

# Blood & Fireworks!

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# Blood & Fireworks - Introduction

The Stakes are high, the time is short.

Do you know that you and I are in a war? Sometimes we don't realize because we can't see it, but all around us good forces and evil forces are fighting each other.

God is going to win the war, because He is Good, and stronger than any evil. But He wants you and me to help Him fight in this war to save the world from evil.

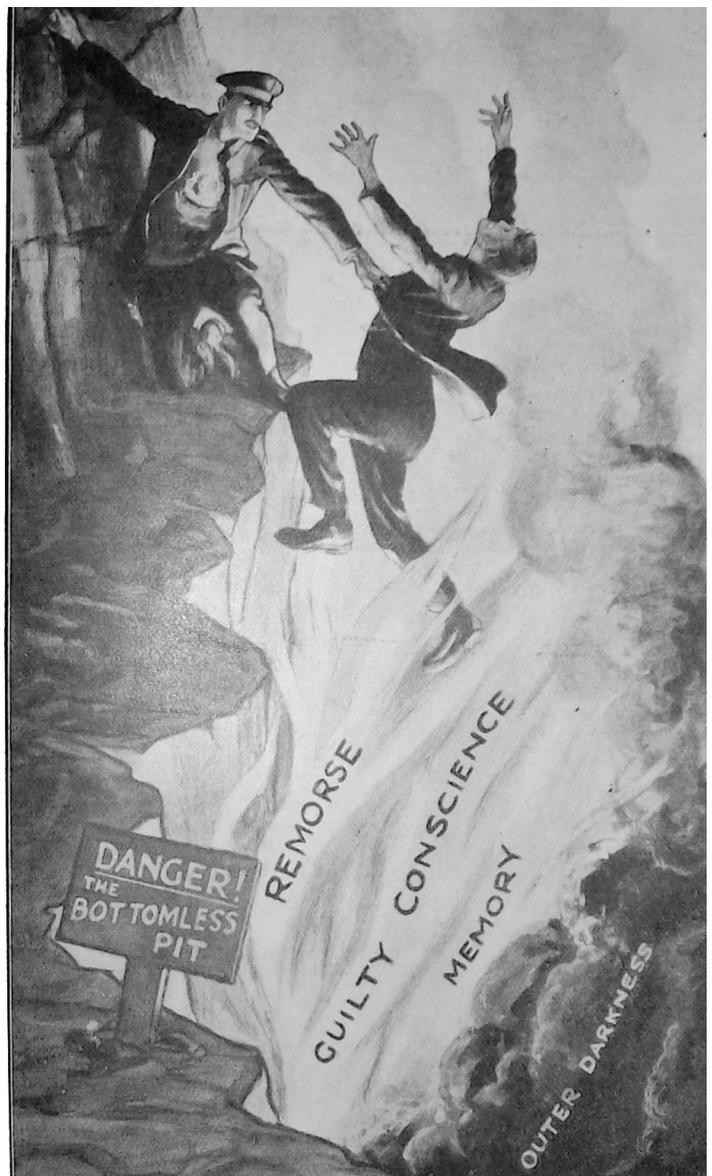
Before we can do that though, Jesus needs to save us.

You see, if I died without knowing Jesus, I'd go to hell for eternity. And eternity is a VERY long time. That's how high the stakes are. It's not as if you get a 'do-over' or a second chance. This life you are living is the only one you get. After that, we all face God's judgement. Time is short. And it is shorter for some people than for others. At any moment, my life could be over.

But the Lord Jesus Christ will save me from hell if I turn away from the evil inside me and believe in Him to make me new. And then He wants me to help Him rescue all of the rest of my family, friends, class mates, team mates, and neighbours before they tumble over the cliff into hell. It's the same for you. To the rescue! The stakes are high, and the time is short!

This picture depicts what we've just explained. And we'll show you other excellent pictures from The Salvation Army's official periodical the War Cry from way back when your grandparents used to read the paper. We've collected all the best War Cry pictures we could find that stir up love for God and lost people and we explain them to you on each page. You can colour them in; you can memorize the Bible verse of the day; you can do one each day, if you like; you can share them with your friends. Read the story. Ask God to help you understand. And then colour away!

The Salvation Army's way of doing things is 'Capture, Train, Deploy'. We capture slaves of the devil for Jesus. We train them up to be warriors of Jesus. And we deploy them on the fronts of the salvation war.



**PULL THEM FROM THE FIRE**



# Blood & Fireworks

## CAPTURE - DAYS 1 - 8

We're in The Salvation Army. We're warriors for Jesus. And we fight the devil. The Bible explains that he has blinded the minds of unbelievers so that they cannot see the light of the Gospel of the glory of God. They are blind to God. We've got to capture these blinded slaves of the devil for Jesus! We've got to follow Jesus and lift that blindness so that they CAN see God. These devotions have a lot of pictures and stories that will help us.

## TRAIN - DAYS 9 - 25

It is amazing to see someone captured from the devil by the love of Jesus. But it isn't enough to just capture them for the Lord. We have to train them into warriors of Jesus, too! Training involves prayer, reading the Bible, telling others how they can know Jesus, memorizing Bible verses, obeying our parents, serving at the corps, and more. The Bible teaches us that, "spiritual training is useful and of value in everything and in every way, for it holds promise for the present life and also for the life which is to come." These devotions have a lot of pictures and stories that will help us.

## DEPLOY - DAYS 26 - 42

Deploy means to move your troops into position for military action. And God is the great deployer. He might want you to tell all the kids in your class how to know Jesus (reminder: repent of your sins and believe in Jesus). He might want you to become a Salvation Army officer. He might want you to prepare to go to a faraway country to tell them how to know Jesus. He might want you to teach a Sunday School class when you're old enough. He'll decide and He'll let you know - so listen closely. Wherever He deploys you, two things are key:

1. He is sending you to open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light, from the power of satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who have been sanctified by faith in God.
2. And be ready to say 'YES!' to wherever He wants to deploy you.

Jesus made a way for everyone to be saved – you, me and even your next door neighbour's great aunt Eunice. Because He loves us. And he invites you and me to help him to save the world.

First we need to make sure that we are saved and enjoying a close friendship with Jesus. Then we need to train up, read our Bible, pray, and allow God's Spirit to make us more like Jesus. Then we need to get out there and tell our friends how much God loves them and can change their lives. That's what being a Christian is all about!

Get to it!

### Blood & Fireworks

Written by Xander Coleman and Stephen Court

Design by Kathleen Johansson

Adapted by the Canada Bermuda Youth Department

Pictures in this book are taken from The War Cry and other Salvation Army publications from Australia, Canada and the UK between 1879 and 1950.





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 1

## Sin is a Disastrous Accident Waiting to Happen!

There are two ways to live our lives. We can live God's way, or we can live our own way.

When we live our lives God's way, life is more fun. Plus, we get protected from choices that can harm us.

When we live our own way we can hurt ourselves and other people. You see, we all have a disease. It doesn't make us vomit or sneeze. It's a spiritual sickness and it makes us selfish and mean and greedy and hurtful. The name of the disease is 'sin'.

God can heal us from this disease if we follow Jesus, but if we live our lives our own way, we'll get sicker and sicker with sin. We will hurt more and more people, and we'll be harming ourselves too. Like driving dangerously in a car, it's an accident waiting to happen!

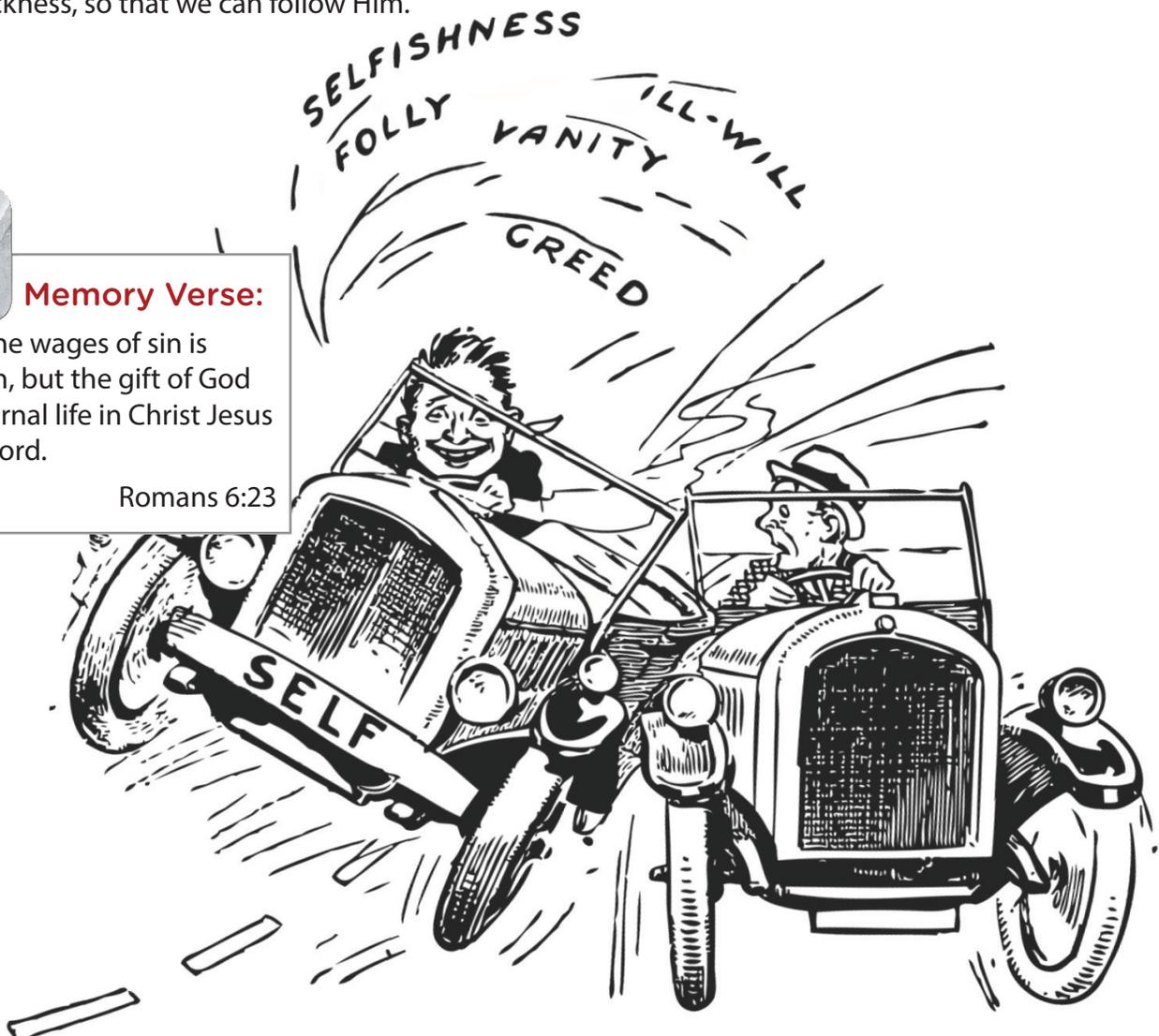
It is much better to follow Jesus, say sorry for the things we've done wrong and ask Him to heal us from our sin-sickness, so that we can follow Him.



