

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 4

For the next session on October 21st, please read Chapter 4, pages 52-65 in *WWII A Very Short Introduction* book. Begin with this or another prayer of your choice: *"Lord Jesus, in this time of changing seasons, may you find me changing, too, for I long to be a better disciple, ever more closely following you. In planted fields where seed has grown, may I find hope and delight, for you have planted faith to take root and grow as you keep me in your caring sight. In the change from summer to fall, may I see with grateful praise that life and seasons are given to reflect the wonders of your glorious ways. Amen."* <https://www.heartofthenation.org/daily-prayers>

Operation Barbarossa, also called Operation Fritz, began on June 22, 1941. Even though Stalin was told that the Germans would invade the Soviet Union, he didn't believe the sources. In addition to the army, Hitler created the Einsatzgruppen (task forces). They were mobile killing units whose mission was to murder Jewish people. (<https://www.britannica.com/facts/Operation-Barbarossa>)

1. What major consequence for the overall war was Operation Barbarossa for Germany?

2. (pg. 59-60) What shook up the Soviet people and made them change their minds about Stalin being a hated and feared dictator?

3. (pg. 65) What brought the U.S. into open participation in the war?

What else stood out for you in this chapter?