

BATTLE READY is an excellent resource for youth considering Soldiership in The Salvation Army. The use of this program will bring kids to a discipleship understanding of soldiership that goes beyond the status quo. It interconnects our missional roots to our biblical practices so that we are BATTLE READY.

–Captain Krista Andrews, *DYS, Newfoundland & Labrador Division*

It's a rare and beautiful thing to see a training strategy that is creative, engaging and relevant without "talking down" to teenagers. If your community sees young people as the "church of today" you'll find practical tools to help them explore and engage their gifts and passions in a meaningful way. Theologically thoughtful, biblically rooted and contemporary in its approach, BATTLE READY is a spiritual boot camp that will prepare a generation to make a difference.

–Dr. Marv Penner, *National Director, All About Youth, and Youth Specialties Canada*

The genius in organizing this curriculum as CHRIST-centred and OTHERS-focused stirs up the spirit of Salvationism and equips teens to take hold of a legacy with sound Wesleyan theology through engaging lessons and discussions.

–Jonathan Evans, *The Salvation Army Boundless Vancouver*

BATTLE READY strikes the perfect balance between helping teens grow in their relationship with Christ and deepening their knowledge about what that means living in today's world as a Salvationist. Each element of the lesson supports and helps explain the topic at hand while helping the leader with clear, well thought out instructions. I'm very excited to use this!

–Shona Burditt, *Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, The Salvation Army Oshawa Temple*

Effective discipleship is not simply about having the right information. It is about learning to apply that information within the context of one's life and mission in the real world. BATTLE READY is a discipleship tool that not only contains excellent content, but also requires young adults—and their teachers—to practise faithful salvationism in their daily lives. Do use this resource, but do not use it lightly.

–Aaron White, *The Salvation Army 614 Vancouver / The War College*

BATTLE READY is more than a thoughtful, scripture-based, theologically sound curriculum, but an equally engaging, practical, relational and creative hands-on experience to challenge youth with the grand vision of being Christ-followers, and the choice of becoming informed soldiers in the Salvation Army.

–Major David Ivany, *Spiritual Director, Pastoral Services, The Salvation Army THQ Canada & Bermuda*

BATTLE READY is current, and fun. More importantly it is deeply spiritual and grounding for young people. This will be engaging in a real way, and will help teach who we are as Salvationists living in the culture that we find ourselves in right now. I cannot wait to use this with the teens at our corps!

–Erika White, *Youth Ministry Director, The Salvation Army St. John's Temple*

BATTLE READY is engaging as it weaves practical application, hands on learning, and easy teaching tools upon a strong Biblical and theological base. This material will take teens on a journey toward the covenant of soldiership. The 'Person of Interest' component makes BATTLE READY a well rounded approach to soldiership prep.

–Captain Terence Hale, *DYS, Great Lakes Division*



BATTLE READY:

Living A Christ-centred, Others-focused Faith in Sacred Covenant

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**AN IMMERSIVE PREPARATORY BIBLE STUDY
FOR TEENS CONSIDERING SOLDIERSHIP IN
THE SALVATION ARMY**

BATTLE READY:

LIVING A CHRIST-CENTRED, OTHERS-FOCUSED FAITH
IN SACRED COVENANT

KEVIN SLOUS

TO JACOB, PEYTON, AND BROOKE-LYNN

I have given my life to reaching and discipling the next generation. For me, you are it—the first of my ministry frontlines. This is for you.

Jacob: When I wrote this, you were old enough to consider the commitment of soldiership. You so represented the teen I envisioned. This is for you, bud.

Peyton: Having used this material in its test run, I had the honour of seeing you among the first teens to be enrolled as Salvation Soldiers. This is for you, sweetie.

Brooke-Lynn: You've got a few years before you're able to make use of this material, but I pray that you too will seek to be "all in." This is for you too, kiddo.

I pray you will each continue to grow and live the Christ-centred, others-focused faith I see in you everyday.

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PREFACE

The supreme purpose of the young people's work is to bring young people to Jesus Christ and to help them discover and use their talents as fighting soldiers in the ranks of The Salvation Army.

All engaged in work among young people should, therefore, strive to:

- a. Link them from their earliest years by dedication under the flag, with the service of God in the Army.*
- b. Lead them into a personal experience of salvation.*
- c. Instruct them in scriptural knowledge and in Salvation Army principles and methods.*
- d. Provide for their physical and mental development.*ⁱ

Throughout my more than twenty years in active youth ministry leadership within The Salvation Army, I have been entrusted with the task outlined above, as stated in *The Salvation Army's Orders and Regulations for Work Among Young People*. I have had the opportunity many times during those same years to teach and train youth in their preparation to take the step of commitment within the Army called Senior Soldiership: "a public response and witness to a life-changing encounter with Christ that has already taken place, as is the water baptism practised by some other Christians."ⁱⁱ

Believers within The Salvation Army are able to be enrolled as Senior Soldiersⁱⁱⁱ at the age of fourteen, after completing an approved study of preparation and receiving the necessary approval and endorsement at the Corps leadership level. As I have had the opportunity to help prepare young people for soldiership I have noticed that there have been a number of preparatory studies developed over the years. Each has its own strength and merit in helping individuals considering Salvation Soldiership to understand the beliefs, values, and behaviours that such a commitment professes and strives to uphold. However, to my knowledge, there had not been a curriculum developed specifically with teens as the intended primary

ⁱ *Orders and Regulations for Work Among Young People*. London: Salvationist Publishing and Supplies, Ltd., 1982. p. 7

ⁱⁱ *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. 299

ⁱⁱⁱ Henceforth referred to as Salvation Soldiers in this document and accompanying curriculum.

audience and active participants.^{iv} Consequently, there has always been a “communication gap” between what is being taught and the means by which the information is offered. I always felt that considerable effort was needed in order to adapt, both in knowledge and understanding, as well as to life stage and experience, studies that were designed for adults in order to make them applicable to teens between the ages of thirteen and seventeen.

However, this age demographic perhaps makes up the largest group of people undergoing “Soldiership Prep.”^v As a result, it became a personal passion and aim of mine, through almost a decade of part-time graduate studies, to consider the development of a curriculum for Soldiership Preparation within The Salvation Army that would be specifically designed as a youth ministry Bible Study curriculum. During the final two years of study, through God’s grace and timing, I found myself in a position in ministry that allowed even more focused research and articulation of not only principles of effective youth ministry, but also essentials of Salvationism. The result is what you are now holding in your hands: an immersive preparatory Bible study for teens considering soldiership in The Salvation Army.

The underlying research that helped form the **BATTLE READY** curriculum includes both current, forward-looking Salvationist writings and conversations, as well as examination of pre- and proto-Salvationist writings.^{vi} As such, the material that **BATTLE READY** draws upon in its training of potential Salvation Soldiers is both historic and current, aiming to incorporate Salvationist essentials as well as best practices of effective youth ministry teaching and discipleship methods.

The aim of **BATTLE READY** is to provide an effective tool to youth leaders who will be guiding teens through preparation towards Salvation Soldiership. Recognizing that the depth of knowledge and theological training of most volunteer youth workers will vary significantly, **BATTLE READY** is designed and written in such a way that even those with minimal training will be well equipped to teach and facilitate their teens’ learning and growth through the process. The writing style of the lessons intentionally takes a conversational, as opposed to an academic, tone. The material covered in each Training Unit is foundational, while using the depth of doctrine and biblical study to undergird each lesson. Teens who become fully engaged in the study should gain an understanding of the beliefs, values, and behaviours that characterize a Salvation Soldier.

^{iv} Since the writing of this material, but prior to its release as a published resource, The Salvation Army UK territory, through ALOVE, has produced a study entitled “To Serve,” which also targets the teenage demographic.

^v The largest percentage of those being enrolled as Salvation Soldiers in the Canada & Bermuda territory are made up of those who were previously on the Junior Soldier roll.

^{vi} *The East London Evangelist and The Christian Mission Magazine*, 1868–1875. These are the early writings of William and Catherine Booth, and George Scott Railton, as they were distilling and forming what would eventually become The Salvation Army and articulating the first expression of what is now known as Salvationism.

The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant is used as a basis throughout the study to illustrate and give direction to each lesson. Teens who actively involve themselves in the Training Units and Deployment Challenges over the course of the fourteen sessions of **BATTLE READY** will be familiar with and have an understanding of the Soldier's Covenant in a way that speaks to their stage in life and appropriate spiritual insight. My prayer is that this will provide them with the necessary foundation to be able to make an informed decision about whether they believe they are ready and willing to make the commitment of Soldiership with honesty and integrity before God, themselves, and others.

BATTLE READY is built on the thesis that "a Salvation Soldier lives a life marked by a CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith, in sacred covenant," and aims to educate and train teens in a way that prepares them to make the decision to live such a life. *The Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant* contains two primary sections: statements of faith (the eleven Doctrines of The Salvation Army) and statements of commitment (the "I will ..." declarations made by every Soldier of The Salvation Army). The structure and scope of lessons based on the Soldier's Covenant unpack the concept of a "CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith" utilizing acronyms for CHRIST and OTHERS forming the title and focus of each of twelve central lessons.