### Memory Verse:

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23





## Blood & Fireworks - Day 2

Let's eat, drink and be merry?

No! Look at all of those people partying, enjoying themselves and kicking back. The salvation soldier is trying to catch their attention, to call them from their distractions to the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ where they can find salvation.

The problem is that the alcohol and other drugs (deadly poisons), the gambling, the gluttony (eating like a pig all the time) are all harmful. For some in the picture, that harm includes addiction, shame and ruin. Broken families and broken promises, lost jobs and lost hope are the result from some of these habits. But for others, their 'pleasure' means that other people, maybe not in the picture, are harmed.

These other people are trafficked, are enslaved, are forced to work in unhealthy conditions to produce the goods and services that those in the picture are enjoying. The salvation soldier is blasting the truth into their ears, trying to make more noise than the blaring sounds of the harmful party, so that they will stop their sinning.



### Memory Verse:

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

Proverbs 14:12





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 3

## God Can Save Anyone

Do you ever think that someone is too bad to get saved? Maybe you think about the biggest bully in school, or a terrible criminal who hurts a lot of people, or someone who kidnaps children. Lots of people think that these types of people are too bad to get saved.

But the amazing thing is that Jesus can save any of them. He died for all sin once and for all. That means all of my sins and all of your sins. And, there is enough blood that Jesus shed to cover all of their sins, too. Every one. God is spectacular.

What we have to remember is that none of us deserve to get saved. We have all sinned. Our sin separates all of us from God.

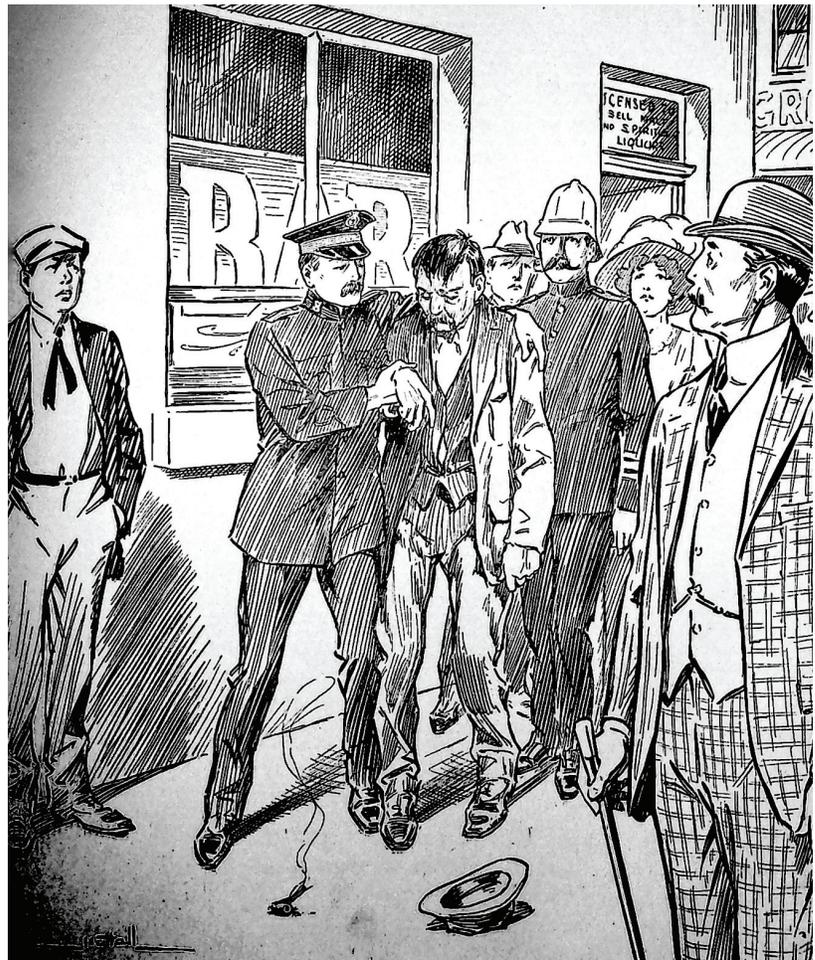
But we also have to remember that all of us can repent and believe. And that's what Jesus said was necessary to be saved. So, you can repent and believe. We can. And the very worst people on the planet can do it, too. And do you know what? Some of them have! Some of the worst people have been saved by God once they turned from their sins! Hallelujah.



### Memory Verse:

But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 4

## The Mercy Seat

The salvation soldiers in this picture have just had an open air meeting and have come to the most important part of any Salvation Army meeting: the appeal time, also called the prayer meeting. This is the time in the meeting where saints and sinners can encounter God at the mercy seat or the holiness table. Here, the salvation soldiers have used a drum as a makeshift mercy seat. It doesn't matter what it's made of, what matters is that God is there.

We can pray to God at the mercy seat and ask Him to take away our sins and help us to follow Jesus. When we want to give God our whole lives, and ask Him to make us belong to Himself, we can do this at the holiness table. Even if we're just having a bad day and want to pray, we can use these places to meet with God.

When you use the mercy seat or holiness table, usually someone will come and offer to pray with you. They are there to help you and you can talk with them.

God loves you, and loves it when you decide to meet with Him. Have you ever given Him your life and asked Jesus to take away your sins? You don't have to wait until Sunday when you can use the mercy seat, you can ask Him right now today!



### Memory Verse:

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 5

## Every Nation in This Generation!

You might not know this old song, but it says, 'all are precious in His sight, Jesus loves the little children of the world.' That includes you. But it also includes kids your age in every single country in the world. It includes kids who speak Farsi and Swahili and English and Mandarin and Arabic and Spanish and French and your language, too, if it isn't part of that list! Jesus loves all of you.

Jesus died for all children, regardless of where they were born or where they live, or how much money their parents make or if they even have parents, how they travel to the shops and if they can afford to buy anything once they arrive. He loves all of you.

And the exciting news is that all kinds of children from all over are giving their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ. We know from the Bible that there will be followers of Jesus from every tribe and every language and every nation.

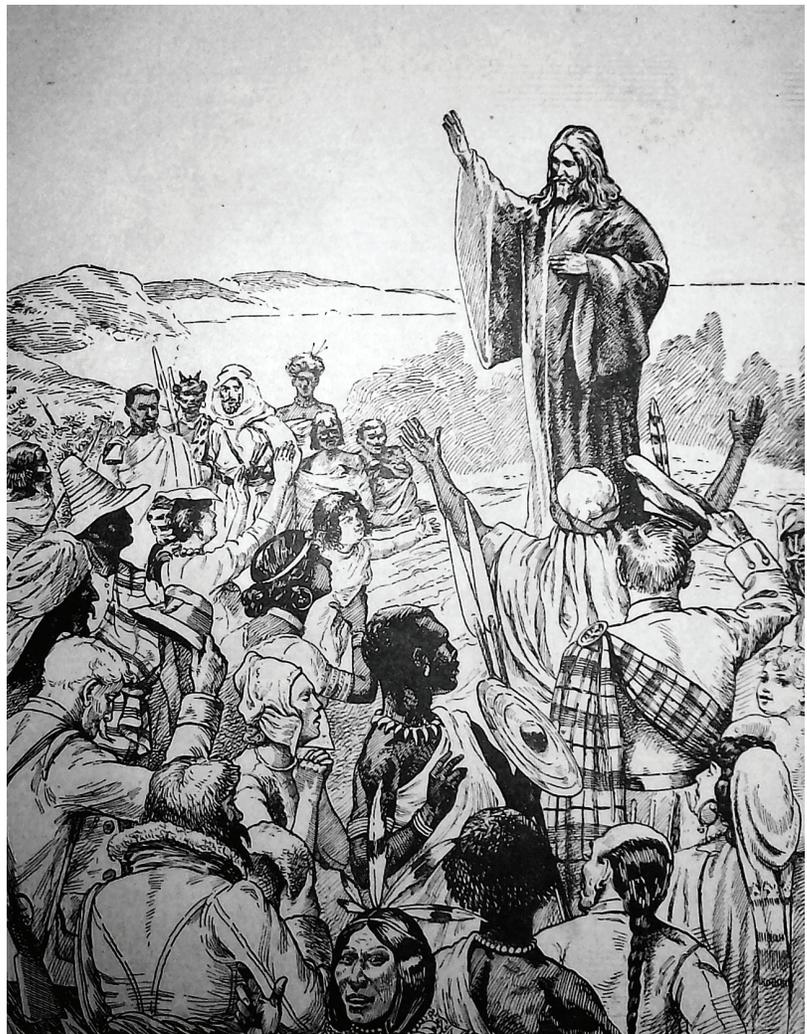
Do you think we can reach every nation in this generation? Let's start with you! And your friends!



### Memory Verse:

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 6

## Family Unity

We know that some families are like the one in the picture. Not everyone is moving in the same direction. This is a terrible danger.

Demons hate families because they represent the love and togetherness of the Trinity (that's God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit).

God created families and He loves them. He wants us all to love Him together. In fact, our fellowship as families really exists through our fellowship with God.

So, as a child, you have a few responsibilities. First, pray that God will unite your family. Second, make sure you are saved by Jesus. Third, make sure that you are behaving like Jesus would, so that your siblings and parents will see God has made you new. Fourth, try to get the rest of your family saved. Fifth, try to help your friends.



### Memory Verse:

We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and His Son.

1 John 1:3



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 7

## Anyone Can Follow Jesus

Jesus commands us a bunch of times to follow Him (e.g. in Mark 1:17), and we all know that 'life is more fun when you're good!'

Following Jesus means that we live our lives in a way that pleases Him – where we love God with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, and love other people just as much as we love ourselves. When we follow Jesus we join a special club of people called Christians.

See all the different types of people following Him in the picture? This club is open to everyone! That's right, anyone is allowed to follow Jesus. All they have to do to become a Christian (and all we have to do to become a Christian) is to repent (that means turn away) from our sins and say sorry to God the Father, ask Jesus to forgive us (and believe that He will), and ask the Holy Spirit to live inside us and help us to follow Him well.

