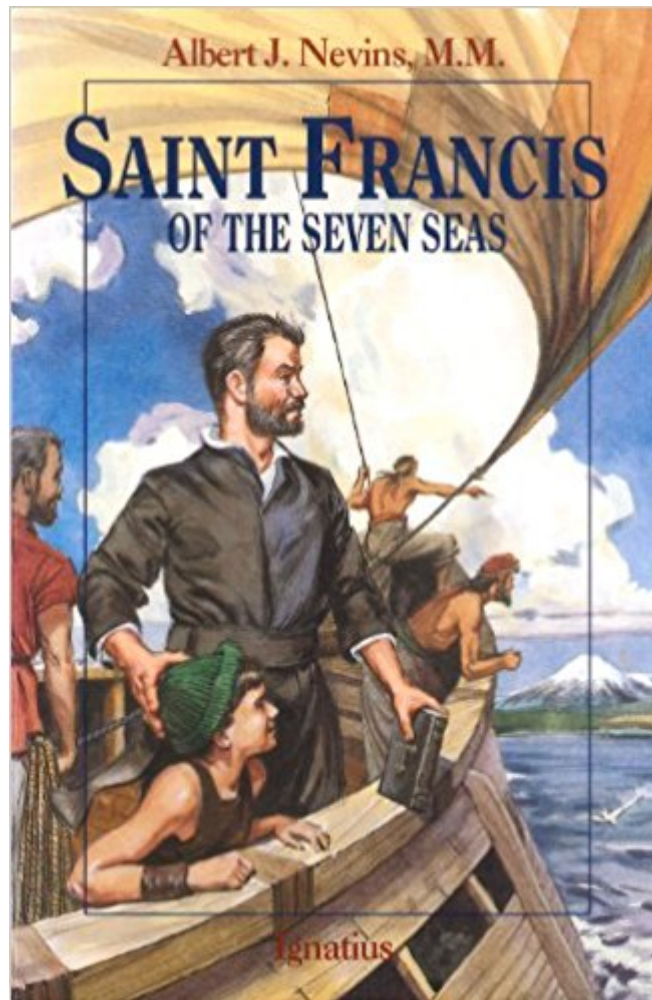




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Saint Francis Of The Seven Seas (Vision Books)



Synopsis

This story from the popular Vision Books series of saints lives for youth 9 - 15 years old is about the inspiring life of the great missionary to the Far East, St. Francis Xavier. After his war torn boyhood in Navarre, Francis Xavier went to the University of Paris, determined to have a good time. He was interested in sports and became broad jumping champion of his college, and did not pay much attention to his studies. At first he scoffed at this fellow student, Ignatius Loyola, a former soldier who wanted to win the world for God. But Ignatius showed him that true champions are a far more heroic breed - those who risk their all to win the world for God. Francis joined Ignatius' followers, and became one of the first members of the Society of Jesus. Francis Xavier was selected by Ignatius to do missionary work in India. To all sixteenth-century travelers, a voyage from Portugal to India meant months of deadly peril from storms, pirates, and diseases. But to Father Francis Xavier, it also meant a chance to win the Orient for Jesus Christ. This great saint's eagerness to spread the Word of God involved him with the pearl divers of the Indian coast, the natives of Malaya and the Spice Islands, the cannibals of Morotni and the hostile feudal lords of ancient Japan. This book captures the true spirit of a daring man who braved the many dangers of India and Japan in amazing adventures of courage and faith.

Book Information

Series: Vision Books

Paperback: 168 pages

Publisher: Ignatius Press; New edition edition (December 1, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0898705193

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Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.4 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #191,209 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #59 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Religious #256 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Biographies > Saints #1623 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

The story of St. Francis Xavier is one that will surely hold the interest of young students as well as adults seeking to learn about this great man. Francis was born into a wealthy family and lived in a castle in Navarre. While he was still young, the Spanish declared war against Navarre, and Navarre became part of Spain. Francis had a great interest in learning. When he was 19, he set out for the 500 mile walk to Paris where he would study. Classes were held in cold drafty classrooms, and the students sat on the floor. In the winter they spread straw on the floors to make them warmer. However, Francis found partying, more than studying, to his liking. It was at the University that he met Ignatius Loyola, whom he first ignored, but then became a follower of. He became a Jesuit and realized his strong desire to be a missionary. I think he might possibly have been the greatest missionary ever. He put his own safety and health at risk in order to reach as many souls as possible. He travelled to several countries to spread the Word of God. He had a great power to touch souls, and many converted because of his teaching. A map is included in the back of the book that shows the great distances St. Francis travelled.

I began collecting Vision Books for my 11 y/o son to read at night. He loves to curl up with these stories before he goes to sleep. The books in this series are well written and exciting for the reader. He's even convinced me, his mom, to read them as well. I love that our son is not only learning about the lives of a saint, but he's learning how to live our Faith.

The pace of this book is very fast and will hold the attention of children in a pretty broad age range. It should hold the attention of children while they learn about St. Francis Xavier and his companions.

My 9 year old thoroughly enjoyed reading about the life of Saint Francis. She loved the adventures, but she was also very much impressed by the sacrifices and efforts from Saint Francis to fulfill God's will. It was a good conversation starter on how we can reply to God's call in our own every day lives.

Our family loves these books.

Great

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