

*In the Way of Mary*  
*For Teenagers and Young Adults*

## 7 - Called by God - but for what?

### Introduction

Close your eyes

Breath in your nose and out through your mouth.  
Breath in your nose and out through your mouth.  
Repeat 7 times...

### Sign of the Cross

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Story

In the early 1800s France, Jeanne-Marie Chavion and Marie Jotillon began discussing their desire to dedicate their entire lives to God. They were familiar with religious orders—communities of women who chose to live simply, devoting their lives to prayer and service instead of marrying and raising families. However, neither Jeanne-Marie Chavion nor Marie Jotillon felt drawn to join any of the religious groups they knew. Jeanne-Marie, in particular, was determined to wait for a clear sign from God before deciding how and where she could become a religious sister.



In the meantime, the two young women kept themselves busy. Jeanne-Marie assisted in her father's tailor shop, while Marie cared for her elderly parents at home. Jeanne-Marie also continued helping Father Guillermet with his catechism classes and looking after the church. Both women were known for their deep commitment to prayer and their kindness towards the sick in the parish. They also joined a group founded by Jean-Philibert Lefranc called the Association of Divine Love. Along with eight other women, they followed a spiritual plan outlined by Jean-Philibert, dedicating time to prayer and quietly serving those in their community. They carried out their acts of love discreetly, avoiding any attention or recognition.



Despite their efforts to remain unnoticed, people soon recognized Jeanne-Marie and Marie as remarkable young women. One such person was a new priest, Father Pierre Colin, who came to Coutouvre to assist Father Guillermet. Father Colin stayed for

four years and would later play a significant role in their journey.

### **Silence**

Sit still for 1 minute. What parts of this story stays with you?

### **Discuss**

Any thoughts? *2-3 minutes*

### **Common Prayer**

What do you want to thank God for?

What do you wish to place in God's hands?

How would you like God's guidance or support in your life?

### **Hail Mary**

We pray with Mary at this time:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.

### **Closing Prayer**

Loving Father, we thank You for the example of Jeanne-Marie Chavion and Marie Jotillon, as young adults, who humbly dedicated their lives to prayer, service, and love for their community. Teach us to wait patiently. To not always rush into things. But take the time to ask questions, and ponder the mysteries of life. Encourage us to follow their footsteps, seeking You in the quiet and hidden moments and serving others with compassion and humility. May we, too, live with hearts fully open to Your guidance, embracing the call to care for those in need while deepening our relationship with You. Strengthen our resolve to act selflessly and to find joy in small, hidden acts of kindness. In Your holy name, we pray.

Amen.

### **Sign of the Cross**

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.