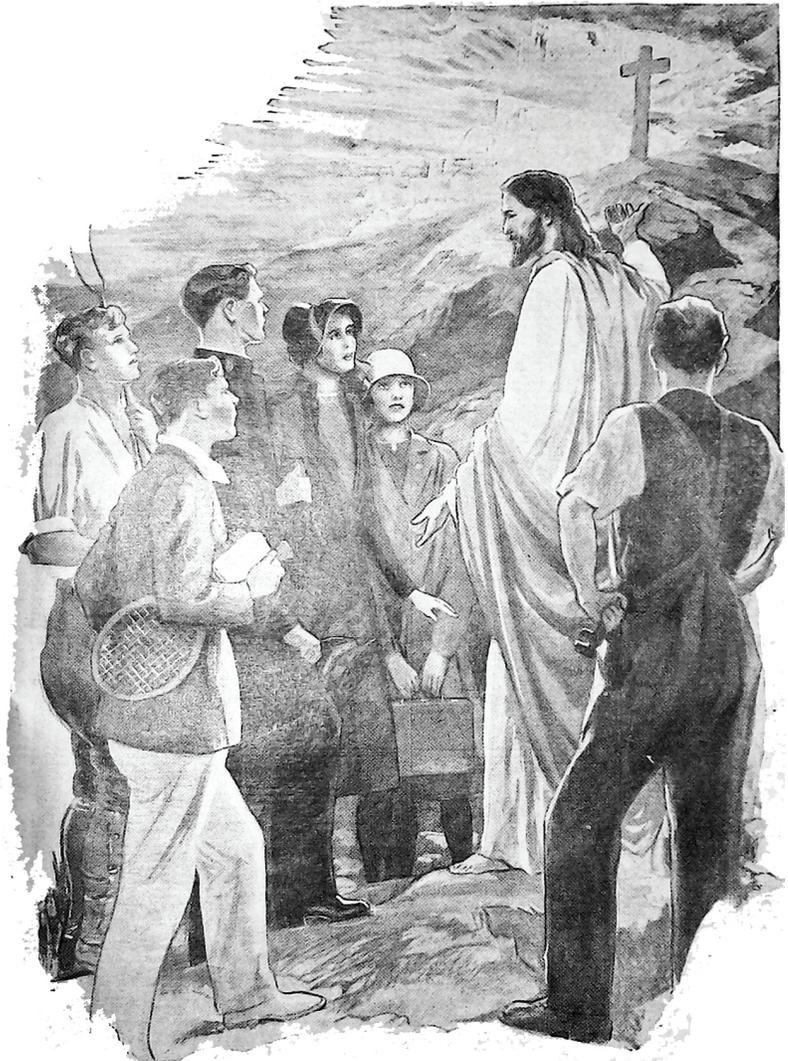
And you know what? A life spent following Jesus is the best kind of life you can get!



### Memory Verse:

Then He called the crowd to Him along with His disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

Mark 8:34





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 8

## Jesus Fought the Good Fight for You

He did. Jesus did not have to suffer and die. He could have stayed in heaven, worshiped by countless angels all the time.

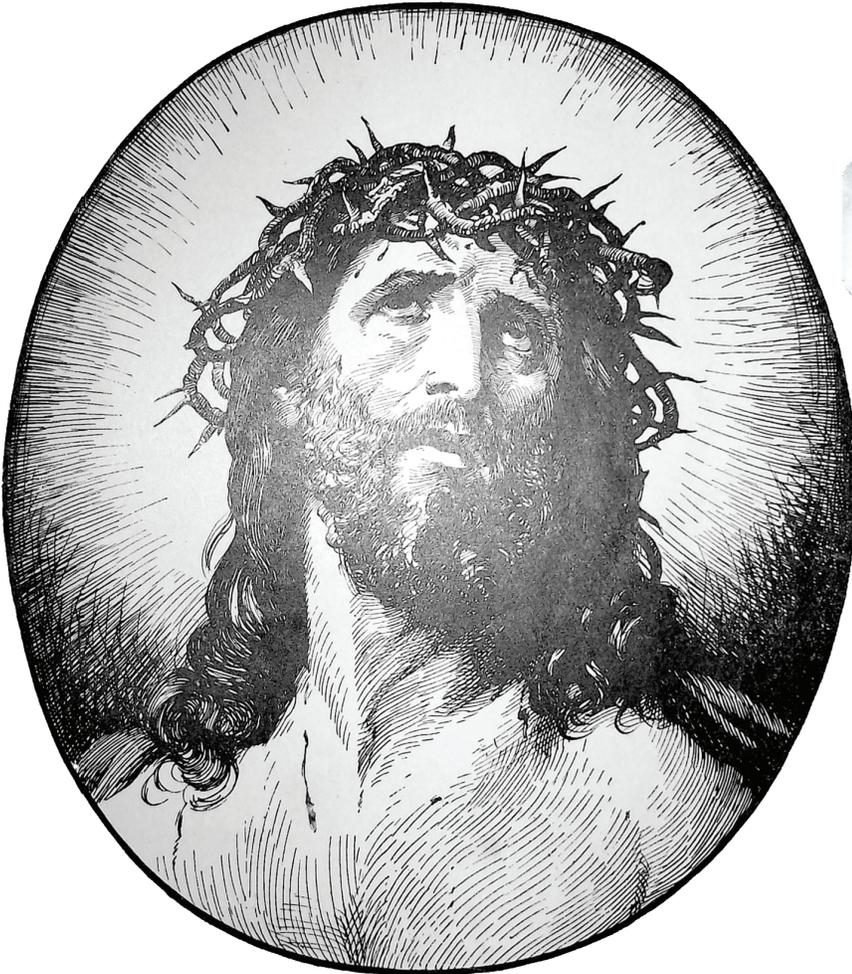
Instead, He came down to earth. He was born poor, in difficult circumstances. He lived a perfect life – never sinning. He came to seek and to save all who were lost (that’s all of us!).

And to do that, He was cursed and beaten and oppressed and falsely charged. And He was killed. He was crucified (nailed to a cross) and there He died for your sins and ours.

The great news is that He came back to life again on the third day!

Why? He loves your socks off. He really loves you. On the cross, He fought and defeated the devil. Then he conquered sin and death. He was punished for your sins. He did it all so that you can be saved.

How can you respond to that? Turn from your sins and trust and obey Jesus. He fought the good fight for you.



### Memory Verse:

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit.

1 Peter 3:18



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 9

## Consequences of Demonic Victory

This is a serious one, kids. If we don't receive the forgiveness of our sins, then we can't get into heaven. And that means that we end up in hell.

As you can see, it is a terrible, awful place to be. And as bad as it would be to get stuck there for a minute, it is millions of times worse to be stuck there forever.

Those demons and evils spirits and dragons are out to ruin your life and force you into hell. They will stop at nothing. There is no dirty trick too dirty for them to play. They will lie to you, curse you, condemn you, tempt you, distract you from Jesus, and much more in order to keep you from turning from your sins and trusting the Lord Jesus Christ for forgiveness and salvation.

Now, for the record, that demonic victory in the picture is horrible for the human being in the picture. But the demons do not win the final victory. The Lord Jesus Christ will crush all the demons and evil spirits and dragons and the devil himself and send them all to hell. Demons lose in the end.

But let's fight with everything we have and are so that no humans get stuck in hell!



### Memory Verse:

"As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give."

Matthew 10:7-8





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 10

## God's Got Your Back

It's true. If you are a Christian and are following God, He's got your back. He'll protect you. He'll bless you.

When you are tempted, know that you won't be tempted beyond what you can bear. AND, when you are tempted, God will provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

When you head into difficult situations, know that He's always with you. He'll never leave you or abandon you, even if other people do. He's got your back.

He promises that if you focus on Him and what He wants, He'll make sure that you never go without anything you need.

He'll take care of you, because He's got your back.



### Memory Verse:

And surely I am with you  
always, to the very end of the  
age.

Matthew 28:20b





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 11

## Blueprint for Battle

This is a great battle plan to attack regions throughout Great Britain with the love of Jesus. Do you see how different brigades were sent to fight in different ways in different places? It all worked together to make the biggest impact.

We want God to give us a blueprint for battle so that we can join with others to win every single nation for Jesus. Wouldn't it be amazing to help win the whole world for Jesus before you get promoted to Glory and go to heaven? God can help you.

While we wait for the blueprint, let's all keep praying. Let's each keep reading the Bible. Let's obey the Lord Jesus Christ. Let's love one another. Let's evangelize our friends and classmates and neighbours and family members and even strangers! Let's get holy. Let's get trained up to defeat demons, strengthen Christians, and lead the great salvation war.



### Memory Verse:

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 12

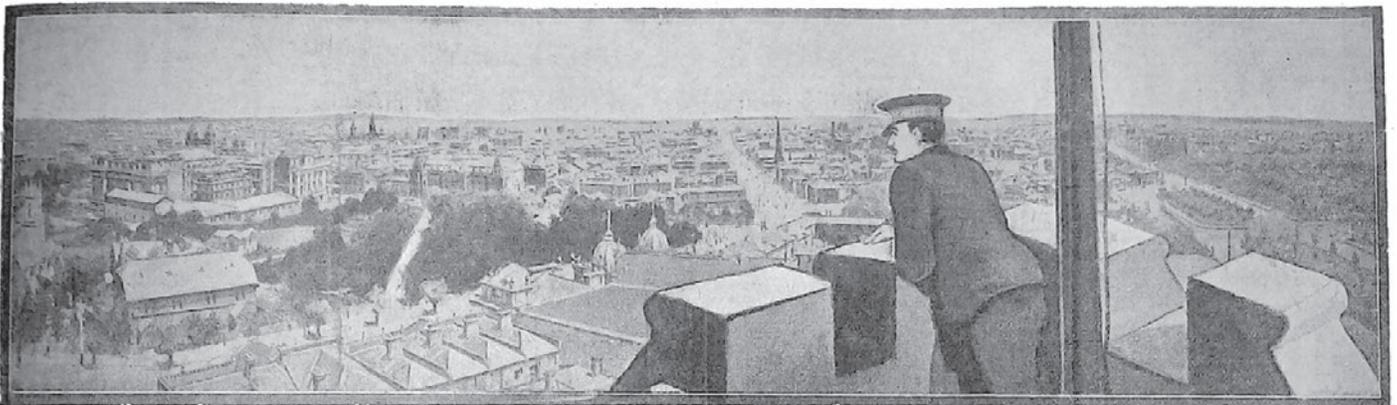
## Bird's Eye View

Have you heard of the saying, 'he couldn't see the forest for all the trees'? It means that he got so caught up in the little distractions of daily life that he forgot the big picture, the purposes and mission. It is helpful to stop sometimes and remember why you are doing what you are doing, to see the forest, and not just a bunch of trees.

Going upstairs can help.

Spiritually, going upstairs involves praying. And praying involves both talking and listening. As you listen to God He will give you His take on the big picture. And when you act on what He shows you, that is called 'prophetic'. Prophetic includes revelation (what He shows/tells you); interpretation (what it means); and application (doing it).

God can give us good strategy here. Jesus said that He couldn't do anything by Himself; He could only do what He saw God the Father doing. In fact, whatever the Father did, Jesus the Son did. And so we pray, based on that verse, John 5:19, "help us to see what You're doing and do what we're seeing."



### Memory Verse:

Jesus gave them this answer:  
"I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by Himself; He can do only what He sees His Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son does also".

John 5:19



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 13

## Jesus' Bias Towards the Poor

Jesus came to save everyone. It doesn't matter what your age or your ethnic group or your language or your nationality or your wealth or even your religion. He's the only way anyone can be saved and He came to save everyone.

But, do you know what? The Gospel is 'good news to the poor'. For people who are poor, the fact that Jesus came to rescue them is fantastic news. And Jesus has a bias to the poor.

There are billions of people in the world and most of them are poorer than you. So as you fight for Jesus you will find yourself in and amongst poor people – that's where Jesus likes to hang out.

And The Salvation Army specializes in saving the 'down and out' – the marginalized – the very poor.

Some people wonder if God is calling them to go to neighbourhoods and cities and countries that are very poor. That's good. But it is even better if we just assume we should go and only wait to ask if God calls us to stay.