The lessons (Training Units) using the "CHRIST-centred" acronym help teens understand the eleven Doctrines of The Salvation Army. While addressing the Army's theological beliefs, the lessons also help students realize that these statements of faith are rooted in the story of salvation, God's story as revealed in Scripture, centred and anchored in Jesus Christ. This portion of **BATTLE READY** will also allow teens to better understand that they have a role within the story: to experience, respond to, work out, and share salvation through Jesus Christ with their world. The six lessons contained in this portion of the Bible study curriculum are as follows:

C — CANON: Focusing on the first Doctrine of The Salvation Army, this Training Unit will help teens understand the concept of Scripture as the standard by which Salvationists seek to live out Christian faith and practice.

H — HOLY GOD: Utilizing the second and third Doctrines, which deal with the Army's belief in God, this Training Unit will help teens gain an understanding of how the God we worship has revealed Himself, and to begin exploration of what sets Him apart as the One True God.

R — REDEMPTION: This Training Unit examines the person of Jesus Christ, the realities and consequences of sin in our world, and His sufficiency in making atonement for the world, referencing Doctrines four through six. It will help teens recognize the importance of knowing and experiencing the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

I — INWARD CHANGE: Examining the experience of salvation, this Training Unit will help teens understand the process and work of salvation in a believer's life, giving teens an understanding of the Army's seventh, eighth, and ninth Doctrines.

S — SET APART: As a denomination with its heritage in the holiness movement, The Salvation Army's tenth Doctrine deals with the experience of sanctification and holiness. This Training Unit will allow teens to understand and recognize the privilege of living a holy life, which is made possible through Jesus' work in and through their lives by the Holy Spirit.

T — TRIUMPH: The final Training Unit of the "CHRIST-centred" portion of the curriculum addresses the Army's eleventh Doctrine of eternity and last things. It will help teens be instilled with confidence of faith in the ultimate accomplishment of God's redemptive plan in the world through Jesus Christ. It will also emphasize the importance of living in a way that points others to him.

The next six Training Units, utilizing the "OTHERS-focused" acronym, unpack the statements of commitment made in the Soldier's Covenant. If the "CHRIST-centred" acronym dealt with the story we live in as Christians, the "OTHERS-focused" acronym addresses how we choose to live in that story as Salvationists:

O — OUTWARD FOCUS: This Training Unit will emphasize the difference between a personal and a private faith, encouraging teens to develop expressions of their faith that include an Effective Personal Witness, Sacrificial Compassionate Mission, and Active Engagement in their world.

T — TENACITY OF FAITH: The importance of both the personal and communal elements of faith will be examined and emphasized in this Training Unit, helping teens see the value in developing Healthy Spiritual Habits and being involved in Healthy Spiritual Community in order to give their faith a sense of "stickability."

H — HOLY LIVING: The Salvation Army's motto, "Blood and Fire," expresses its emphasis on redemption and holiness. This Training Unit will introduce teens to a Salvationist understanding of *full salvation* (receiving salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ, and experiencing sanctification through the fire of the Holy Spirit), and it will challenge them to choose to live in such a way that reflects both elements of new life in Christ.

E — ENGAGED IN MINISTRY: One of the common practices of The Salvation Army throughout its history has been to readily engage its members, including youth, in meaningful ministry. This Training Unit will help teens recognize that spiritual growth does not only happen by "being fed" but also through being Equipped for and Entrusted with active service and ministry to others.

R — RESPONSIBILITY: Faithful stewardship is important to the consecration of one’s whole life to God. This Training Unit will help teens recognize that they are responsible to God for all that has been entrusted to them, and it will help them identify areas in their lives in which they can be faithful stewards.

S — SALVATIONISM: What makes a Salvationist unique? For what purposes has God raised up The Salvation Army? How do the Army’s beliefs shape its values and behaviours? This Training Unit will introduce teens to some of the specifics and distinctives of Salvationism in belief and practice, particularly in areas of symbolism, abstinence, its international and social mission, the significance of the uniform, and the Army’s position regarding the Sacraments.

The “CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused” lessons are bookended by two other Units. The first is “SOLDIER UP!,” a brief overview of what it is to be a “true soldier of Jesus Christ”^{vii} as well as what it means to be a Soldier within The Salvation Army. The Training Unit will help teens view Soldiership as active membership within The Salvation Army, and will explain the “CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused” structure and approach of **BATTLE READY**, helping them to recognize the importance of a two-sided faith: right belief and right action.

The final Training Unit of **BATTLE READY** is actually a time of prayer, conversation, final questions, and commitment. The **COVENANT** Unit will emphasize the concept of covenant to those making the commitment of Soldiership within The Salvation Army. It will provide meaningful opportunity to prayerfully consider the magnitude and realities of the **SOLDIER’S COVENANT**, giving teens time to enter into it, supported by family members and/or other spiritually invested adults.

A significant step in helping students take the application of what they are learning beyond the weekly meeting is the identification and initiation of a mentoring-type relationship in each teen’s specific “Person of Interest.” A Person of Interest is an adult who is identified by the teen and/or the **BATTLE READY** small group leader as being spiritually mature and willing to intentionally invest in the spiritual growth and development of the teen. He/she will ideally already have some connection to the teen, but will further commit to connecting regularly with the teen, praying for the teen, encouraging and supporting him or her in their journey towards Soldiership. With regular interaction and healthy guidance and support during the fourteen weeks of Soldiership preparation, the connection between the teen and the Person of Interest will hopefully be an intentional connection that is maintained beyond the duration of the study, becoming a meaningful and positive part of the teen’s life and Christian growth.^{viii}

^{vii} 2 Timothy 2:3 *The NIV Study Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1985.

^{viii} In helping teens set up and make connection with their “Person of Interest,” please ensure that you follow your territory’s policy and procedure in helping maintain and provide a safe and healthy environment for youth by making sure your identified persons have undergone the necessary screening and training required of all youth workers.

The commitment of Salvation Soldiership is not an arrival point but a foundation and a commitment, helping one take new steps in their spiritual journey and maturity. As such, **BATTLE READY** functions to prepare teens for this entry point into a new stage of their salvation experience rather than an “exit ramp” from something already attained or an item to be checked off on a list of spiritual accomplishments. Each Training Unit is designed as a one-hour small-group meeting, and the material covered is broad enough to be understood and applied by teens at a variety of stages of spiritual maturity. The curriculum is also written so that it can be easily used by new and experienced youth workers and leaders. As such, there is much in the areas of deeper knowledge, understanding, and application that a Salvation Soldier will need to continue to grow in after completing the **BATTLE READY** preparation course. But, having fully engaged the Training Units, weekly Deployment Challenges, and connection with other spiritually mature adults, teens who choose to make the step of Salvation Soldiership should indeed be “**BATTLE READY**,” prepared to begin the journey of living “a CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith in sacred covenant” as the Soldier’s Covenant affirms, having explored its wording, its Scriptural foundations, and its practical expression—ready to engage their world as they live in and live out the salvation story today.

MAKING THE MOST OF BATTLE READY

So, you've got teens interested in taking the next step in their spiritual development, and you're wondering if they're ready to make the HUGE commitment that is Soldiership within The Salvation Army. Chances are, so are they.

BATTLE READY is designed to help teens understand the beliefs and behaviours that shape the life of a Salvationist. The 14 units of Basic Training in this Bible study curriculum use the declarations and commitments of The Salvation Army's **SOLDIER'S COVENANT** as a basis for unpacking the truths of Scripture in a way that connects Salvationist theology and practice with the life and world of teenagers, as they explore what it means to be a **SALVATION SOLDIER**.

OBJECTIVE

The aim of **BATTLE READY** is two-fold: First and foremost, this is a tool to help teens continue in and deepen their faith journey. Commitments of a spiritual nature should flow from an individual's experience of God and in response to the work of His Spirit through the truth of who Jesus is. Primarily, engagement with Scripture and with others through this Bible study will help teens to take next steps in their growth as followers of Jesus Christ.

The second aim of the curriculum is to provide a resource that will help teens make an informed and honest decision in their lives as it relates to taking the step towards Soldiership within The Salvation Army. With intentional interaction with peers, leaders, and other spiritually invested adults, as well as personal disciplines of prayer, reading Scripture, and taking active steps to apply God's truth to their lives, teens involved in **BATTLE READY** will be equipped to choose to make the covenant commitment of **SALVATION SOLDIERSHIP**, understanding the doctrines and practices of Salvationism in the context of their world and lives.

YOU, THE LEADER

As a spiritually invested adult, you already know that your life and example are as powerful a tool in shaping the lives of youth as any curriculum or resource. As someone who is guiding teens through a process of discovery and exploration of what it is to live out one's faith as a Salvationist, it is important that this study be a journey of deeper discovery and renewal for you as well.

Examine your life and your covenant before diving in to teach others.

