

# 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.

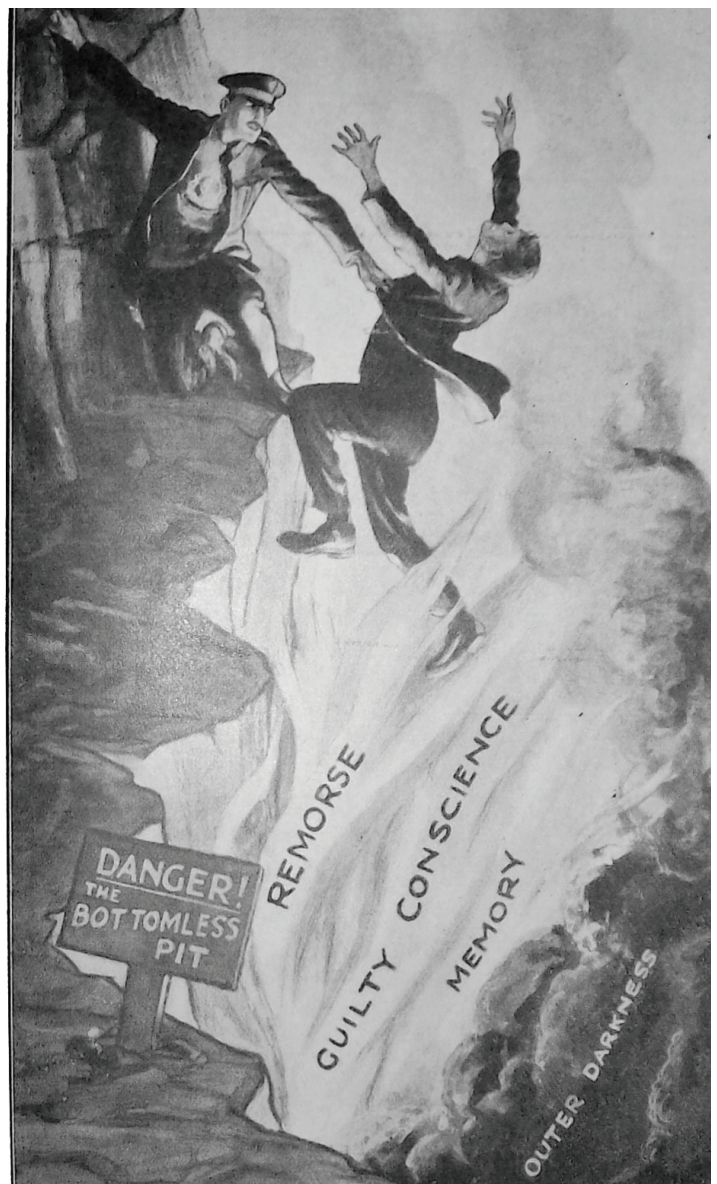
Before we can do that though, Jesus needs to save us.

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**



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## 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!

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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.