### Memory Verse:

All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

Galatians 2:10



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 14

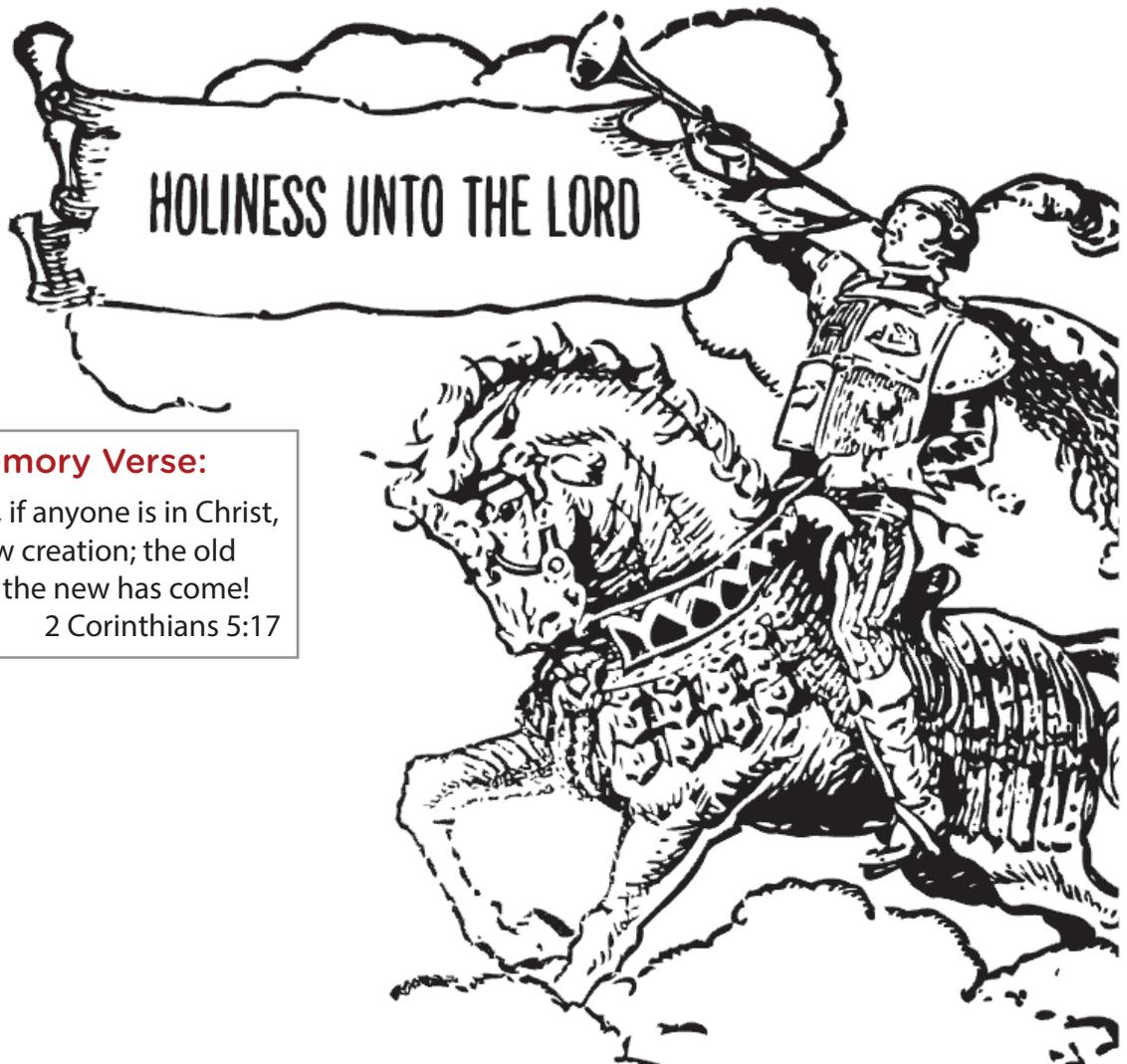
## Holiness is the Solution to Every Problem

God created the world to be good. But people like you and me can make the world bad by wrong actions and words. When we are selfish or mean or greedy or hurtful – these things hurt God and hurt other people. And when lots of people act in those ways, big problems happen.

We make these bad choices because we have a spiritual disease called sin, and this disease separates us from God.

Jesus died to take the punishment we deserved for our wrong actions. But He came back to life to show that we can be healed from our sin. If we ask Him, He will take that disease out of us and make us new people by putting His Holy Spirit inside us. This is called Holiness, and being holy means belonging to God. And when we belong to God, all of our decisions and actions are done to please Him.

Can you imagine if everyone was holy and only did things that pleased God? All those problems in our world would go away. Holiness is the solution to every problem.



### Memory Verse:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,  
he is a new creation; the old  
has gone, the new has come!  
2 Corinthians 5:17



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 15

**What is a testimony? How can I use it to help my friends get saved?**

A testimony is when you tell another person what God has done for you. If you are saved by the Lord Jesus Christ then you can testify about it. You can tell someone what you were like before you got saved. Then you can explain how God saved you. Finally, you share how your life is different because you are forgiven by God the Father, empowered by the Holy Spirit and blessed by the Lord Jesus Christ.

How can that help save your friends? Simple. Tell them your testimony. Remember to include in the middle part - explanation - the basics of salvation. For example, throw in a few verses about sin (maybe Romans 3:23 and 6:23) and what Jesus' does in the whole thing (maybe 1 Peter 3:18 and Romans 5:8) and how you responded (maybe Acts 3:19 and John 1:12).

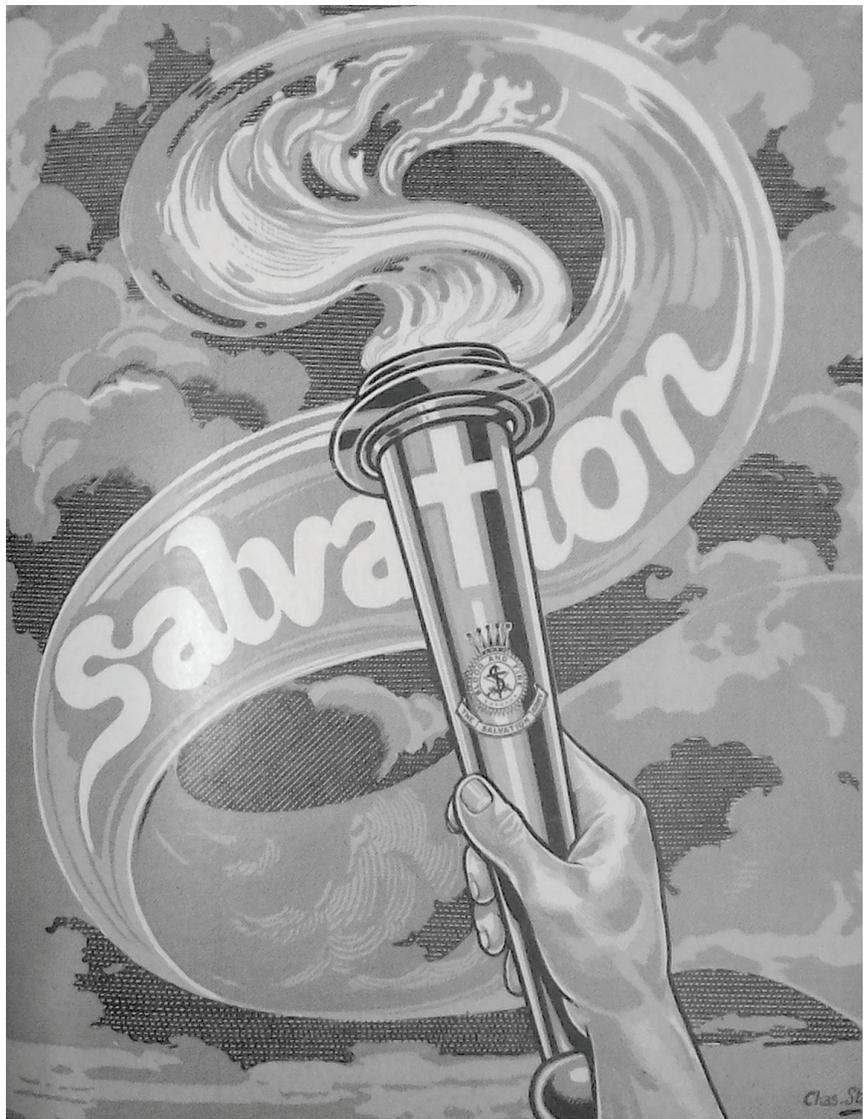
Now you can testify about more than your salvation. You can testify to how you are experiencing God right now. We recommend a lot of testifying about all kinds of God experiences to all types of people.



## **Memory Verse:**

And this is the testimony:  
God has given us eternal life,  
and this life is in His Son.

1 John 5:11





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 16

## The Power of Prayer

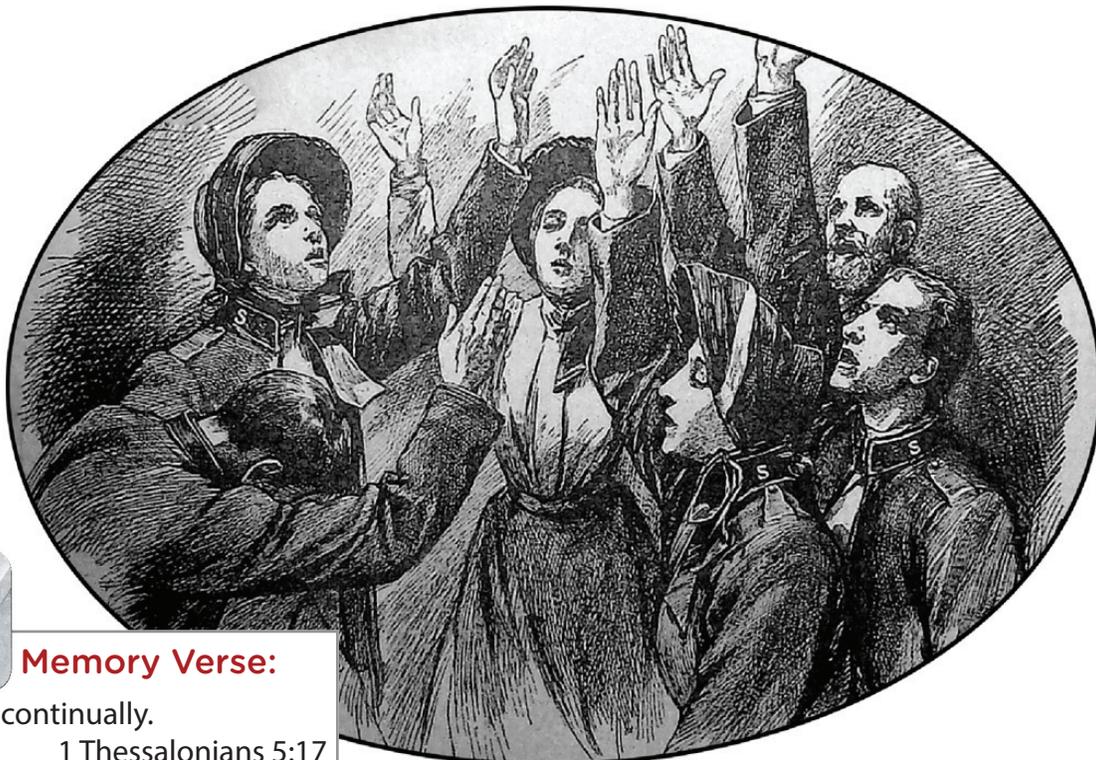
Prayer is important and really powerful. It's how we maintain communication between ourselves and God. Through it we talk to Him about what's going on in our lives, ask Him for the things we need, and pray for other people. Prayer also helps gain God's perspective on tough situations we might be facing.