Your teens need to see a growing faith and desire to live out and uphold the commitments of the Salvationist **SOLDIER'S COVENANT** in your own expression of faith in daily life.

Allow God's Spirit to search your heart as you seek to lead.

Allow yourself to be taught and to learn new things through the examining idealism of the teens you minister to. Let them see that as much as you are inviting them on a journey into new realizations and experiences of truth, you are taking the trip with them. As you do, you will likely experience God's grace in your life in a new or refreshed way through them.

If you've been involved in youth ministry for very long, you know relationship is key: your relationship with God, your relationship with teens, and the ministry that happens by connecting the two. Allow teens' faith to be strengthened through their witness of your living faith. Have your own faith deepened as you see Jesus in the lives of kids who are at a place of desperately trying to find and carve out their true identity in the world. What a privilege it is to be a part of God's plan of formation, as He continues the work He has begun in the lives of the teens we minister to.

PARTNERING WITH PERSONS OF INTEREST

BATTLE READY seeks to build on the impact that healthy relationships and spiritual community play in faith development. Teens will be challenged, following the first Training Unit, to identify and make connection with a **PERSON OF INTEREST**, someone whom they respect and would appreciate taking an intentional role in their life and spiritual growth. (Ensure you follow your corps and Salvation Army policies for work with young people in helping to set up these connections.) This person may be a parent or other family member, or someone not related with whom they have a connection and who is already somewhat invested in the teen's spiritual journey. Each week teens will be given a **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** that will encourage them to apply the unit to their daily life personally and through connection with peers and their identified **PERSON OF INTEREST**.

CURRICULUM ELEMENTS

BATTLE READY works best when given between 1-1.5 hours for each lesson. Each Training Unit of **BATTLE READY** includes the following elements:

TAKING AIM – A brief description of the Training Unit learning objective

RECONNAISSANCE – The **Scriptural Foundation**: key passages of Scripture used in the lesson, as well as those that may not be actually used in the body of the Training Unit but that have helped form the thinking and approach of the particular lesson.

The **Salvationist Expression**: particular Salvationist doctrine(s) and/or practice(s) from the **SOLDIER'S COVENANT** forming the basis and direction of the Training Unit

FORMATION – A statement of the applicable goal and transformational truth of the Training Unit

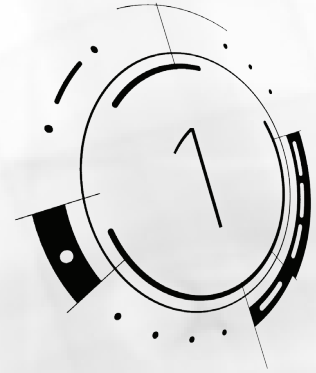
GEARING UP – A list of materials needed for each Training Unit, as well as a suggested playlist of music and other atmospheric elements that can connect to and help reinforce the Training Unit

BASIC TRAINING – The body of the lesson, intro activities, and interactive teaching instruction (labeled “Engage”) for each Training Unit (Approximate time allowance suggestions are provided for each “Engage” element to help you navigate the timing of the overall Training Unit)

DROP ZONE – A suggested prayer exercise, specifically connecting to the **FORMATION** aims of the Training Unit (Approximate time allowance suggestions are provided for each “Drop Zone” activity to help you navigate the timing of the overall Training Unit)

DEPLOYMENT – A challenge to reinforce the **FORMATION** aims of the Training Unit, intended to be taken on by the teens during the week between meetings, and in connection with their **PERSON OF INTEREST**

BACKUP – Supplemental reading and extra resources/links to help you and/or your teens take Training Units deeper beyond your group meetings



SOLDIER UP

TAKING AIM

SOLDIER UP will help teens view Soldiership as fully engaged, active membership within The Salvation Army, and will explain the “CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused” structure and approach of **BATTLE READY**, helping them to recognize the importance of a two-sided faith: right belief and right action.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 Colossians 1:9b-14 2 Timothy 2:1-7

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

*“The **SALVATION SOLDIER** must clearly understand the basic nature of the Movement of which he [or she] is a member.”¹*

¹ *Chosen to Be a Soldier: Orders and Regulations of The Salvation Army.* London: International Headquarters, 1987. p.1

Becoming enrolled as a Salvation Soldier is a starting point rather than a state or arrival.

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage in the **SOLDIER UP** Training Unit and **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** will recognize that the commitment of Soldiership within The Salvation Army should be viewed as part of the discipleship process, and as a catalyst to next steps in their spiritual journey. Becoming enrolled as a **SALVATION SOLDIER** is a starting point rather than a state of arrival.

Preparation for Soldiership through the **BATTLE READY** Training Curriculum will encourage teens to understand what it means to live a life marked by a "CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith." **SOLDIER UP** will begin to lay the foundation for that understanding and give teens opportunity to begin developing intentional habits and relationships that will help them take the next positive steps in their faith related to the process of considering Soldiership.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **"Toy Story" Movie** (optional)
- **Plastic Toy Soldiers** (as seen in "Toy Story")
(1 or 2 packages, depending on the size of your group)
- **Bouncy Rubber Balls** (2)
- **"A CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused Faith" Handout** (enough for each teen in your group)
- **"A CHRIST-centred Faith" Worksheet** (one copy)
- **"An OTHERS-focused Faith" Worksheet** (one copy)
- **"A CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused Faith" Answer Key**
- **"Jesus in Every Book of the Bible" Video**
(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OhVrcV6WmfQ>)
- **"Evangeline Booth" Video**
(<http://vimeo.com/album/3215759/video/117008844>)

- **iPads** or other means of teens watching videos in small groups (enough for two groups)
- **“Soldier’s Hymn” Recording** by Transmission
- **iPod and Speaker, or CD Player** to play above recording
- **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE Handout** (enough for each teen in your group)

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** Newsboys – “Live With Abandon,” “Fishers of Men”; TransMission – “The World For God,” “A Story to Tell”; Switchfoot – “Meant to Live”; Casting Crowns – “Until the Whole World Hears”

BASIC TRAINING

Begin by making your group feel welcome and comfortable in your meeting space.

After welcoming your group, open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the teens in your group, asking God to help them realize the world’s need of salvation, and for God to reveal their role in bringing Christ’s salvation to their world.)

Introduce the **SOLDIER UP** Training Unit by using one or both of the following:

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: “Call in the Troops!” (5 minutes)

Say something like: *Most of you will remember the movie “Toy Story” from when you were kids. At the very beginning, Andy’s toys are anxious to know if they might be replaced by the new gifts and toys being given to him at his birthday party. In order to scope out the situation of their changing world, to best determine how they should respond, they ‘call in the troops’ ...*

The purpose of the game is simply to introduce the “toy soldier” concept below, and to get your group interacting before digging into the lesson.

Say something like: *You’re here because you’re considering Soldiership in The Salvation Army. Some of you may already have an idea of what that might mean; others don’t. We’re not “playing toy soldiers.” We are called to be actively engaged in the battle against sin in the world. Scripture tells us in 2 Corinthians 10:4-5: “We use God’s mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God.”² Over the next few weeks we’re going to explore what a SALVATION SOLDIER believes, and how a SALVATION SOLDIER lives.*

Say something like: *Most churches have some type of membership that they ask individuals to make a commitment to. For many this would come in the form for baptism or confirmation. One expression of membership within The Salvation Army is Soldiership.*

Have students look up and read 2 Timothy 2:1-7.

Ask: *What does this passage of Scripture say about being a “good soldier of Jesus Christ”?* (Answers may include having a strong relationship with Jesus, passing on to others what you have learned, sacrifice and suffering, perseverance, not being distracted by things that go against the purpose of being a soldier, seeking to please God, living a right life, hard work and diligence, etc.)

Say something like: *Soldiership within The Salvation Army is more than just getting your name added to a list and considering The Salvation Army to be your church home. It is active engagement in the life and ministry of your corps (local church) and in what The Salvation Army calls “the salvation war”–*

Teens who become fully engaged in the study should gain an understanding of the beliefs, values and behaviours that characterize a Salvation Soldier.

² 2 Corinthians 10:4–5a. *New Living Translation*. Carol Stream: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., 1999.

Your teens need to see a growing faith and desire to live out and uphold the commitments of the Salvationist Soldier's Covenant in your own expression of faith in daily life.

standing against anything that works against God's redemptive plan in the world, and actively doing one's part to live out one's own salvation and to bring the gospel of salvation to others.

Explain: *As Salvationists, our beliefs are concisely expressed through our eleven Doctrines. These doctrines are shaped by what the Bible says about how Jesus is central to God's Story and how He shapes our own story. Equally important, is that we know and understand how to live out these beliefs in our own lives, recognizing that our beliefs shape our values, which in turn shape our behaviours.*³

ENGAGE: "A CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused Faith"

(15-20 minutes)

Have students divide into two groups. Give one group a copy of **"A CHRIST-centred Faith" Worksheet** (exploring "What Story Do I Live In?"), and the other group a copy of **"An OTHERS-focused Faith" Worksheet** (exploring "How Do I Choose to Live in This Story?").

