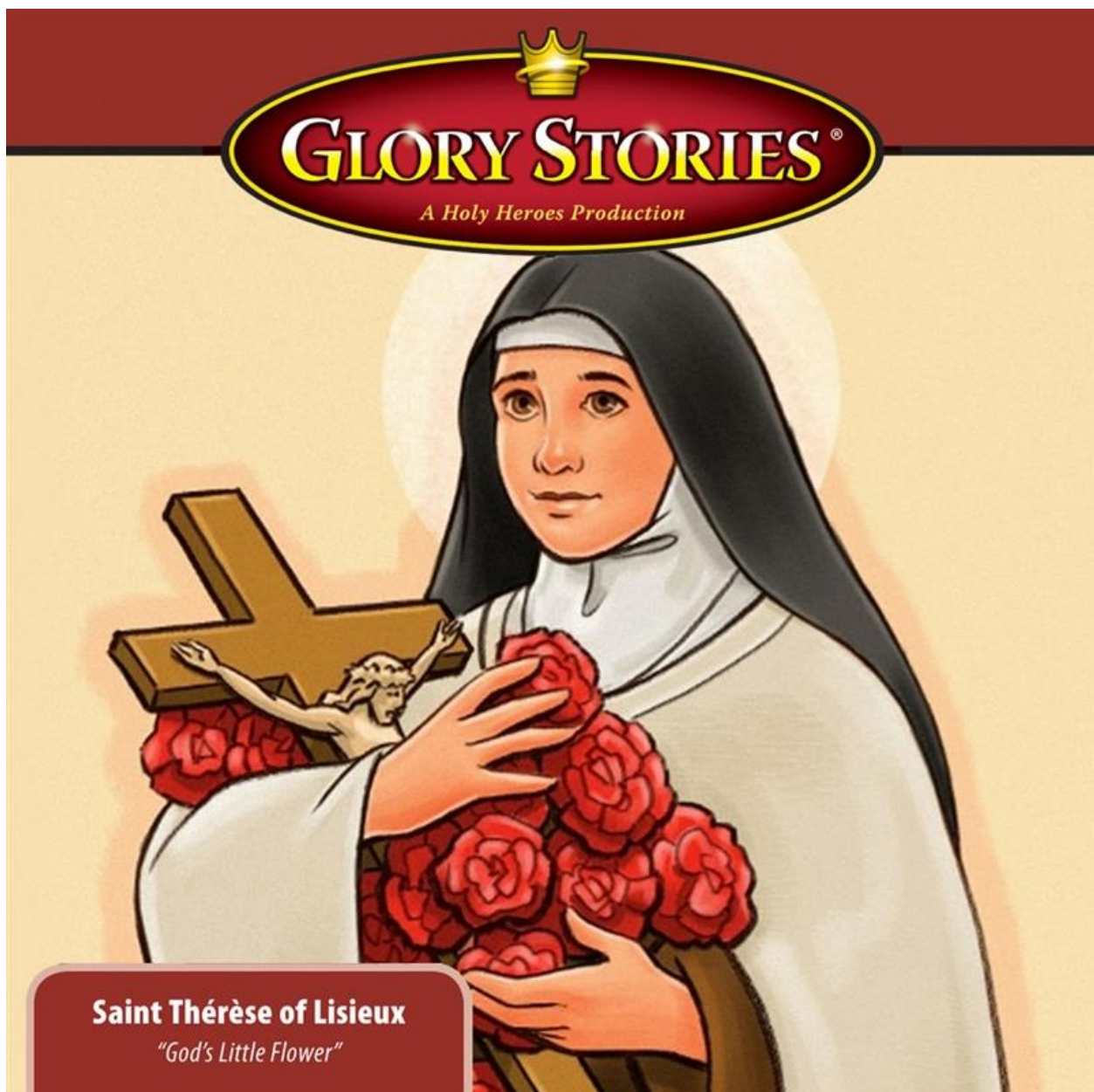




# St. Therese of Lisieux STUDY GUIDE FOR PARENTS



# Thank you for purchasing our Glory Story on St. Therese of Lisieux!

We hope you enjoy listening to this CD 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 CD. Never fear!

Here are 7 ideas on how to use your new St. Therese 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 suggest perfect stopping points in the CD to 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 October 1 in your calendar, and plan a day dedicated to St. Therese! Play her Glory Story, eat a rose-themed dessert, and have kids make a cool craft! For ideas on décor, activities, and more, check out our "St. Therese" board on [Pinterest!](#)

How have you used our Glory Stories? Let us know at [www.holyheroes.com](http://www.holyheroes.com)!

#### 4. Gifts for Birthdays or Receiving Sacraments

*"A great gift for a first Holy Communion." – Timothy from Washington, DC*

Know someone named Therese? Is your 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 CD before bedtime to help kids wind down from the day.

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# 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.

Listed next to each question is the appropriate track number on the audio CD. Use these questions track by track, or discuss everything at the end!