Prayer is simply a conversation with God. In any conversation, everyone gets to both speak and listen. That means God always listens when you talk to Him. But it also means that God will speak to you in times of prayer, if you listen to Him. Do you take time every day to listen to what He's saying?

Prayer changes things. Problems that can seem impossible can suddenly be solved easily. People who hate Jesus can have a total change of heart. Sometimes people are even healed when we pray! Wow! Maybe you could get together with some friends regularly and pray for your corps and your unsaved friends.

The salvation soldiers below are praying in a group together and they have their hands raised, reaching up to the throne of God. There are many different ways to pray. You can pray by yourself or with friends, standing up or sitting or kneeling, through songs or poems, and silently or out loud (out loud is usually better because the demons freak out when they hear you talking to the Lord Jesus!).

The important thing is to pray every day (in fact, St Paul told us we should 'pray continually') because it's one of the best ways we maintain contact with Jesus Christ, our King and commander.



### Memory Verse:

Pray continually.  
1 Thessalonians 5:17



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 17

## With the Sword of the Spirit

In this war we don't fight against people, but against demons and unfairness and evil and sin. So it figures that we don't fight with guns and bullets, we fight with spiritual weapons (which are a bit like swords and shields).

Do you see the warrior in this picture wielding a sword? The Bible calls it 'the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God! When we read the Bible and understand it, we can use what we read as a weapon against evil. When we memorize scripture, we are sword-training. When we speak God's Word out loud, it is powerful to break down the enemy's fortresses! When we pray the Bible out loud, demons get scared!

That's why reading our Bible and memorizing scripture is such an important part of our battle training. They give us weapons to fight against the enemy, and help us know how to use them. How often do you read your Bible? Have you memorized the scripture in this book? Do you pray the Bible out loud?



### Memory Verse:

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

1 Thessalonians 5:17



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 18

## No Fear

Sometimes fighting in the salvation way is scary. Some people get frightened to tell their friends about Jesus. Other people get scared if they have to speak in public, or if they try to talk to strangers about God's love.

Sometimes this fear is caused by demons like the ones in the picture who try to tell us things will go wrong - we can't see them, but they cause trouble for us. But look at the angel - he's much bigger than the demon! And with Jesus, we always have victory over the devil and its demons!

We don't need to be afraid. And when we do become scared, we just need to trust God - He would not lead us to do something if He wasn't going to protect us and help us! He will always save us.

And you know what? God's love is perfect, and the Bible says that 'perfect love casts out all fear.' That's good news!



### Memory Verse:

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear.

1 John 4:18a



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 19

## Demons are Deadly

It's true. Demons are deadly. They hate God and they hate you because God loves you. They can absolutely ruin people's lives, and they do, for a lot of people.

They use all kinds of tactics to catch people up. They condemn them - telling people that they are bad or weak or ugly or useless. They shame them - making them feel guilt for things they have done, even though God wants to forgive them. They tempt people to sin - you know what we're talking about. Sometimes they try to get you to lie or cheat or swear or disobey your parents or steal.

The thing is, once you start on one of those types of things, it is hard to stop. And as a person weakens by sinning, the demons get stronger. The only solution is that they repent of their sins and trust Jesus, who is able to save them even in demons are controlling them.



### Memory Verse:

He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

1 John 3:8





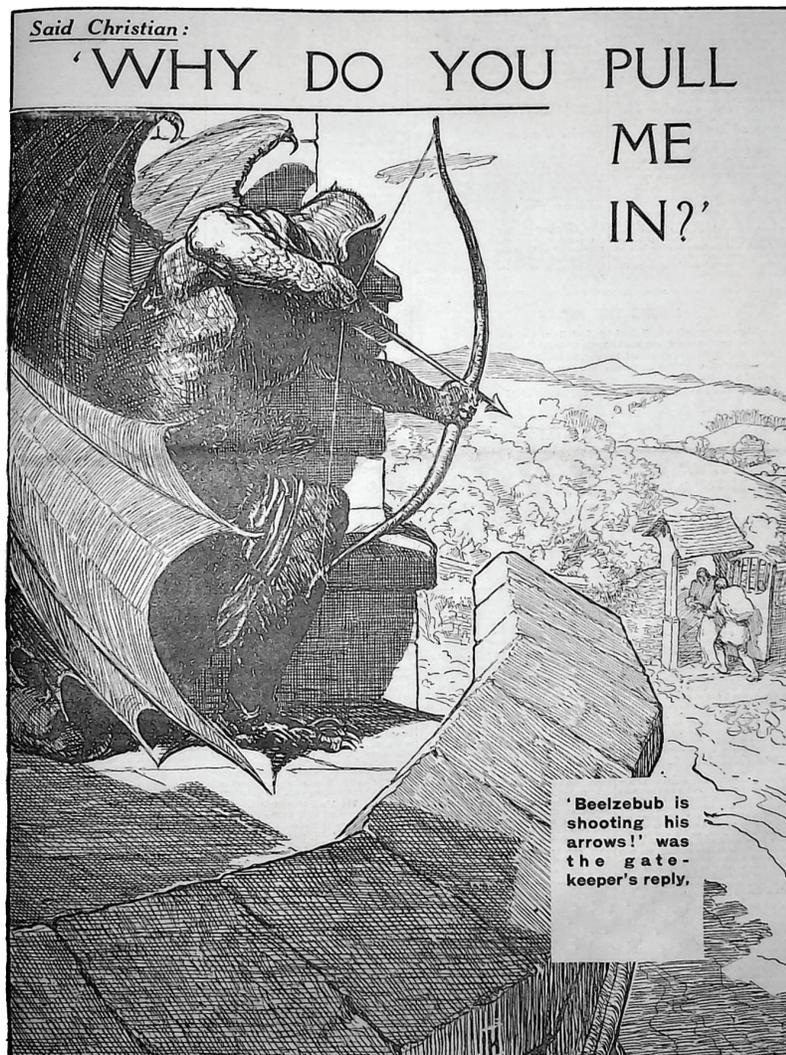
# Blood & Fireworks - Day 20

## Countering Demonic Attacks

This picture is from the story, Pilgrim's Progress, about a Christian who is journeying through life on his way to heaven. Even Christians are in danger of the attacks of demons. And if we are not careful, we will be vulnerable to such attacks.

One defense is the armour of God. There are several pieces of armour. You can put on the helmet of salvation when you get saved. The breastplate of righteousness protects your heart when you do what God wants you to do. The shield of faith protects you from the flaming arrows of the evil one (pictured). The sword of the Spirit is God's word to you. The belt of truth keeps everything in place. And the boots of the Gospel of peace allow you to walk in the opposite spirit of the enemy (see Ephesians 6 for the details).

The other tactic you want to use is as pictured – keep on the look out and avoid the attacks when you can. And if you are with other believers and warriors of Jesus they can help you out.



### Memory Verse:

Finally be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:10-11



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 21

## Angels

Maybe you have seen angels in movies or on the TV who are pretty ladies with wings. Well, guess what? Angels are real! Except they're not pretty ladies with wings, they are great big strong warriors, and most of the time they're invisible.

God sends angels to help Christians like you and me in the battle against sin and the devil. In this picture, you can see a salvation knight being helped by an angel. The angel is telling him what path to take on his mission.

The Bible says that God 'will command His angels to guard you in all your ways' (Psalm 91:10), and that 'angels are spiritual beings sent to serve people who are going to be saved.' (Hebrews 1:14). It's good to know that as we fight in spiritual wars for Jesus, there are spiritual warriors fighting alongside us and helping us!



### Memory Verse:

Are not all angels  
ministering spirits sent to  
serve those who will inherit  
salvation?

Hebrews 1:14

For He will command His  
angels concerning you to  
guard you in all your ways.

Psalm 91:11





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 22

## Salvomobile

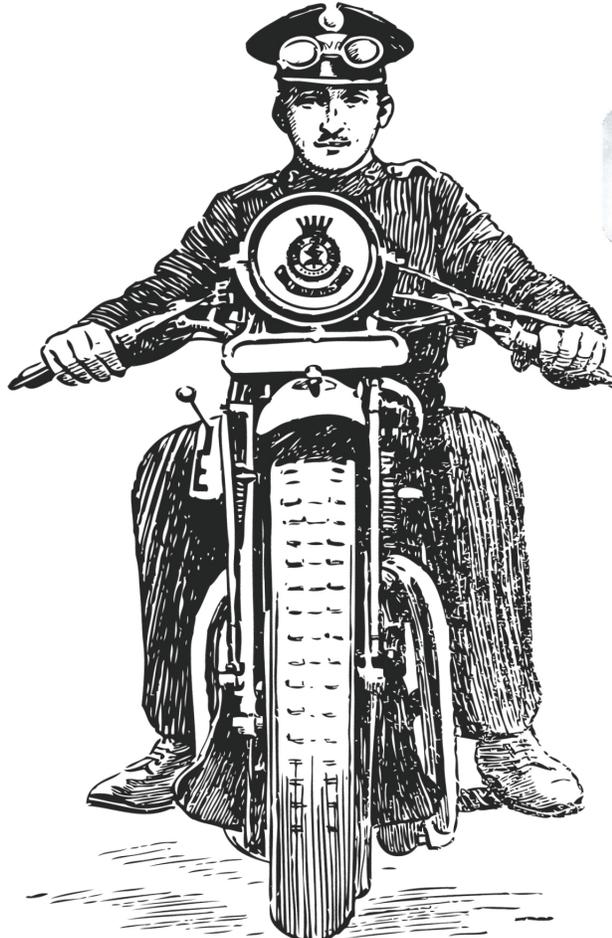
Nanananananananananananananananana Batman! Those are the words to the famous title track of the tv show 'Batman'. The feature of the show's introduction was the zooming batmobile, the way that the two heroes reached the bad guys.

The salvation soldier – the hero that each of us is called to be – travels in a salvomobile. It is the way that we reach our enemy, satan, and his demons.

Now, there are all kinds of ways to get around in the spiritual realms, but really, you want to travel by the Holy Spirit. You might remember in the Bible that Philip, in Acts 8, took a trip by the Holy Spirit from the desert to a city called Azotus. One minute he was in the desert, the next minute he just 'appeared' in Azotus! Some people called it 'Philip's Airways'!

Well, the salvomobile is like Philip's airways. When we are close to Jesus and obey His commands, God is free to do whatever He wants with us. That might include zipping us through the salvosphere to attack demons who are bothering our friends or binding up hurting people.

Does that make sense? Jump into the salvomobile today! (The Spirit of the Lord is our Salvomobile)



### Memory Verse:

"I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Me."

Acts 26:17b-18



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 23

## Officer Cadets

Every salvation soldier needs to be trained. If you are a junior soldier, you would have had preparatory classes before you were enrolled. Senior Soldiers get classes too, and all salvation soldiers need to continue to study the Bible and get more and better training so they become the best warriors they can be!