Before having groups work together to complete their worksheets, have each group watch the suggested video that connects to their assigned column.

- Those considering the question, "What Story Do I Live In?" (using **"A CHRIST-centred Faith" Worksheet**) should watch the YouTube video detailing how Jesus Christ is revealed throughout the whole of Scripture (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OhVrcV6WmfQ>).

³ Hedgren, Steve, and Rob Lyle, eds. *Mapping Our Salvationist DNA*. West Nyack: The Salvation Army, 2012. p.v

- Those considering the question, “How Do I Choose to Live in This Story?” (using **“An OTHERS-focused Faith” Worksheet**) should watch the biographical video of Evangeline Booth’s life (<http://vimeo.com/album/3215759/video/117008844>).

After each group has watched their respective video, give the groups approximately 10-15 minutes to read the assigned portions of Scripture or biographical sketches, summarizing how what they have read relates to each box’s heading. (You can use **“A CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused Faith” Answer Key** to help get them started, if needed.)

Distribute copies of **“A CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused Faith Worksheet” Handouts** (one copy for each teen).

Have groups report their findings to the whole group. Facilitate and discuss their responses, using **“A CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused Faith” Answer Key** as your guide.

A Salvation Soldier lives a life marked by a CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith, in sacred covenant.

Say something like: *As Salvationists our story is centred in the story of Jesus Christ, as revealed throughout Scripture. We live out our part in that story through a boldly compassionate witness in the world, living in such a way that demonstrates the work of Jesus in and through our lives. We will explore our CHRIST-centred story and our OTHERS-focused expression of faith over the next 12 weeks.*

Continue by saying something like: *When someone chooses to make the commitment to become a SALVATION SOLDIER, they are essentially saying that not only are they a member of The Salvation Army, but they identify so much with the story, mission, and message of the Army that they are declaring, “I am The Salvation Army”—actively—not just someone who supports or attends. “This is who I am and how I choose to express my part in the story where I find myself.”*

DROP ZONE

“Toy Soldier Prayers” (5–7 minutes)

Reset the **Plastic Toy Soldiers** on a table. (Consider moving into your corps sanctuary to conclude your session, and set the toy soldiers up on the Mercy Seat or Holiness Table.) Play “**Soldier’s Hymn**” by Transmission during a time of reflective prayer with your group. Pray for your teens that over the course of **BATTLE READY** they might grow in their understanding of what it means to live and express their faith in the context of being a **SALVATION SOLDIER**.

Give time for silent prayer and reflection, challenging teens to take a toy soldier as they pray, asking God to search and challenge them over the next 12 weeks to take steps of growth in their relationship with Jesus, as they consider what it means to live as a “true soldier of Jesus Christ”⁴ and as a **SALVATION SOLDIER** within The Salvation Army.

Have teens take their toy soldiers home and place them somewhere where they will be constantly visible as a reminder to them of the prayer they make right now.

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **SOLDIER UP DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

Explain: *Each week, at the end of each Training Unit, you will receive a DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE. Each challenge will be something for you to do during the week, between each time we meet, and over the course of the BATTLE READY Bible Study. The challenges are designed to help you connect*

⁴ 2 Timothy 2:3–4

and apply each lesson to your life outside of the group meetings.

This week's DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE has three parts:

1. Take home a Toy Plastic Soldier and place it somewhere where it will remind you that considering Soldiership within The Salvation Army is so much more than "playing soldier"; it is an expression of how one can be a "true soldier of Jesus Christ"⁵—a fully engaged, active Salvationist.

2. Discuss your consideration of making the commitment of Soldiership in The Salvation Army with your parent(s)/guardian.

3. Identify a potential PERSON OF INTEREST. (Distribute the PERSON OF INTEREST Description and Guidelines Handout.) Connect with the person you identify and ask if they will be willing to be a source of accountability and encouragement to you as you go through the process of considering the step of becoming a Soldier within The Salvation Army. Use the questions on the DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE Handout as a guide for your conversation. When you come back next week, be ready to let the group know whom you have identified as your PERSON OF INTEREST, and how your conversations went.

BACKUP

Booth, William. *Salvation Soldiery*. London: International Headquarters, 1889.

Brown, Michael L. *Revolution! The Call to Holy War*. Ventura: Regal Books, 2000.

Chosen to Be a Soldier: Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army. London: International Headquarters, 1987.

Elvin, Derek, ed. *Heroes of the Faith*. London: International Headquarters, 2004.

McManus, Erwin. *The Barbarian Way*. Nashville: Nelson Books, 2005.

Wall, Phil. *'I'll Fight ...' Holiness at War*. Tonbridge: Sovereign World, 1998.

⁵ 2 Timothy 2:3-4

A Salvation
Soldier is

BATTLE READY

... marked by a faith that is

C

CANON

John 17:13-17; Psalm 119:111-112, 114

"I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth."

Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart. My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end. You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word.

H

HOLY GOD

1 Samuel 2:2; 1 Peter 1:15-16

But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

There is no one holy like the LORD; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.

R

REDEMPTION

Isaiah 43:1; Romans 3:24-25

But now, this is what the LORD says— he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine."

All are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith.

I

INWARD CHANGE

Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 5:17

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

S

SET APART

1 Peter 2:9; Psalm 4:3

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Know that the LORD has set apart his faithful servant for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.

T

TRIUMPH

1 Corinthians 15:57; Revelation 21:6-7

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

WHAT STORY DO I LIVE IN?

-CENTRED

and lived in sacred

COVENANT

A Salvation Soldier is **BATTLE READY**

... marked by a faith that is

"It's not how many years we live, It's rather what we do with them. It's not what we receive, but what we give to others. We live not unto ourselves—Others!"

"God wants men and women to walk about the world so that those around, believers and unbelievers alike, shall see the form and hear the voice of the living God. What is the use of a sun that does not shine?"

"Keep in the will of God, obey him, seek him daily, waiting at his gates. Read the Bible regularly. Keep testifying to the grace bestowed upon you. Help others!"

"Put a burning coal or stick by itself and the fire will go out, and it will be cold and black; but put several sticks or coals together and they will burn brightly. And it is so with hearts full of the holy fire."

"There is something seriously wrong with the spiritual life of any Christian who does not earnestly strive to become wholly devoted and obedient to God, strong and upright, true, pure, kind, loving and humble—in one word, holy, like Jesus."

"It is impossible for us to walk like Him, to live like Him, unless we have a heart like Him"

"It has been a special joy to me to know that there are so many young in the ranks ... who, when we have left the field, will leap into our places and go on with this War, and I congratulate you all a thousand times upon your remaining opportunities for usefulness."

"It is a glory among us that our youth may lead."

"It is a simple philosophy: all one's gifts are dedicated to serve God and mankind under the Army flag, and the glory and honor of such service lies in the fact that the balance between giving and getting is always weighted on the heavenly side."

"The possessions of a consecrated Salvationist all belong to God in the sense that they are available for use as God wishes."

"The spirit of the Army, sometimes called salvationism, is an endowment from God for the Army's peculiar and special work in His plan for mankind. It is a precious spirit—warm and flaming with love, born in heaven, and is one, just one, of the great revelations of the loving heart of God the Father, centred in Jesus Christ, to a needy, helpless, and, in many cases, hopeless human race."

OUTWARD FOCUS

Evangeline Booth; William Booth

TENACITY OF FAITH

Samuel Logan Brengle

HOLY LIVING

Chosen to Be a Soldier;
Samuel Logan Brengle

ENGAGED IN MINISTRY

Frederick Booth-Tucker; Catherine Booth

RESPONSIBILITY

Flora Larson;
Orders & Regulations for Officers

SALVATIONISM

William Harris

HOW DO I CHOOSE TO LIVE IN THIS STORY?

-FOCUSED

and lived in sacred

COVENANT

A Salvation
Soldier is

BATTLE READY

... marked by a faith that is

C CANON

O OUTWARD FOCUS

H HOLY GOD

T TENACITY OF FAITH

R REDEMPTION

H HOLY LIVING

I INWARD CHANGE

E ENGAGED IN MINISTRY

S SET APART

R RESPONSIBILITY

T TRIUMPH

S SALVATIONISM

WHAT STORY DO I LIVE IN?

HOW DO I CHOOSE TO LIVE IN THIS STORY?

-CENTRED

-FOCUSED

and lived in sacred

COVENANT

A Salvation
Soldier is

BATTLE READY

... marked by a faith that is

ANSWER KEY

C

CANON

Scripture tells God's story in the world, and directs our Christian belief and actions.

O

OUTWARD FOCUS

Our faith should not be kept to ourselves. We should focus on others.

H

HOLY GOD

Our God is a Holy God. There is none like him.

T

TENACITY OF FAITH

In order to stay strong in our faith we need to develop spiritual habits and stay connected with other believers.

R

REDEMPTION

God has redeemed us and made it possible for us to have a relationship with him by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

H

HOLY LIVING

God's Spirit lives in us. Our lives should show it by being holy.