*Note: St. Therese is featured on the same CD as Saint Miguel de la Mora (another Holy Hero with his own, separate study guide). For questions connecting their two stories, see page 4. St. Therese's story starts on Track 6 of the CD.*

## **Track 6 (3:08 run time)**

1. Imagine Therese's garden...what kind of flowers are in it? Talk about how every flower is unique and precious to God. How can you be a little flower for Jesus?
2. What was the first word Therese learned to spell? (hint: heaven). Why should heaven be our ultimate goal? What do we call people who reach heaven? (hint: saints!)
3. Have you used sacrifice beads before? (teach kids how to use them if they don't). What kind of small things could you do to offer as sacrifices?

## **Track 7 – Track 8, 0:25 (3:28 run time)**

1. Therese and her sister wanted to be hermits when they were little. What is a hermit? Who are the Carmelites? (see definition below) How could entering a cloistered convent be similar to entering a desert?

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2. Therese's father was supportive of his daughter's vocation. He was a good father to Therese, in the same way that God is a loving Father to all of us! In what ways was God always there for Therese, even through hardship? Do you think God is there even in our own difficult times? (answer: YES!). What hard times have God or your parents helped you through?

### **Track 8 (0:26) through Track 9 (5:31 run time)**

1. Therese was very brave to speak to the Pope! What was a time when you were brave, or had to trust God with the future? (hint: God is always looking out for us!)
2. It's easy to help people who are nice to us; it's a bit harder when a person is cranky or complaining (like the elderly nun). What is something nice you can do for others (even if they are upset)? How could you cheer them up?
3. What is a missionary? (see definition). How was Therese a spiritual missionary? (hint; through prayer). Emphasize that you don't have to travel to far off lands to serve or pray for others! What are some ways that you can be a missionary like Therese?

## Definitions to Know

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

- Sacrifice beads – A string of ten beads used to count sacrifices or good acts
- Hermit – A man or woman who lives and prays alone to grow close to God
- Carmelites – A Catholic religious order that focuses on prayer and contemplation of God
- Missionary – A Christian person on a mission to lead others to Jesus

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# Connecting the Saints (Therese and Miguel de la Mora)

Use these questions to connect the two stories featured on the CD!

- Do you see any similarities or differences between Miguel and Therese? (possible answers...they were both brave, had faith, etc.)
- Do you think they would have been good friends on earth? Do you think they are good friends in heaven?
- When you get to heaven, what would you want to ask them? What do you think they would say?

## The Saint Therese Rose Novena (pray once every day for 9 days)

O little Therese of the Child Jesus, please pick for me a rose from the Heavenly gardens and send it to me as a message of love.

O little Flower of Jesus, ask God today to grant the favors I now place with confidence in thy hands . . . (*mention your petitions here*).

St. Therese, help me to always believe as thou didst, in God's great love for me, so that I might imitate thy "Little Way" each day. Amen.

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# 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 Therese's virtues.

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

- Therese wrote a play about Joan of Arc, one of her favorite saints. Encourage your kids to make a play about their own favorite saint! Let the kids write the script. Use objects or costumes you have lying around the house, or raid the local thrift store! Have them put on their show for mom and dad (parents or teacher can supply popcorn and "theater snacks" for afterwards).
- Plant a flower garden. If you have a green thumb, this is the perfect opportunity to tie in a science lesson! Have each kid bring in their own special flower or seed, and watch them grow over the next few months!
- Learn about a specific Catholic missionary organization. Save or fundraise money to donate to them. Pray the Saint Therese Rose Novena (see previous page) for the mission's intention.
- Plan a St. Therese Bouquet Toss! Buy some inexpensive, artificial roses, and create targets with varying point values on the floor using tape or baskets. You have now created your very own "Shower of Roses" game!
- Make some yummy desserts! As a group, bake and decorate a cake or cupcakes with roses / rose-colored frosting.
- Have kids draw a picture of themselves and Therese in heaven's garden! Provide gardening magazines, kid-safe scissors, and a glue stick. Show them how to create a collage by cutting and gluing flowers and grass to construction paper.

How have you used our Glory Stories? Let us know at [www.holyheroes.com](http://www.holyheroes.com)!

# Additional Resources

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

## Books:

*Story of a Soul* – St. Therese of Lisieux

*St. Therese and the Roses* (Vision Book series) – Helen Walker Homan

*The Little Flower: The Story of St. Therese of the Child Jesus* – Mary Fabian Windeatt

[Treasure Box Set One: Books 1-6 -- The Story of St Therese the Little Flower](#)

## Movies:

Therese: The Story of St. Therese of Lisieux (2004) – Saint Luke Productions

## Websites:

[Society of the Little Flower](#)

[Little Flowers Girls Club](#)

## Pilgrimage:

[National Shrine Museum of St. Therese \(Darien, Illinois\)](#)

Carmelite monasteries – worldwide (visit one closest to you!)

## This Glory Story pairs well with...

[Works of Mercy Set: Children's Book, Coloring Book & Card Game](#)

[Carabiner Sacrifice Beads \(with matching cord\)](#)

[Prayer Pillowcase - St. Therese](#)

[St. Therese 13-Page Coloring Pages \(instant download\)](#)

[Holy Heroes Spiritual Journal](#)

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