

St. Therese Adult Study Series

A Time of Great Heroism and Great Tragedy – WWII from a Catholic Perspective with Father Andrie and Dr. Tod Worner

Reflection Questions for Chapter 3

For the next session on October 7th, please read Chapter 3, pages 33-51 in *WWII A Very Short Introduction* book. Begin with this or another prayer of your choice: “*Loving God, may the peace that begins within the heart when Your love is accepted there spread throughout the world and bring an end to violence everywhere. Amen.*”

<https://www.heartofthenation.org/daily-prayers>

WWII began when Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, and ended on September 2, 1945, when Japan signed an act of unconditional surrender after the atomic bombings. We learned that WWII was a war that involved virtually every part of the world from 1939-1945. The main combatants were the Axis powers—Germany, Italy, and Japan—and the Allies—Great Britain, United States, Soviet Union, France, and China. It was the largest and bloodiest of all wars, with 40-50 million deaths, the majority being civilians. (Britannica.com/event/World-War-II)

1. (pgs. 38-39) Franco wanted Hitler to give absolute assurances of full control of the areas he wanted. Hitler wouldn't do it. What does this show us about Hitler?

2. (pg. 42) How did the United States give aid before entering the war in December 1941? How did aiding Britain help Roosevelt?

3. (pg. 45) Why do you think Stalin was not believing the facts presented to him that Germany intended to attack them? What facts was he ignoring?

What else stood out for you in this chapter?