I

INWARD CHANGE

When we put our faith in Jesus, God changes us from the inside out.

E

ENGAGED IN MINISTRY

Being young shouldn't stop us from being actively involved in ministry. The Salvation Army equips and entrusts youth for ministry.

S

SET APART

God has chosen us and set us specially apart for his purposes.

R

RESPONSIBILITY

We are responsible for all that God has given us. We should use all that we can for His glory.

T

TRIUMPH

Jesus is coming again and will rule and judge in righteous victory.

S

SALVATIONISM

Salvationism is a Christ-centred, others-focused expression of faith.

WHAT STORY DO I LIVE IN?

HOW DO I CHOOSE TO LIVE IN THIS STORY?

-CENTRED

-FOCUSED

and lived in sacred

COVENANT

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

1. Take a plastic toy soldier home and place it somewhere it will remind you daily that your decision to consider making the commitment of Salvation Soldiership is much more than "playing soldier": It is a choice of how to express your desire to be a "true soldier of Jesus Christ." (2 Timothy 2:3-4)

2. Discuss your decision to consider making the commitment of Salvation Soldiership with your parent(s)/guardian(s).

3. Identify a potential PERSON OF INTEREST, and ask them if they would be willing to connect with you regularly as you prepare for Salvation Soldiership through accountability and encouragement. Use the PERSONS OF INTEREST GUIDELINES to give them a better idea of how you each can benefit most through the relationship. Use the questions below as a guide for the first time you connect with each other.

QUESTIONS

WHAT HELPS YOU STAY STRONG IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS?

WHAT HAS GOD DONE, OR IS HE DOING, IN YOUR LIFE?

HOW DO YOU LIVE OUT YOUR FAITH EACH DAY?

SOLDIER UP01 BATTLE READY

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SOLDIER UP01 BATTLE READY

PERSONS OF INTEREST

00:15

GUIDELINES

TRACKING POSITION
LOCATING SUBJECTS WHEREABOUTS
SATELLITE IMAGING IN PLACE



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
40	<p>A PERSON OF INTEREST is a spiritually mature Christian adult who has been identified by a teen preparing for Salvation Soldiership. This adult is someone whom the teen respects and would appreciate having as an intentional source of encouragement and accountability in his or her discipleship journey.</p> <p>Both teens and adults commit to connecting on a regular basis to share developments in their spiritual growth and to pray for each other.</p>									12
39										13
38										14
37	<p>In choosing a PERSON OF INTEREST, if possible, TEENS should identify someone with whom they already have a healthy connection, and to whom they look up to and respect. Teens should look to someone who is mature in faith and godly in lifestyle.</p> <p>TEENS should commit to allowing the PERSON OF INTEREST to challenge them in their discipleship, hold them accountable, and encourage new steps of faith while connecting on a regular basis.</p>	<p>ADULTS identified as PERSONS OF INTEREST should recognize the significant role they play in the disciple-making process and in the spiritual life of a teen. They should commit to pray regularly and connect with the teen who has requested their intentional spiritual input. Connections with teens may be made at church, through social media, or via other public forums and meeting spaces. The relationship should be built using discernment and good judgment in accordance with Salvation Army policy regarding youth ministry. In all things, the spiritual and developmental well-being of the teen should be of primary consideration.</p>	15							
36			16							
35			17							
34			18							
33			19							
32			20							
31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21





CANON

TAKING AIM

CANON will help teens understand the concept of Scripture as the standard by which Salvationists seek to live out Christian faith and practice.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Psalm 119:9-16 Matthew 7:24-27 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

"We believe that the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God and that they only constitute the divine rule of Christian faith and practice."⁶

⁶ "Doctrine 1 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **CANON** Training Unit will begin to recognize Scripture as the filter by which Christian beliefs, values, and behaviours are guided and formed. They will see their place within the story of Jesus Christ, and will begin implementing tools to help them intentionally allow Scripture to guide and form their own beliefs, values, and behaviours as they consider the life and faith of a Salvation Soldier.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **“Madagascar 3: Europe’s Most Wanted” DVD**
- **“World Record for Human Cannonball” YouTube Video**
(www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Y14kEY-6fk)
- **Red Yarn** (one ball; this ball of yarn will be used repeatedly through the six CHRIST-centred lessons of **BATTLE READY**)
- **“Canon Ball of Yarn” Cutouts** (1 or 2 sets, depending on how you decide to run the activity)
- **Masking Tape** (or other means of hanging the Red Yarn to a wall or between two chairs, tables, or bookshelves)
- **Clothes Pins** (10)
- **Rocks** (medium sized, large enough to write words on)
- **Markers** (paint pens may work best; available from craft stores)
- **Sand** (small bag)
- **Mixing Bowl** (or Bag)
- **Colander** (large enough to hold the number of rocks and sand above)
- **Plastic Bag** or **Tray** (to catch sand pouring through Colander)
- **CANON DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** (enough for each teen in your group)

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** TransMission – “The Word”; Amy Grant – “Thy Word”; Newsboys – “We Believe”; Third Day – “Creed”

BASIC TRAINING

Begin the **CANON** Training Unit by allowing teens to share brief reports of how their conversations with parents and/or **PERSONS OF INTEREST** went during the week between meetings.

Have students give you the names of their identified **PERSON OF INTEREST** and intentionally make contact with those individuals in the week following the **CANON** Training Unit, so you are able to thank them for their investment and also to give them some guidelines for their interaction with the teen, based on the **PERSONS OF INTEREST** Guidelines Handout and the policies for working with young people adopted by your corps and The Salvation Army.

After reports from your teens, and gathering the names of their **PERSONS OF INTEREST**, open your session in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the teens in your group and for the gift of His Word, asking God to help them see how He has revealed Himself through Scripture, and how it guides and forms our faith and actions as His followers.)

Use one of the two Video Introductions listed below to introduce the **CANON** Training Unit:

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: “Fire in the Hole!” (5 minutes)

Say something like: *Have you ever wanted to join the circus and do amazingly crazy feats of death-defying wonder? This clip from Madagascar 3 shows in ridiculous fashion the practice and dedication it takes to fully immerse oneself in such an aspiration.*

Watch: **Madagascar 3: Europe’s Most Wanted** (52:00-52:55)

OR

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: “World Record for Human Cannonball” (5 minutes)

Say something like: *Have you ever seen a human cannonball artist? They are crazy! Imagine stuffing yourself in a hollow tube, filled with explosives, just waiting for someone to light the fuse. Your whole body, mind, and spirit would need to be prepared. Take a look at the world’s record for longest human cannonball flight.*

Watch: **“World Record for Human Cannonball”**

(www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Y14kEY-6fk)

Transition by saying something like: *Human cannonball artists find themselves immersed in their cannon, surrounded by it, and by the equipment necessary for them to make a daring, but (hopefully) safe flight.*

Explain that in last week’s **SOLDIER UP** Training Unit, your teens saw that Soldiers within The Salvation Army should have lives marked by a “CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith.” This week’s Training Unit uses the imagery of a human cannonball, because living out our faith is sort of like being a human cannonball artist: We need to be surrounded by and immersed in our “canon” if we are going to live in our world, with daring, in a way that demonstrates Jesus’ work of salvation. However, our **CANON** is not “cannon” with two n’s, but with only one, which completely changes the meaning of the word.

Ask: *What do you think the word CANON—with only one ‘n’—means? Have you heard this word used somewhere before? Where?* (Movie series, comic books, fictional novels, and worlds of superheroes are all places where teens may have heard this terminology used. Music students may have come across this term as a compositional technique where a melody is imitated at given intervals, as in a round. A popular camera brand also carries this name.)

We need to be surrounded by, and immersed in our "canon" if we are going to live in our world, with daring, in a way that demonstrates Jesus' work of salvation.

contained on the "Canon Ball of Yarn" gospel story cutouts, along with an indication of which part of the gospel story it refers to. (Your teens may come up with another acceptable order, depending on how they have interpreted and summarized the verses they have been given. Allow this to be a time of discussion and discovery):

1. **John 1:1-3** – Jesus, the Word, was in the beginning. Everything that was created was created through him.
2. **Romans 5:12** – Sin entered the world through Adam and Eve's disobedience.
3. **Genesis 3:15** – (This one may be a challenge for your teens.) The second portion of this verse points to God's plan of redemption, prophesying the serpent's (Satan's) defeat at the cross when the "offspring of the woman" (Jesus) crushes the serpent's head (defeats sin and death) at the time when it looked like God's Chosen One was defeated through Jesus' crucifixion. This prophecy occurred at the time of the Fall.
4. **Hebrews 9:20-22** – Atonement is made through the shedding of blood in sacrifice; "the wages of sin is death"; in the Old Testament the sacrifice of unblemished lambs foreshadowed the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus' blood, the true Lamb of God, on the cross. This foreshadowing happened when the sacrificial system was instituted.
5. **Isaiah 9:7** – Prophecies foretold the coming of Jesus Christ, and the establishment of His everlasting kingdom.
6. **John 3:16** – The Incarnation: Jesus entered the world as a human, for the purpose of saving the world from sin.
7. **Isaiah 53:5** – Jesus suffered and died on the cross to redeem us, in order to make us right with God.