Salvation Army Officers need special training too, and while they are doing this training they are called cadets. Maybe you know someone who has gone to a Salvation Army Training College to become a cadet.

There was a mighty king in Israel, king David, who underwent training when he was a boy. He would mind his Father's flock of sheep, and whenever wolves or bears or lions would try to attack them, David would fight them off and save the sheep!

Later, when he had to fight against a giant named Goliath, he won because God was on his side, and because he had been trained up! He wasn't afraid because he knew that 'the battle is the Lord's' (1 Samuel 17:47).

David loved God and wrote many of the Psalms in the Bible. He was a valiant warrior and a great leader. Don't you think it would be great if all cadets were like king David – training hard, being confident in God's victory, loving God, being valiant warriors and great leaders?

As a salvation soldier in your corps, training is important and will help you to fight well in the battle. But maybe God is calling you to become an officer. Start training up now so you are ready when He calls.



### Memory Verse:

All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 24

## Attacking the Enemy

There's our David again. He's a boy. But he's taking on a giant. And he wins, with God.

Even as a youngster, you probably run into giants. They aren't always people. Some problems are 'giant' problems. These giants might be difficulties at home or at school. Maybe they include getting bullied or being made fun of.

God doesn't just take care of big hairy giants with metal armour. He also specializes in fixing relationships, restoring trust, protecting children, giving honour, and helping you make friends.

Don't run away from your giants.

But don't run at them without God beside you, either.

Go with God into your battles. He will never let you down.



### Memory Verse:

All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's.

1 Samuel 17:47



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 25

## David and Goliath

David was young. But with God he defeated the most powerful champion in the whole Philistine country. He had amazing faith in God. And as a result he did what everyone thought was impossible.

You are young. But are you with Jesus? If you are saved, if your sins are forgiven, if you are obediently following Him, then you have the same power that David had. That means you can defeat powerful enemies. You can do what everyone thinks is impossible. Put your faith in our amazing God.

There is a caption to this picture. It reads; "David is a true type and forerunner of The Salvation Army Cadet". You should train hard so that when you finish school you can offer your corps officer to become a cadet. If God doesn't call you to do something else with your life, then train as a cadet to get commissioned as a Salvation Army officer.



### Memory Verse:

I can do everything through  
Him who gives me strength.  
Philippians 4:13





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 26

## Jesus Leads us in Battle

We know that Jesus is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. He is our King, and kings leads their armies into battle. When we go out to fight against demons and against sin and unfairness, or to win other people to Him, Jesus is with us, leading us in the battle. He says to us, 'I will never leave you, nor abandon you' (Joshua 1:5b) so we can be sure of His presence when we fight.

Sometimes Jesus will lead us into frightening battles. But He is a very wise King and will always lead us to victory. Hallelujah!

Can you see in this picture, Jesus is leading the salvation soldiers on to battle. He points, 'Onward' and the salvation soldiers follow Him because they love Him and they know He loves them.

Now imagine yourself as one of those salvation soldiers. Wouldn't that be exciting (and maybe a little bit scary)? Let us follow Jesus into the battle, and stay very close to Him, so we can hear His orders and know how best to fight the enemy! And we will be guaranteed victory in Jesus! Hallelujah!



### Memory Verse:

I will be with you. I will never leave you or forsake you.

Joshua 1:5b





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 27

## Rescue Those Headed to Hell

Imagine a great big scary stormy sea. Imagine there are people swimming in that stormy sea. Some of them are drowning and crying out to be saved. Some aren't drowning yet, but they see that they are in danger because the waves are so big. Some don't even realize how much danger they are in, they are just swimming along happily.

That sea is called sin, and the people swimming are those people who don't know Jesus. Some of them see how their sin is overwhelming them and killing them, and they are crying out to be saved. For others, their sin hasn't destroyed them yet, but they realize they are in danger if they won't repent. Most people just don't realize how much danger they are in.

Salvation soldiers like you and I are like the people in the boat – we're trying to rescue as many people as we can! We do this by telling them how much God loves them, telling them that Jesus died to forgive their sins, and inviting them to repent and believe and to follow Jesus. Who do you know who needs to be saved? Maybe you should speak to them about Jesus today – their life depends on it!



### Memory Verse:

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 28

## Jesus Commissions His Soldiers

Have you ever seen a movie where a super-hero gets sent on a mission to save the world? Well, soldiers of Jesus have been given a mission to save the world, too! But not from aliens or an evil scientist, but from sin and the devil.

We fight battles when we tell people about Jesus' love for them and help them to know Him; when we pray and when we testify about what God has done in our life.

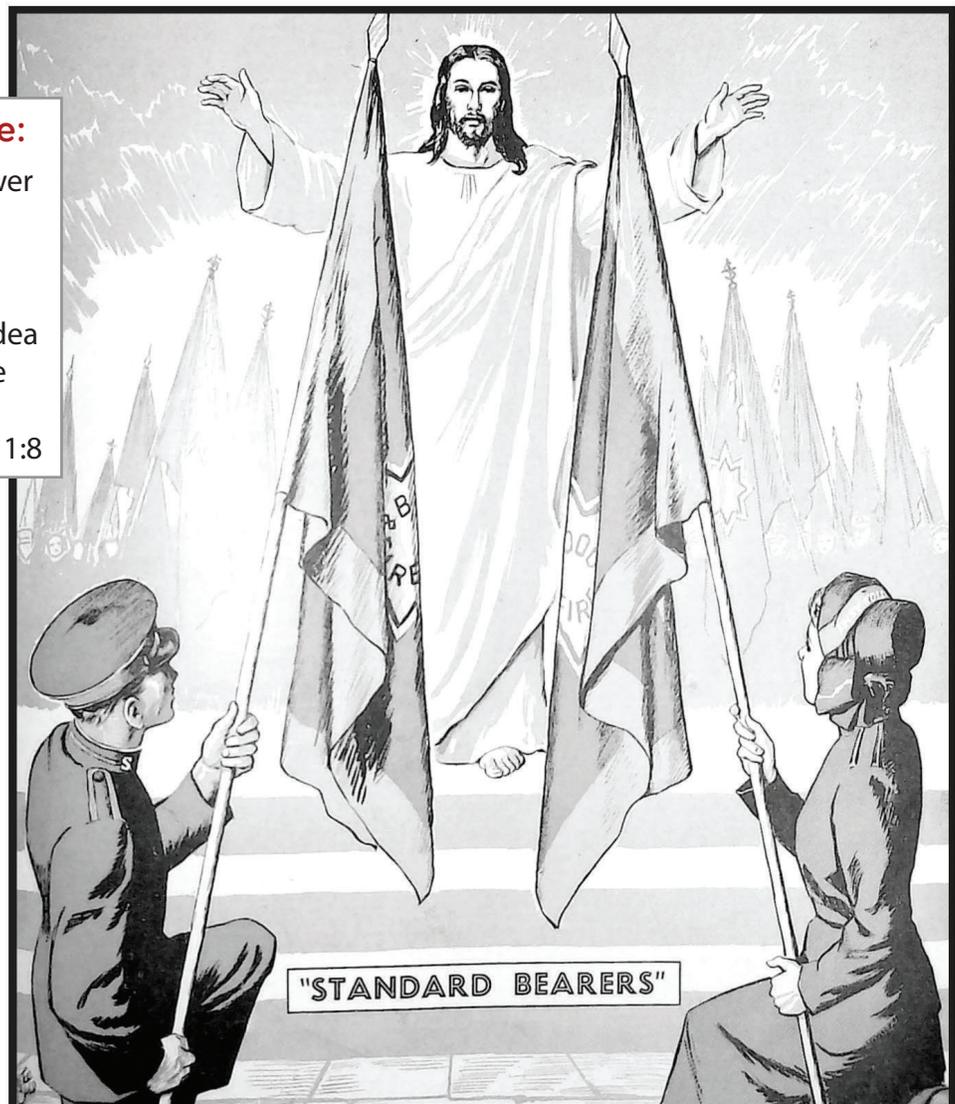
Being a salvation soldier is tough, and sometimes scary. We can't do it on our own – we need God's help. The good thing is, Jesus promises to help us! He said, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you to be my witnesses..." The Holy Spirit will give us the power we need to be good soldiers of Jesus and defeat the enemy. It's almost as if God gives us super powers! That's pretty cool!



### Memory Verse:

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 29

## Salvation Soldier Defeats Dragons

It is true. You probably have a favourite superhero. That superhero can jump really high, or is very strong, or can see through walls. Great. But you know that those heroes are just made up. And those powers are just made up. They're fun, but they are not real.

However, a salvation soldier is real. There are more than a million salvation soldiers, many of them junior soldiers (kids like you). And they can do amazing things. How? They have the power of God. Do you see this salvation soldier wielding the sword of salvation against the dragon of sin? That's real.

When you testify of Jesus' saving power in your life and give people opportunity to receive the Lord Jesus Christ into their lives you are swinging away at the dragon of sin.

Two things, here: 1. See yourself - if you are a junior soldier - as the salvation soldier in the picture; 2. Train up in spiritual things (reading your Bible, praying, memorizing Scripture...) and fight the enemy!



### Memory Verse:

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

Romans 1:16





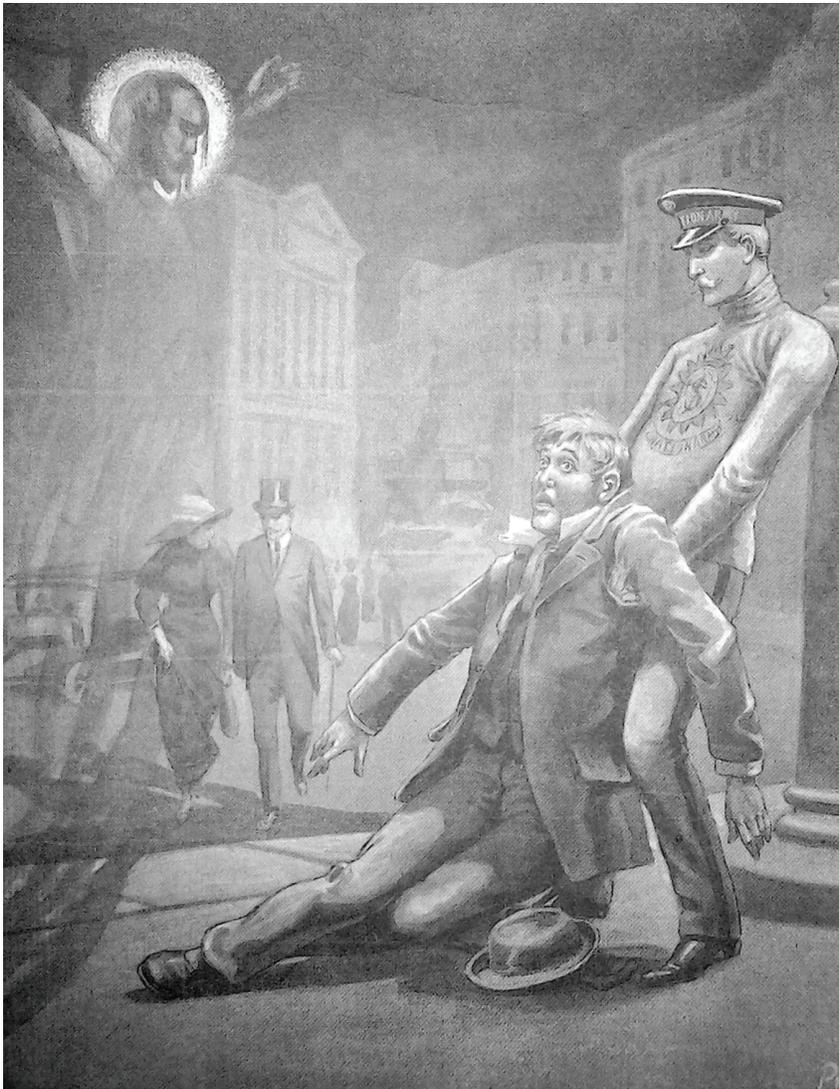
# Blood & Fireworks - Day 30

## Go for Souls, and Go for the Worst

This title is a famous line by the founder of The Salvation Army, General William Booth. What he's commanding us is to 'go', for starters. We can't just sit around our home, playing games and killing time. We have to 'go' after those who are bound by the enemy, satan, and capture them for God. We go for souls. That means we're going to save people.

