How can we increase our friendship with Jesus? *Visiting the Adoration Chapel, telling him about our day, treating our brothers and sisters with kindness, etc.*
- 6. With Jesus' help, Peter was able to walk on water! However, he panicked right before he reached Jesus and started to sink. Have there been times when you or your family had to be brave like Peter and "walk on water"? Did Jesus catch you when you started to sink?
- 7. What was the crowd's reaction when Jesus told them that "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood will live because of Me"? Many disciples left...it was too difficult to hear! What was Peter's response on behalf of the Apostles? "Lord, to whom shall we qo?" Who is truly present in the Eucharist every Sunday at Mass? Jesus!
- 8. In the Old Testament, King David gave the "keys" of the Kingdom of Israel to his Chief Steward, a sign that the Chief Steward could govern with all the King's authority behind him. What does it mean for Jesus to give Peter the Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven? Peter is now the Chief Steward, or earthly head, of the Catholic Church!
- 9. What did Jesus do before the Last Supper? He washed the Apostles feet! How did Peter react? He was embarrassed, but wanted to serve Jesus in every way he could. What day of the liturgical year do we commemorate Jesus' loving act of service? Holy Thursday!
- 10. Was Simon Peter a perfect man who never made any mistakes? Give some examples of mistakes Saint Peter made. What did he do afterwards? He fell asleep in the Garden of Eden, he cut off the high priest's servant's ear, he denied Jesus 3 times, etc. After he denied Jesus, Peter asked for God's forgiveness, and never gave up trying to serve Jesus.

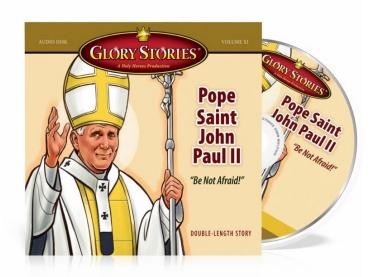
- 11. What did Peter and John do when he heard that Jesus' tomb was empty? Who entered the tomb first and why? They ran to investigate; John let Peter enter first, since he was the leader of the Apostles.
- 12. Peter and the Apostles continue to spread the good news of Jesus Christ throughout the world. Peter even wrote letters to encourage the young Church. How many are preserved in the Bible today? *Two!*
- 13. How was Peter martyred? Why did he ask to die in this way? *Peter was crucified upside down, because he did not think he was worthy to die in the same way Jesus had died.*

## **Definitions to Know**

Is your child struggling with an unfamiliar word or phrase? Here are a few of the harder terms to understand or pronounce (and suggested ways to explain them)!

- **Disciples** another word for students
- Rabbi Aramaic for "teacher"
- Apostle "one who is sent"

Enjoying this Glory Story? Learn about another amazing Pope who came centuries after Saint Peter...Saint Pope John Paul II!



### **Activity Ideas**

Help your kids retain the Glory Story through a fun activity! We recommend brainstorming some simple but fun ways your family or class can practice Saint Peter's virtues.

Here are a few of our own! As always, adapt or create a project that is perfect for your family or classroom!

### Get active and go swimming!

Peter and his brother were fishermen...they spent a lot of time in and around the water.

If your kids have never gone fishing or kayaking before, maybe now is the time to introduce them! It's a great activity for the whole family. Spend some time out in nature contemplating God's beauty...you can even fit in a family rosary while you're out!

Or, have some fun swimming in the pool! Once they're tuckered out from all the exercise, some goldfish crackers will certainly hit the spot!

### • Play Simon (Peter) Says!

This idea comes from Jennifer at Catholic Inspired! <u>See more of her amazing ideas</u> <u>here...</u>we also love <u>this printable</u> for St. Peter!

Make a paper or felt "miter," or bishop's hat (measure your child's head first). Add ribbon and other decorations if you desire...kids love this part! If you wanted to be really fancy, Jennifer suggests adding a white robe and a crosier, or staff, to complete the outfit!

Then, the game is played like a normal game of Simon Says, with a twist. Whoever is playing Simon Peter wears the miter, and can also tell players to "make a sign of the Cross," "say a Hail Mary," "say Alleluia!," and more!