8. **Romans 1:3-4** – Jesus achieved victory over sin and death through His resurrection.

9. **Acts 2:1-4** – The Holy Spirit was given to believers at Pentecost.

10. **Matthew 16:27** – Jesus will return and exercise righteous judgement at the end of time.

Read the hanging cutouts, giving your students an overview of the gospel story. Remember, there may be more than one way that makes sense, depending on how your students have summarized their verses (for instance, some may place verses of prophecy near the end of their timeline, depending on whether they have read them as foretelling or fulfillment). Talk through their ordering, and hear their rationale on where they have placed particular verses, helping them keep in mind the overall arc of the Gospel story.

Say something like: *The Story of Scripture is the gospel story. It is the Story of Jesus—the red line of yarn represents the story of salvation found in His blood. This is the Story that is the foundation of our Christian faith. We are going to be looking at this story and our place within it over the next few weeks. We build our lives and faith on this Story, and we learn how to live out our role in the Story by reading and applying the Truth contained in God’s Word to our daily living. Listen to what Jesus had to say about the role of His Word in our lives.*

Read Matthew 7:24-27.

Ask: *What does Jesus say about the role of His Word in our lives?*

Say something like: *The word “CANON” not only refers to the “true story” of what it is to be a Christian, but also has the meaning of a “standard.” As Salvationists, “we believe that the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God”—that they are His “divinely authorized Story”—“and that they only constitute the divine rule of Christian faith and practice.” In this way, Scripture also functions as a filter or measuring stick, helping us determine what is true, and how to live out that Truth in our lives.*

Prior to teaching this Training Unit, prepare the **Rocks** for the Engage activity below, by writing one of the following Scripture references on each:

ENGAGE: “Use Your Filter” (10 minutes)

Prior to meeting, write the following Scripture references on **Rocks** using **Markers**:

Joshua 1:8	Psalm 19: 7-11	Psalm 119:9
Psalm 119:105	Romans 15:4	1 Timothy 4:5-6
Hebrews 4:12	1 Peter 2:2	

Place the pre-prepared **Rocks** with Scripture references in a **Mixing Bowl** (or **Bag**) together with the **Sand** prior to meeting with your group. As you pour Sand into the **Colander** (over the **Plastic Bag** or **Tray**), explain to your students that the Colander represents Scripture as our lives are exposed to many messages and a multitude of “truths” that the world says we should live by. Allow the sand to pour through the Colander into the Plastic Bag or Tray, shaking it down if necessary, leaving the rocks contained within. Explain further that Scripture acts as a filter, helping us hold onto what is right and true, and sifting out those messages, thoughts, and actions that are contrary to God’s will for us.

Have students take turns choosing rocks from within the Colander, looking up and reading the Scripture references written on them. After each passage of Scripture is read, have students identify what principle, truth, or action is described.

Discuss how these are applied and expressed in teens’ daily lives, having them think of true-to-life scenarios.

Conclude the lesson by saying something like: *Through God’s Word we find God’s Story—the Story that encompasses all of history, and includes us. It*

reveals God's Truth and gives instruction about how to live that Truth. When we are on the right path, it teaches and trains us; when we go astray, it acts as a GPS and course-corrects us through correcting and rebuking us. It is vitally important that, as Salvationists, we continue to grow in our knowledge of God through His Word.

DROP ZONE

"Thin Red Line Prayers" (5 minutes)

Have your teens stand together in a circle. Take the string of **Red Yarn** (including the Clothes Pinned gospel story cutouts) used in "Canon Ball of Yarn" and have each teen hold onto a portion of it, as they encircle the group using the yarn (the group should find themselves inside the circle of yarn). Say something like: *This is the Story we each find ourselves in as Christians. We stand together in this Story, bound by the love of Christ for the salvation of the world.*

Read Psalm 119:9-16 from The Message, and close in prayer asking that God would continue to show each participant how to live faithfully within the salvation story:

"How can a young person live a clean life? By carefully reading the map of your Word. I'm single-minded in pursuit of you; don't let me miss the road signs you've posted. I've banked your promises in the vault of my heart so I won't sin myself bankrupt. Be blessed, God. Train me in your ways of wise living. I'll transfer to my lips all the counsel that comes from your mouth; I delight far more in what you tell me about living than in gathering a pile of riches. I ponder every morsel of wisdom from you. I attentively

Through God's Word we find God's Story—the Story that encompasses all of history, and includes us. It reveals God's Truth and gives instruction of how to live by that Truth.

Help teens begin implementing tools to help them intentionally allow Scripture to guide and form their own beliefs, values and behaviours as they consider the life and faith of a Salvation Soldier.

*watch how you've done it. I relish everything you've told me of life, I won't forget a word of it."*⁷

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **CANON DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

Explain: *This week's DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE is actually a challenge that will take you the duration of our BATTLE READY Bible Study to complete. It is a Scripture Reading Plan to take you from now until our last meeting together. If you complete the DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE, you will find you have developed a habit over the next 12 weeks that will lay a solid foundation in helping you use Scripture as the filter, seeing and using it as "the divine rule of Christian faith and practice"*⁸ in your life.

Remind teens to intentionally make contact with their PERSON OF INTEREST and ask them to check in regularly with them, being accountable to them for their daily time of Scripture reading, as well as to talk about how God is teaching them and revealing Himself through the exercise.

Make contact with the teens' PERSONS OF INTEREST this week to encourage them to make intentional contact with their teen, helping to ensure that contact is made, especially since this is a habit that is newly developing.

⁷ Psalm 119:9–16 *The Message / ReMix*,

⁸ "Doctrine 1 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

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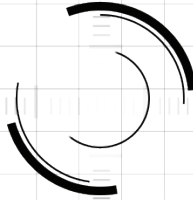
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OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_002
02 - CANON

THE STATISTICS CAN BE PRESENTED AS CROSS-TABLES, DIAGRAMS OR MAPS. THERE ARE ABOUT 2 MILLION HIT'S EVE

GENESIS 3:15



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- * 10 SEE ALSO
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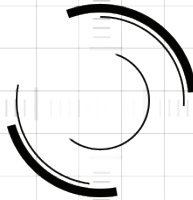
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HEBREWS 9:20-22



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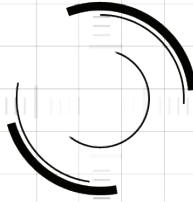
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ISAIAH 9:7



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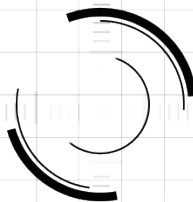
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JOHN 3:16



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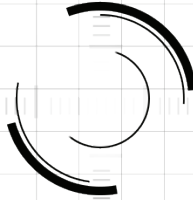
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ISAIAH 53:5



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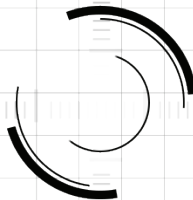
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ROMANS 1:3-4



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DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

CANON02BATTLEREADY

Follow the suggested Scripture Reading Plan, reading a chapter of the Bible each day for the duration of your **BATTLE READY** Training. Developing this habit over the next 12 weeks will lay a solid foundation to help you use Scripture as the filter for your life, seeing and using it as "the divine rule of Christian faith and practice" in your life.

WEEK 1

John 1:1-51
John 2:1-25
John 3:1-36
John 4:1-54
John 5:1-47
John 6:1-71
John 7:1-52

WEEK 3

John 15:1-27
John 16:1-33
John 17:1-26
John 18:1-40
John 19:1-42
John 20:1-31
John 21:1-25

WEEK 5

Philippians 2:1-30
Philippians 3:1-21
Philippians 4:1-23
1 Timothy 1:1-20
1 Timothy 2:1-15
1 Timothy 3:1-16
1 Timothy 4:1-16

WEEK 7

James 2:1-26
James 3:1-18
James 4:1-17
James 5:1-20
1 John 1:1-10
1 John 2:1-29
1 John 3:1-24

WEEK 9

Proverbs 6:1-35
Proverbs 7:1-27
Proverbs 8:1-36
Proverbs 9:1-18
Proverbs 10:1-32
Proverbs 11:1-31
Proverbs 12:1-28

WEEK 11

Proverbs 20:1-30
Proverbs 21:1-31
Proverbs 22:1-29
Proverbs 23:1-35
Proverbs 24:1-34
Proverbs 25:1-28
Proverbs 26:1-28

WEEK 2

John 8:1-59
John 9:1-41
John 10:1-42
John 11:1-57
John 12:1-50
John 13:1-38
John 14:1-31

WEEK 4

Ephesians 1:1-23
Ephesians 2:1-22
Ephesians 3:1-21
Ephesians 4:1-32
Ephesians 5:1-33
Ephesians 6:1-23
Philippians 1:1-29

WEEK 6

1 Timothy 5:1-25
1 Timothy 6:1-21
2 Timothy 1:1-18
2 Timothy 2:1-26
2 Timothy 3:1-17
2 Timothy 4:1-22
James 1:1-27

WEEK 8

1 John 4:1-21
1 John 5:1-21
Proverbs 1:1-33
Proverbs 2:1-21
Proverbs 3:1-35
Proverbs 4:1-27
Proverbs 5:1-23

WEEK 10

Proverbs 13:1-25
Proverbs 14:1-35
Proverbs 15:1-33
Proverbs 16:1-33
Proverbs 17:1-28
Proverbs 18:1-24
Proverbs 19:1-29

WEEK 12

Proverbs 27:1-27
Proverbs 28:1-28
Proverbs 29:1-27
Proverbs 30:1-33
Proverbs 31:1-31
Isaiah 53:1-12
Revelation 5:1-14

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

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Follow the suggested Scripture Reading Plan, reading a chapter of the Bible each day for the duration of your **BATTLE READY** Training. Developing this habit over the next 12 weeks will lay a solid foundation to help you use Scripture as the filter for your life, seeing and using it as "the divine rule of Christian faith and practice" in your life.

