

# en·coun·ter

[*spirituality*]

## Wisdom of St. Thérèse of Lisieux

- Instead of asking God for things, offer to give God something from you.
- I want the inhabitants of heaven to adopt me and obtain for me a double portion of love.
- God does not demand great actions from us, but simply surrender and gratitude.
- Jesus is thirsty for love. Few hearts surrender without reservation and who understand the real tenderness of God's heart. There is nothing to fear in that tenderness.
- Jesus has few friends and those friends need to be really good friends.
- Look for small sacrifices of love in daily life. We are too little to perform great actions.
- If you wish to be a saint, it is not hard. Have one aim—to please Jesus and to unite yourself more intimately to Him.
- Even in the dark night of the Spirit and in total abandonment, there is a peace in knowing that you are in God's hands and in God's will in some mysterious way.
- I too have distractions, but as soon as I perceive the distraction, I pray for the persons who come into my imagination, and so they draw benefit from my distractions.
- How great is the power of prayer. It is an aspiration of the heart. It is a simple glance directed toward heaven. It is a cry of gratitude and love in the midst of trial as well as joy and is something great and supernatural and expands the soul and unites us to Jesus.
- To do good without God's help is as impossible as to make the sun shine at night.
- I would never be able to love my sister as you love unless you, Jesus, loves them in me. Your will is to love in me all those you command me to love.
- Come and take possession of my soul. Remain in me as in a tabernacle.
- Take away my freedom to displease you.
- If through weakness, I sometimes fall, may your divine glance cleanse my soul immediately consuming all my imperfections like the fire that transforms everything into itself.
- Draw me into the flames of your love to unite me so closely to You that You love and act in me.
- I have no greater desire to die than to live; if Our Lord gave me the choice I would choose nothing; I only will what He wills.
- I wanted to find an elevator which would raise me to Jesus, for I am too small to climb the rough stairway of perfection. I searched then in the Scriptures for some sign of this elevator, the object of my

desires and I read these words coming from the mouth of Eternal Wisdom: 'Whoever is a little one let him come to me.' The elevator which must raise me to heaven is your arms, O Jesus, and for this I have no need to grow up, but rather I have to remain little and become this more and more.

- I have not the courage to force myself to seek beautiful prayers in books; not knowing which to choose, I act as children do who cannot read; I say quite simply to the good God what I want to tell Him, and He always understands me.
- I do not well see what more I shall have in Heaven than now. I shall see the good God, it is true; but as to being with Him, I am wholly with Him already upon earth.
- Jesus does not consider time since He is eternal. He considers only love.
- When we are little, we expect everything from God. We let go of anxiety, fear and self-centeredness and rely only on God.
- Do not fear. If you are faithful in pleasing Jesus in little things, He will be obliged to help you in greater things.
- O, how I love the Blessed Virgin. If I were a priest, how often would I speak of her. She is described as unapproachable, whereas she should be pointed to as a model. She is more of a mother than a queen.
- I understand that without love, all deeds, even the most brilliant, are as nothing.
- Jesus gives to me just what I can bear at each moment, no more; and if a moment later He increases my suffering, He also increases my strength.
- What offends Jesus, what wounds His Sacred Heart, is lack of confidence in Him.
- The only happiness here below is to strive to be always content with what Jesus gives us.
- Let us love, since that is all our hearts were made for.
- It is so sweet to call the good God "Our Father."
- Remember that the dear Jesus is there in the tabernacle expressly for you, for you alone. Remember that He is consumed with a desire to come into your heart.
- We have only the short moments of this life to work for God's glory. The devil knows this, and that is why he tries to make us waste time in useless things.