Which ones should we focus on? The worst! That might mean the biggest bully in your school, or the least popular kid who usually gets picked on or left out of games and fun. But, it also means the mean adults in society who commit crimes. And, it includes people who have poisoned themselves with alcohol and drugs. And, it even includes people who hurt other people.

Those are our people! Those are the ones the Lord Jesus Christ is sending us to find and capture. We need God's love and power to make it happen. But, do you know what? God will give His love and power to us when we ask!



### Memory Verse:

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 31

## Aggressive Christianity

The two Salvationists in this picture are praying with a lady on the side of the street. Does that seem a little odd to you? When was the last time you saw someone praying on the side of the street?

These salvation soldiers are introducing the lady to Jesus. They know that without being His friend, she will never live a happy life, and will go to Hell when she dies. They want to save as many people as they can in the shortest possible time, because they know that so many people are going to Hell.

They're even willing to stop strangers on the street to tell them how much God loves them, and how Jesus can save them. That's pretty bold!

It's called 'Aggressive Christianity,' because salvation soldiers are aggressive in their love toward people and in the fight against the devil and his demons.

This can be scary sometimes, but we know that God is with us, helping us to win souls for Him.



### Memory Verse:

I tell you the truth, whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.

John 5:24





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 32

## Spend and Be Spent

In 2 Corinthians 12:15 Paul testifies that he, "will gladly spend and be spent for your souls". It is so important that people turn from their sins by confessing and repenting, and trusting and obeying Jesus. Paul was willing to spend everything he had to help make it happen. And he did. But not only that - Paul was also willing that God completely spend Paul himself to see everyone get saved by Jesus. He was willing to die, if that was necessary, to see more people rescued from sin and hell.

Salvation soldiers are all about that. God has shown us that people without Jesus are desperate for hope, forgiveness, purpose, belonging, peace, love and eternal life. There is no name under heaven other than Jesus by which each person can be saved.

Surely if Jesus died on the cross for our sins the cause is worthy of everything we have and all that we are. There is an old Salvation Army saying 'every hour and every power for Christ and duty'. The great thing is that the picture indicates that Jesus is with us through it all! Spend and be spent to see everyone get saved.



### Memory Verse:

And I will very gladly spend  
and be spent for you.  
2 Corinthians 12:15a





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 33

## Taste of Heavenly Celebration for the Faithful

Following Jesus is sometimes very difficult. But often following Jesus involves good times all around. Salvation soldiers have many joyful moments – sometimes it's really fun to sing and dance to God in worship, and when the Holy Spirit shows up the Holy Party really gets going! What a fantastic time in the presence of the Lord.

The officer in this picture has just finished her appointment at a corps. Those she has helped are so grateful, that they carry her around on a chair in celebration for what God has done! They're having a big praise-party!

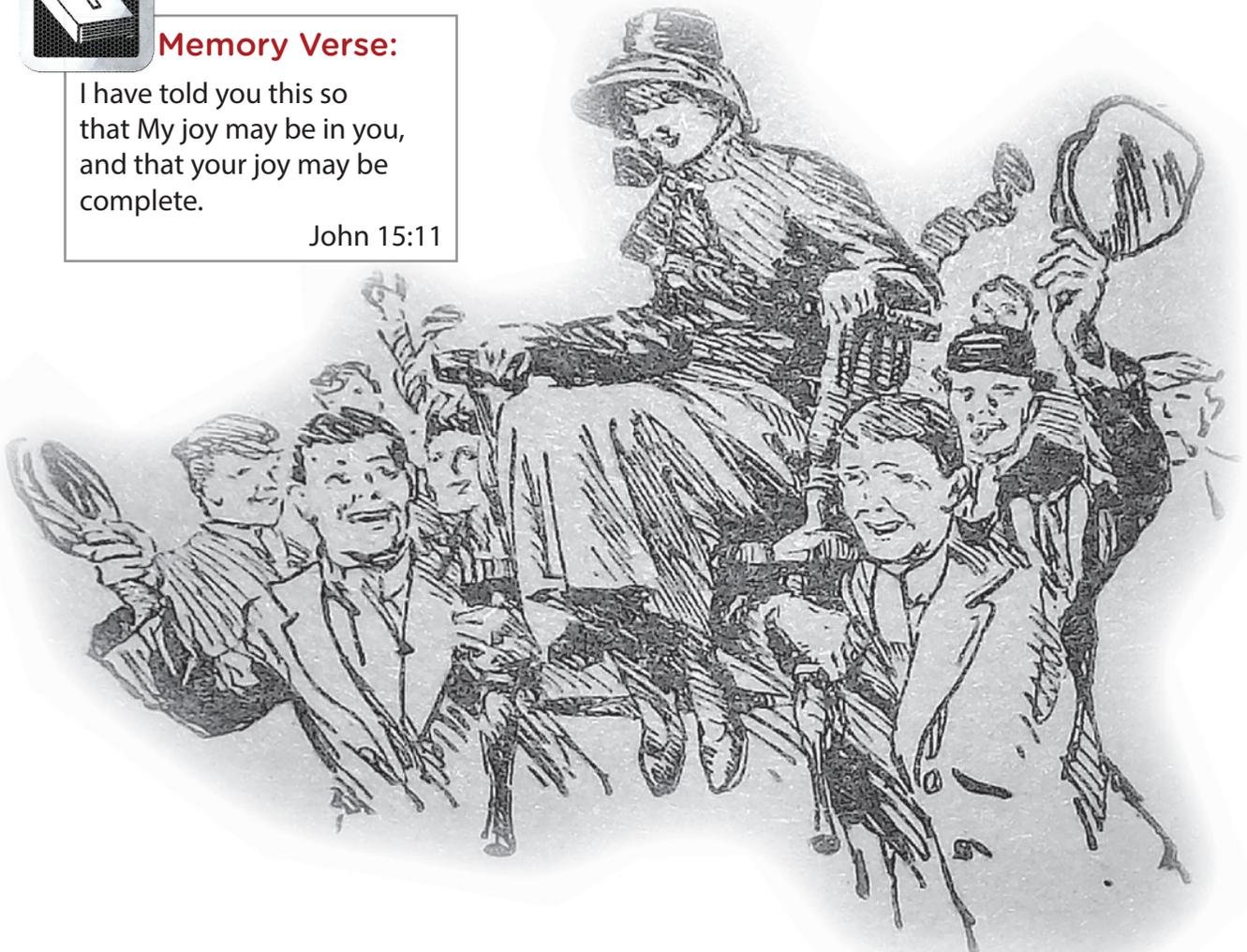
The Bible says in Luke 15:10 that when a sinner repents (turns away) from his or her sin and gets saved, that the angels in heaven rejoice and celebrate. That's pretty cool! And the more people we help to get saved, the more the angels get to party!



### Memory Verse:

I have told you this so  
that My joy may be in you,  
and that your joy may be  
complete.

John 15:11





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 34

## Salvation Under a Gum Tree

The Salvation Army recently opened fire in a country called Nepal, which is very close to India. It's very exciting when we advance in this salvation war! Over 130 years ago the Army opened fire in Australia. It wasn't a big, fancy invasion like you might expect. It was just two salvation soldiers who had moved to Australia from England. They stood on a cart in the Adelaide Botanic Gardens and preached to the people there under a gum tree.

And you know what? A bunch of people got saved, just like in this picture. The Salvation Army in Australia now has more than 15,000 senior and junior soldiers! All because two salvation soldiers preached under a gum tree.

Maybe you think that you can't do much for the Kingdom of God, but remember that God can do anything through you, if you'll obey Him and listen to His voice. "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength".



### Memory Verse:

Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field".

Matthew 9:37-38



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 35

## Are You Meant To Fight Overseas?

Jesus Christ gave the first salvation soldiers a mission to save the world by helping people to become His friends. He said, 'when my Holy Spirit fills you, you will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth' (Acts 1:8).

Jesus wants us to help as many of our friends and family members and people we know, and even people we don't know, to become Christians and to follow Him. But sometimes He tells us to move to another country to tell the people there about His love for them, and how Jesus died for their sins. We don't just want to see our own countries won for Christ, we want to see the world won for Christ!

Maybe God will call you to serve Him in another country some day. Would you obey Him and follow Him there, even if that country was very different from your home?



### Memory Verse:

Come, follow Me," Jesus said,  
"and I will make you fishers of  
men.

Mark 1:17



The finest task in the wide world! Does God call you to it?



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 36

## Win the World for Jesus

There are about 7 billion people in the world (that's a lot of people!), and most of them don't know Jesus. He wants to save all of them, and He wants to use salvation soldiers like you and me to do it.

You see, God's not just interested in people like you and me who live in this country. He wants to save everyone overseas as well. That's why The Salvation Army has salvation soldiers fighting in over 125 different countries around the world!

There are still a bunch of countries that we're not fighting in – countries like Somalia, and Saudi Arabia, and Laos, and Afghanistan, and Belarus, and Morocco, and Chad, and Niger, and Kazakhstan. They all need salvation soldiers to train up and invade. Maybe God is calling you to do this when you grow up.

The Bible says that one day people from every tribe and nation and people and language will all worship God together in Heaven. So we need to try and get as many people saved as we can – both where we live and everywhere else.