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John 7:1-52

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John 19:1-42
John 20:1-31
John 21:1-25

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1 Timothy 1:1-20
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1 Timothy 3:1-16
1 Timothy 4:1-16

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Proverbs 25:1-28
Proverbs 26:1-28

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John 12:1-50
John 13:1-38
John 14:1-31

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Ephesians 6:1-23
Philippians 1:1-29

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Proverbs 4:1-27
Proverbs 5:1-23

WEEK 10

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Proverbs 14:1-35
Proverbs 15:1-33
Proverbs 16:1-33
Proverbs 17:1-28
Proverbs 18:1-24
Proverbs 19:1-29

WEEK 12

Proverbs 27:1-27
Proverbs 28:1-28
Proverbs 29:1-27
Proverbs 30:1-33
Proverbs 31:1-31
Isaiah 53:1-12
Revelation 5:1-14



HOLY GOD

TAKING AIM

The **HOLY GOD** Training Unit will help teens gain an understanding of how the God we worship has revealed Himself, and to begin exploration of what sets Him apart as the One True God among other gods.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Deuteronomy 6:4-6

1 Kings 18:16-39

Isaiah 6:1-3

Matthew 28:16-20

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

"We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship."⁹

"We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost—undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory."¹⁰

⁹ "Doctrine 2 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

¹⁰ "Doctrine 3 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **HOLY GOD** Training Unit will deepen their confidence in God, who alone is worthy to be worshipped with their lives. They will also begin to recognize the importance of faith lived and expressed in community, as a reflection of the holy character of God.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **“Triple Thread” Challenge Handout** (three copies)
- **“Triple Thread” Challenge Answer Key**
- **Red Yarn** (cut into 39 2-inch strips)
- **Snack Treats** (to be used as prizes for teams in the “Triple Thread” Challenge)
- **“I Am Who I Am” Handout** (enough for each teen in your group)
- **“Names of God Prayer Starters” Cutouts** (copy and cut out enough for one per teen in your group)
- **HOLY GOD DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE “Much More Than OMG” Handout** (enough for each teen in your group)
- **Coloured Pencils**

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** TransMission – “You Alone,” “Three in One”; downhere – “Let Me Rediscover You”; Phatfish – “How Great Is Our God”; Hillsong Live – “This Is Our God”; Chris Tomlin – “Indescribable”

BASIC TRAINING

Begin the **HOLY GOD** Training Unit by having teens share brief reports of how they have begun implementing their Scripture Reading Plan, telling the group what worked for them this week and where they experienced challenges in putting it into practice.

RECAP

Say something like: *Last week we saw how the **CANON** of Scripture shows us God's Story, and that we have a place in it as well. This week we are going to begin exploring that in more detail: If Scripture tells God's Story, who is this God whose Story we are a part of?*

Open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for how He has revealed Himself throughout time and to you personally; ask that He would give the teens in your group a very real understanding and revelation of who He is, deepening their faith.)

Say something like: *Today we are going to dig into another important element of our Christian faith: recognizing that God, as He has revealed Himself in Scripture, is, as our second Doctrine states, "the only proper object of religious worship,"¹¹ the one true **HOLY GOD**. We will also see that He is so much more than we can neatly wrap our minds around, and yet can be known most personally. One way in which we begin to see God revealed throughout Scripture is as *Three-in-One*.*

ENGAGE: "Triple Thread" (5-10 minutes)

Divide your teens into three groups. Distribute copies of the **"Triple Thread" Challenge Handout** and 13 2-inch strips of **Red Yarn** to each team. (You will need to prepare 39 strips in total.)

¹¹ "Doctrine 2 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

Say something like: *On my "Go!" your teams are going to challenge each other by racing to complete each of the following three puzzles using the strips of red yarn given to you. Each of the three puzzles has only one solution. Get ready ... Read the challenge carefully: In every puzzle you may move only one piece of yarn.*

On your "Go!" have teams make the first pattern using their strips of red yarn, and complete the first puzzle.

You may want to stop after the completion of each individual puzzle. Once the first team has completed the task, declare a winner and show the others how it was done. Follow this procedure for the second and third puzzles as well.

Say something like: *Just as there was only one solution to each of these puzzles, we need to remember that the Bible teaches that there is only one true God.*

Explain that we live out our faith in a world that follows many different religions and worships many different gods. In this way, our world is similar to the world of the Bible: those who chose to follow and worship God in biblical times chose to do so in a world where their God stood alone and apart from all other gods of the religions of their day. Indeed, God is so unlike everything that is created, and so unlike all other gods of other faiths, that He is completely set apart from everything in creation, in heaven and on earth.

Have teens look up and read Isaiah 6:1-3.

Say something like: *When we say that God is "holy" we mean that He is completely set apart from everything in creation—there is no other like Him. When the Bible uses the same term, repeated three times in a row, it is the highest form of whatever it is referring to. To say "Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD God Almighty" is to affirm that He is the most holy—that there is nothing that*

compares to Him in all creation, in the physical or spiritual realms. He is the One True Living God.

ENGAGE: “Trials By Fire” (10-15 minutes)

Divide your teens into two groups and assign each group one of the following passages of Scripture: 1 Kings 18:16-39 and Daniel 3:19-29. Have each group read their assigned Scripture and develop a short dramatic skit (2-3 minutes in length) based on the accounts of Elijah’s challenge to the prophets of Baal at Mt. Carmel or Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego’s test of faith in Babylon. Give groups between 7-10 minutes to prepare, and then have them present their short dramas to the whole group.

Ask and discuss: *Who is the main character in each of these episodes?* (While teens may be inclined to answer Elijah or Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, encourage them to look deeper to help them recognize that God is the Primary Actor in each drama.)

How did God demonstrate that He alone is worthy to be worshipped in each of these situations? (He acted—He demonstrated that He is alive. He demonstrated power over nature. He demonstrated power over life and death.)

What was the response in each situation to how God revealed Himself? (He was recognized as God. It was known that there was no other god like Him—one who could act on behalf of those who worshipped Him.)

Say something like: *The God of Elijah, and of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, is the same God we worship today. He is alive, and still “the only proper object of religious worship.”¹² We believe the Bible reveals Him as “the Creator, Preserver and Governor of all things.”¹³ In other words, we believe that all life comes from Him, life is sustained by Him, and that His ultimate purpose*

¹² “Doctrine 2 of The Salvation Army,” *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. xv

¹³ *Ibid.*

We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.

—*Doctrine 2 of The Salvation Army*

for creation will be accomplished through Him. Not only is God alone worthy of worship, but He has revealed Himself in very specific ways, to let us know who He is. His Word teaches us that although He is one God, “there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost”¹⁴ (Holy Spirit). Let’s look more closely at how God has revealed Himself throughout Scripture:

ENGAGE: “I Am Who I Am” Handout (10–15 minutes)

Distribute the “I Am Who I Am” Handout to each teen. As time allows, work together as a whole group looking up the passages of Scripture indicated one at a time, identifying which person of the Godhead is described or active in the first column and the characteristic/function/action described in relation to God being infinite, perfect, One, the “Creator, Preserver, or Governor of all things,”¹⁵ and “the only proper object of religious worship”¹⁶ in the other two columns. Remind your group that there may be more than one answer for each of the categories—Person and Character/Function—in a given passage.

Lead into the DROP ZONE by saying something like: *We worship a God who is in perfect relationship to Himself, who is, by His very nature, a demonstration of perfect love. Scripture shows us the vastness of God’s character, describing Him in many ways. And through all those descriptions it tells us that “God is love.”*¹⁷

¹⁴ “Doctrine 3 of The Salvation Army,” *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

¹⁵ “Doctrine 2 of The Salvation Army,” *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ 1 John 4:16b. *The NIV Study Bible*.

meeting. (Make sure you write on the coupons, letting your teens know what they can be redeemed for. See **ENGAGE: "This Coupon Can Be Redeemed For ..."** Coupon Redemption section of the REDEMPTION Training Unit.) If preferred, either mail or email the coupons to your group during the week.