### Pray for the Pope as a family!

As Catholics, the Pope is the head of the church, and he needs our prayers! As a family, perhaps introduce the centuries-old tradition of praying 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, and 1 Glory Be for the Pope's intentions after Mass. <u>Here are the Pope's prayer intentions for 2021!</u>

The Knights of Columbus have a great prayer for the Holy Father as well: <u>download it</u> here!

Another cool option: consider introducing your kids to <u>this beautiful prayer</u> (written by a Pope!). Pope Saint John XXIII said this prayer every morning, and it is perfect for the laity

as well! Resolve, with his and Saint Peter's intercession, to serve Christ in all things "only for today."

It comes in packs of 5, so every kid can have their own (or give one to their friends!)

### • Serve the suffering in your community like the early apostles did!

St. Peter and the apostles went out and preached the Gospel to all nations, just as Jesus commanded them to do! They healed the sick, took care of widows and orphans, and baptized thousands of people!

Take this opportunity to learn about the <u>Works of Mercy</u>, and talk with your kids about how St. Peter and the apostles practiced these works. A good starting point is this <u>Works of Mercy Card Game</u>. It's 4 games in one, and each Work of Mercy has two illustrations...one for how Jesus and his apostles might have practiced it, and one for how kids can practice it today! It engages their imaginations and competitive spirit; most importantly, it's great fun!

Practically, there are so many ways that kids can get involved, whether through prayer or action. <u>This article</u> from Blessed Is She has some great ideas! The family can make gift bags for the homeless, kids can set up a lemonade stand and donate the proceeds to charity, or everyone can place flowers on graves and pray for the souls in Purgatory.

### Use a paper chain to learn the Our Father!

Here's a fun craft idea! Make a paper chain using strips of grey construction paper. Have kids write one line or phrase of the Our Father on every strip (you should have about 12). Remind them about when an angel broke Peter's chains and helped him escape!

Hang the chain on the wall of your schoolroom. Every day, break off one of the strips of paper and talk about that section of the Our Father prayer. For example, "hallowed be thy name." How can we keep God's name holy in our house and through our everyday actions?

This is a perfect craft if you have a range of ages...little ones can focus on memorizing the prayer bit by bit, and older kids can focus more on conversation and meditation!

### **Additional Resources**

Need more ideas? Check out these cool books, websites, and more!

### **Books:**

Our Holy Father, the Pope: The Papacy from Saint Peter to the Present - Don R. Caffery (Vision Book Series)

The First Christians: The Acts of the Apostles for Children - Marigold Hunt (author of <u>A Book of Angels</u>)

Catechism of the Catholic Church (promulgated by St. Pope John Paul II)

Catechism of the Seven Sacraments - Kevin and Mary O'Neill

The Great Adventure Catholic Bible

Read-Aloud Book of Bible Stories - Amy Steedman

The Holy Veil of Manoppello - Paul Badde (learn about the face cloth Peter found in the tomb!)

Who is Jesus / The Life of Jesus (Set) - Gaelle Tertrais

The Picture Bible - Iva Hoth and David C. Cook

### **Movies / Audio CDs:**

Saint Peter (feat. Omar Sharif) - 2005

Peter: Keeper of the Keys (Footprints of God with Steve Ray) - 2002

Catholicism 101: Essentials for the Journey with Jeff Cavin - The Papacy: A Question of Authority

### Websites / Pilgrimage\*:

\*We've provided links to virtual tours when available! If the church doesn't have a website, we've tried to link a website with good photos to show kids (or you can search on Google!)

<u>Basilica of St Peter in Vincoli on Rome's Oppian Hill</u> (where St. Peter's chains are located!) <u>House of Simon the Tanner, Jaffa</u> (the rooftop where Saint Peter had his vision before he baptized Cornelius and his family!)

St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, Italy (built over the tomb of St. Peter, the first Pope!)

The Upper Room (where Peter and the Apostles waited for the Holy Spirit at Pentecost)

### This Glory Story pairs well with these Holy Heroes Products!

"Only for Today" Pope Saint John XXIII Prayer Card

Holy Heroes Spiritual Journal

Prayer Pillowcase - Circle of Friends: Blessed Brothers

**Holy Heroes Playing Cards**