### Memory Verse:

The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 11:15



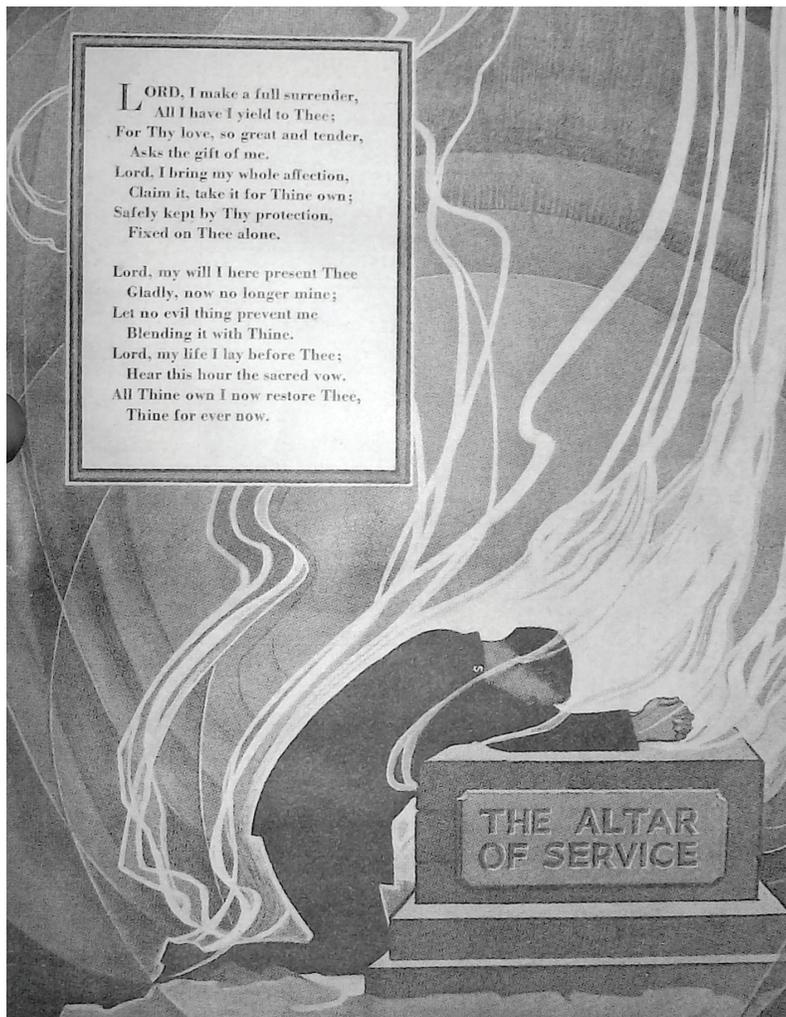
# Blood & Fireworks - Day 37

## Is God Calling You to Officership?

When I was a little older than you are now, God told me that I should become an officer in The Salvation Army. I didn't want to. I wanted to become an actor and be rich and famous.

But you know what? God knows best, and He loves me. He knows that the best and most fun life I can lead is by following Him, and doing what He says. So I decided that I would be an officer. If we really want to follow Jesus, we will often have to sacrifice the things we want and choose what He wants. This is called consecration, and sometimes salvation soldiers pray through it at the holiness table, next to the mercy seat. When we do choose God's way over our own way, then God can give us spiritual power through His Holy Spirit. Can you see salvation soldier at the holiness table, and God's power falling on him? And guess what – now I can't imagine any better life than serving God this way. Much better than being an actor!

What is God calling you to? Maybe it's officership. Maybe it's another job, like being a plumber, or a dancer, or a businessman or woman. Whatever God is calling you to do, you should do it with everything you've got, because that will make Him really happy!



### Memory Verse:

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Colossians 3:23-24



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 38

## Street Fighting

It's not enough to go to the meeting at your corps every week and wait for strangers to come in and meet Jesus. Jesus said 'Go into all the world and preach the good news,' not 'Stay in the church and preach the good news.'

If we want to see people get saved, we must go out and save them! Where better to start than the streets. Street fighting involves going onto a busy street and telling people that God loves them, that Jesus died for them, and about their need for repentance and faith in Him.

There are many different ways to do this. The salvation soldiers in this picture are holding an open-air meeting, where they will sing some songs and preach a very short sermon inviting people to get saved.

Some salvation soldiers prefer to go out in pairs and talk with individuals about their need for God. Other soldiers knock on people's front doors with a message of love and forgiveness.

Still others go out selling The War Cry or other Salvation Army magazines in an effort to get people saved.

Have a think about what kinds of street combat you could get involved with (make sure you go with a grown-up).



### Memory Verse:

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

Matthew 28:19-20a





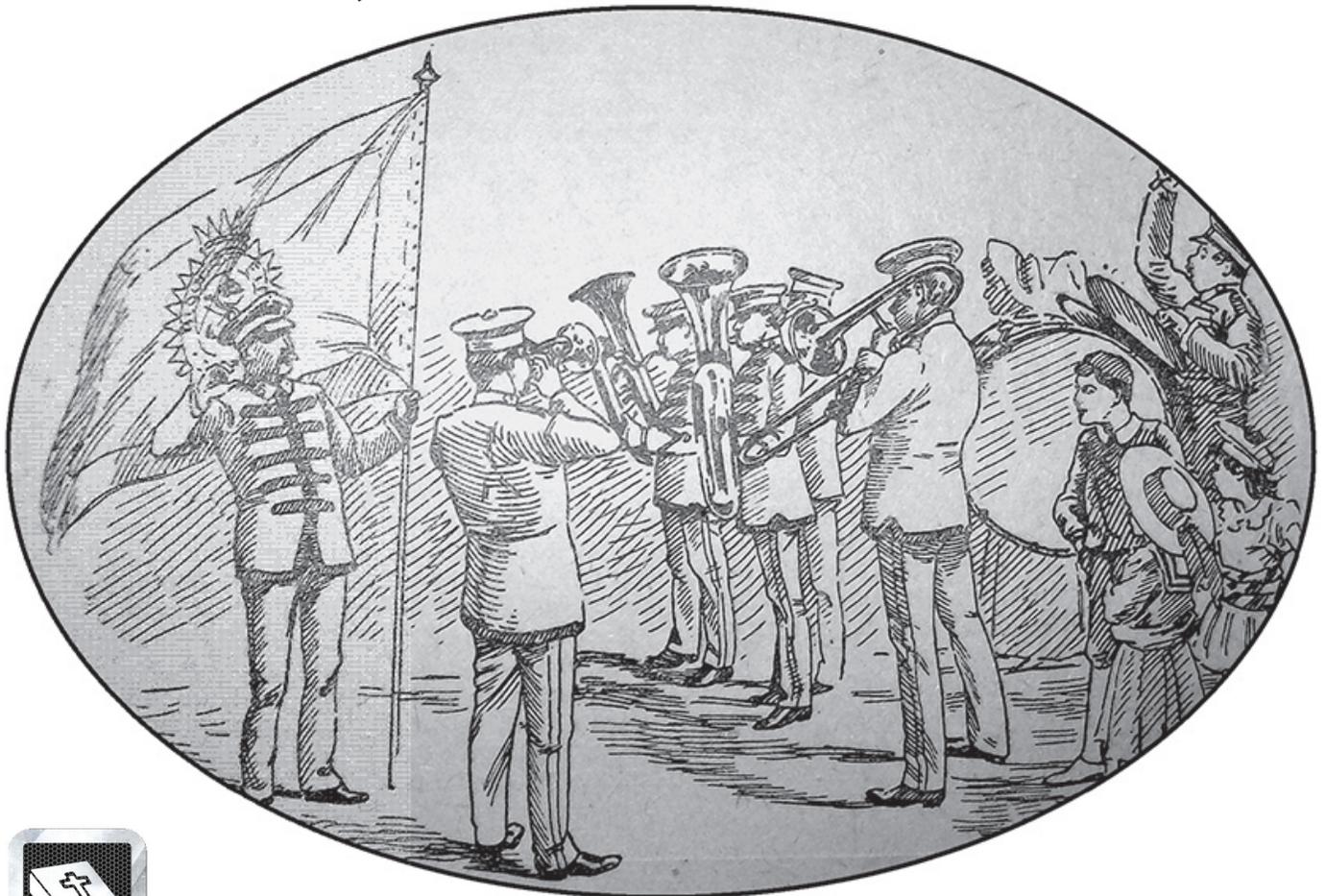
# Blood & Fireworks - Day 39

## Power of a Salvation Army Band

The Salvation Army band is an enemy to demons. The demons hate to hear the music playing on the streets to proclaim that Jesus is Lord and that He came to save people. They hate to watch it attract boys and girls and men and women to hear the preacher tell of Jesus' death on the cross, His resurrection on the third day, His ascension to heaven, and His plan to come back again.

God has blessed The Salvation Army with great music. Let's not worship the music though – that's idolatry. Let's use it to worship God. Let's play it well for His pleasure. Let's play it loud so that people can hear the Gospel news. And let's make sure we're living clean lives while we're doing it (otherwise, to say one thing and do something contrary would compromise our message).

God bless The Salvation Army band.



### Memory Verse:

Praise God with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre.

Psalm 150:3



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 40

## The Power of the Salvation Army Uniform

Uniforms can be very useful. When we see a police officer, we know they are a police officer because they wear special clothes. When we see a fire-fighter, we know they are a fire-fighter because they wear special clothes.

Maybe you have a uniform at your school. That helps people know who belongs to that school, and who doesn't belong to that school.

Senior soldiers and junior soldiers in The Salvation Army have a uniform too. And it can be a very powerful thing indeed to wear it! Here are some reasons why.

1. People know who we belong to. When we wear our uniform, people know that we belong to Jesus' special army.
2. People know that we are available to help them, because we are salvation soldiers. We can pray with them, or tell them how to get saved, or just help them carry their shopping.
3. It helps us to remember to behave well, because if we do naughty or selfish things, people might think poorly of Jesus and The Salvation Army.

Have you got a uniform? Maybe you'll want to wear it more be a powerful weapon for the war!



### Memory Verse:

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation.

Colossians 1:15





# Blood & Fireworks - Day 41

## War Cry

Some kids get a Salvation Army magazine every week called Just for Kids, Kids Alive, Kidzone, or Young Salvationist. It's a Salvation Army kids' comic jam-packed with articles, puzzles, games and other fun stuff.

The Salvation Army has a special magazine for grown-ups too. It's called 'The War Cry,' and is designed to help people know that God loves them, and that Jesus died to save them.

Salvation soldiers all around the world sell these magazines on the streets and in pubs and to their friends and neighbours. It can be a powerful way to share the good news about Jesus with people.

Maybe you have some friends who would enjoy reading your Just for Kids magazine. Why not grab a few extra copies and give them out at school, or to your friends? You never know, maybe one of your friends will decide to follow Jesus through reading the magazine you bring him or her. Wouldn't that be awesome?!



### Memory Verse:

I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.

Mark 10:15



# Blood & Fireworks - Day 42

## Gone Fishing

At the end of every Salvation Army meeting, usually after the sermon, there is a time called the appeal or the prayer meeting. In this part of the meeting, people will often get saved, giving their lives to Jesus, by going to the Mercy Seat, and meeting with God there.

Sometime people are nervous about visiting the Mercy Seat or the Holiness Table. They feel the Holy Spirit calling them to meet Jesus there, but they are afraid to take the first step. Maybe you have felt like this at some point in your life.

When a salvation soldier can see or sense that someone might want to go to the Mercy Seat, but is too afraid, they can go and talk to that person, and invite them to the Mercy Seat with them. This is called fishing, and helps people come to Jesus who otherwise would be too shy.

Recently, I fished a young lady in a salvation meeting, during the appeal, and she ended up getting saved! Hallelujah! Next time you're in a prayer meeting, keep your heart open to the Holy Spirit – He might want you to fish someone.

Even if they decide not to come to the Mercy Seat after all, you will know that you are doing all you can to save souls.



### Memory Verse:

Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.

John 1:12

