



The Children of Fatima

STUDY GUIDE FOR PARENTS



Thank you for purchasing our Glory Story on the Children of Fatima!

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 Children of Fatima 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 February 20 on your calendar, and plan a day dedicated to Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto! Plan another celebration on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima on May 13! Play her Glory Story, eat a rose-themed dessert, and have kids make a cool craft!

How have you used our Glory Stories? Let us know at 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 Lucia, Jacinta, or Francisco? 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!

Track 2 (3:01 run time)

1. Jacinta was not born a Saint! She could be very selfish - like not admitting that her brother had won the game and not giving Lucia her buttons back. Think of some selfish behaviors you might do. How can you change your behavior? (HINT: Praying to your Guardian Angel or St. Jacinta herself might be a good starting place!)

Track 3 – Track 8, 0:25 (3:03 run time)

1. Francisco was very brave, while his sister, Jacinta, was more fearful. What are some things that you are afraid of? You can pray to St. Francisco to help you be brave like him!

Track 4 (3:01 run time)

1. The Angel of Peace taught the children to pray reverently and to pray everyday. He also encouraged them to make *sacrifices* (The definition of this is in the "Definitions to Know" section below.) What are some sacrifices that you can make in your everyday life?

Track 6 (3:26 run time)

1. Part of Francisco's special mission from Our Lady was to pray "many Rosaries." It was probably hard for Francisco to do this sometimes because he was tired or busy - or just wanted to play! How can you make sure that you pray every day, even if you don't feel like it?

How have you used our Glory Stories? Let us know at www.holyheroes.com!

Track 7 (3:16 run time)

1. Lucia's mother and sisters did not believe her and made fun of her! Have you been bullied before (or been the bully)? How did you behave? Did you know that you could "offer up" this suffering?

Track 8 (3:03 run time)

1. Lucia became tired of people not believing her and thought about just telling people that she made up the Lady appearing to them. Has there ever been a time that you felt tempted to lie because you were tired of being treated unfairly? What did you decide to do? Do you think you made a good decision?

Track 10 (2:37 run time)

1. Do you pray for the Holy Father (see definition in the "Definitions to Know" section)? Jacinta prayed three "Hail Mary" prayers at the conclusion of every Rosary for the Holy Father. What prayers and/or sacrifices can you offer up?

Track 11 (3:35 run time)

1. Jacinta was afraid when the children were put in the town jail. What did she do? What can you do next time you get scared?

Track 12 (3:01 run time)

1. Francisco was especially concerned that our sins make Jesus sad. How do you think our sins hurt Jesus? [HINT: Sinning disobeys God. Sinning also ultimately brings sadness to the sinner, which makes Jesus sad because He loves us.]

Track 13 (Run time 3:00)

1. Mary said that God would grant the requests of some people, but not others. Why do you think this is? [HINT: This does NOT mean that God doesn't hear our prayers, but that we don't always get exactly what we pray for.]

Track 15 (2:56 run time)

1. The Fatima children did not want to talk to pilgrims to Fatima because they wanted to rest or pray, but often they couldn't avoid it. So, they decided to "offer it up" as a sacrifice? Are there people you don't want to spend time with? Can you offer this up as a sacrifice?

Track 16 (3:29 run time)

1. Jacinta and Francisco had different intentions that they offered prayers and sacrifices for. (For example, Jacinta was more focused on the conversion of sinners, while Francisco was dedicated to consoling Jesus.) What intentions are you most passionate about?

Track 18 (2:32 run time)

1. The message of Fatima is very important in our modern age! What have you learned from Our Lady of Fatima that you would like to start implementing in your daily life?

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)!

- **Sacrifices** - Pain and suffering that we unite with Christ's sacrifice on the cross. We can offer up these actions and sufferings, just like we offer up prayers, for ourselves and for others.

Small children might not understand this definition, so you can define sacrifices as "good actions that they don't want to do" like obeying parents right away, sharing toys etc.; most children find these behaviors to be difficult! There are also many other examples of different types of sacrifices in this Glory Story!

- **Immaculate Heart of Mary** - A symbolic representation of the Love Mary, the Mother of God, has for God and for all of us. The crown of thorns around the heart symbolize the sins committed against her and against her Son.
- **The Devil:** This is a common name for Satan, who was an important angel who chose to disobey God. Now, he is the leader of the evil angels (commonly called demons or devils). **Some children feel very scared of devils, so make sure you tell them that devils cannot hurt them, and that they have good angels watching over them all the time.**
- **The Holy Father:** Commonly called "The Pope." The Pope is the bishop of Rome and the earthly ruler of the Church.

The Five First Saturday's Devotion

Our Lady and the Child Jesus appeared to Lucia on December 10, 1925. They told her that Our Lady was deeply hurt by sins against her and gave Lucia instructions for a devotion to make reparation for these sins. This devotion is called the Five First Saturday's Devotion. Our Lady said that she would help give people who completed this devotion special help at the "hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation."

In order to complete this devotion, you must do **four** actions on the **first Saturday of five months** in a row:

1. Go to Confession.
 - a. Jesus later told Lucia that it was OK if people went to Confession within 8 days of the First Saturday.
2. Receive Holy Communion
3. Pray 5 Decades of the Rosary
4. Spend at least 15 minutes with Our Lady, while meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary. Don't forget that this is a separate prayer time than the Rosary.

You can learn more about this devotion by listening to track 19 of the Glory Story!

Additional Resources

This Glory Story pairs well with...

[*The Mysteries of the Holy Rosary CDs*](#)

[*Life of Jesus Complete Coloring Book*](#)

[*Holy Heroes Fatima Family Handbook*](#)

[*The Rosary of Saint John Paul II*](#)

[*A Little Catholic's First Rosary Book Series*](#)