BACKUP

Lewis, C.S. *Mere Christianity*. London: Harper Collins Publishers, 1977.

The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine. London: Salvation Books, 2010.

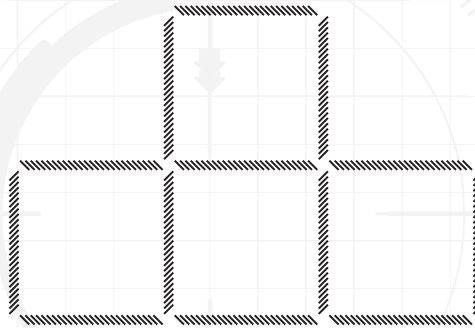
TRIPLE THREAD

On your leader's "Go!" complete each of the following puzzles, using your strips of red yarn:

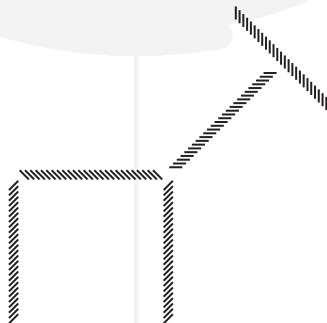
1. Move only 1 strip of yarn to make a correct equation:



2. Remove only 1 strip of yarn to leave only 3 squares:



3. Move only 1 strip of yarn to have the donkey face a different direction:

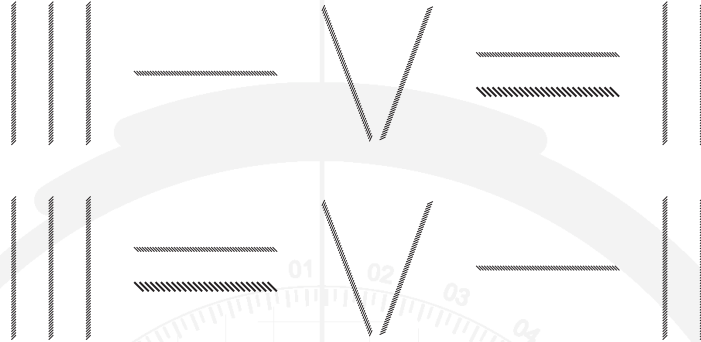


TRIPLE THREAD

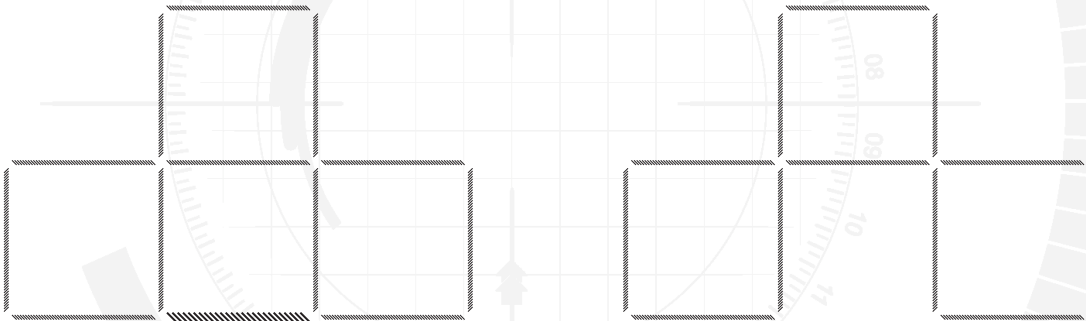
ANSWER KEY

The following are the solutions to the puzzles in the Triple Thread Challenge:

1. Move only 1 strip of yarn to make a correct equation:



2. Remove only 1 strip of yarn to leave only 3 squares:



3. Move only 1 strip of yarn to have the donkey face a different direction:



I AM WHO I AM

Look up the following passages of Scripture and in one column identify which person of the Godhead is being described. In the second grouping, indicate the character, function, or action being attributed to God.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
1 CORINTHIANS 8:6	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
HEBREWS 4:15	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
GENESIS 1:2	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
COLOSSIANS 1:15-16	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
NEHEMIAH 9:6	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
HEBREWS 1:3	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
PSALM 18:30	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
PSALM 104:30	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
REVELATION 1:8	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
PSALM 22:8	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
ISAIAH 9:6-7	Father Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship

I AM WHO I AM

ANSWER KEY

Look up the following passages of Scripture and in one column identify which person of the Godhead is being described. In the second grouping, indicate the character, function, or action being attributed to God.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5	FATHER Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite perfect ONE PROPER OBJECT OF WORSHIP
1 CORINTHIANS 8:6	FATHER SON Holy Spirit	CREATOR Preserver Governor	infinite perfect ONE PROPER OBJECT OF WORSHIP
HEBREWS 4:15	Father SON Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	infinite PERFECT One proper object of worship
GENESIS 1:2	Father Son HOLY SPIRIT	CREATOR Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
COLOSSIANS 1:15-16	Father SON Holy Spirit	CREATOR Preserver Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
NEHEMIAH 9:6	FATHER Son Holy Spirit	CREATOR PRESERVER Governor	infinite perfect One PROPER OBJECT OF WORSHIP
HEBREWS 1:3	Father SON Holy Spirit	Creator PRESERVER Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
PSALM 18:30	FATHER Son Holy Spirit	Creator PRESERVER Governor	infinite PERFECT One proper object of worship
PSALM 104:30	Father Son HOLY SPIRIT	CREATOR PRESERVER Governor	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
REVELATION 1:8	FATHER Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver Governor	INFINITE perfect One proper object of worship
PSALM 22:8	FATHER Son Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver GOVERNOR	infinite perfect One proper object of worship
ISAIAH 9:6-7	Father SON Holy Spirit	Creator Preserver GOVERNOR	INFINITE perfect One proper object of worship

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

HOLY GOD⁰³BATTLE READY

Reflect on how God has revealed Himself to you each day this week. Using a different coloured pencil or marker each day, circle the name(s) of God that represent how He has shown Himself to you that day.

FATHER

a forgiving God
a refuge / shelter
a source of strength
a consuming fire
Creator
defender
Eternal God
Father
God Almighty
God my Maker
God of all comfort
God of grace
God of hope
God who saves
great & awesome
Holy One

I AM

Judge
King of glory
living and true God
Lord
Lord my Rock
Lord our God
Lord will provide
love
my confidence
my help
my song
only wise God
the Potter
God who hears

JESUS, THE SON

atoning sacrifice
Author of Life
Bread of Life
Christ Jesus my Lord
Faithful and True
First and the Last
friend of sinners
God's Son
Good Shepherd
Head of the Church
Holy & Righteous
God with us
indefinable gift
King of kings

Lamb of God
light of the world
the Living One
Lord
man of sorrows
my friend
the One and Only
our peace
Physician
resurrection & life
Saviour
sure foundation
Teacher

HOLY SPIRIT

another Counsellor
Breath of Almighty
the gift
seal
spirit of Christ
spirit of fire
spirit of grace
spirit of justice
Spirit of holiness
Spirit of power
Spirit of truth
Spirit of Wisdom
Voice of the Lord

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

HOLY GOD⁰³BATTLE READY

Reflect on how God has revealed Himself to you each day this week. Using a different coloured pencil or marker each day, circle the name(s) of God that represent how He has shown Himself to you that day.

FATHER

a forgiving God
a refuge / shelter
a source of strength
a consuming fire
Creator
defender
Eternal God
Father
God Almighty
God my Maker
God of all comfort
God of grace
God of hope
God who saves
great & awesome
Holy One

I AM

Judge
King of glory
living and true God
Lord
Lord my Rock
Lord our God
Lord will provide
love
my confidence
my help
my song
only wise God
the Potter
God who hears

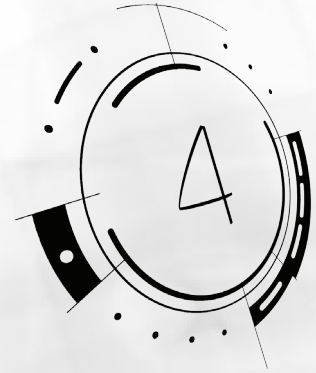
JESUS, THE SON

atoning sacrifice
Author of Life
Bread of Life
Christ Jesus my Lord
Faithful and True
First and the Last
friend of sinners
God's Son
Good Shepherd
Head of the Church
Holy & Righteous
God with us
indefinable gift
King of kings

Lamb of God
light of the world
the Living One
Lord
man of sorrows
my friend
the One and Only
our peace
Physician
resurrection & life
Saviour
sure foundation
Teacher

HOLY SPIRIT

another Counsellor
Breath of Almighty
the gift
seal
spirit of Christ
spirit of fire
spirit of grace
spirit of justice
Spirit of holiness
Spirit of power
Spirit of truth
Spirit of Wisdom
Voice of the Lord



REDEMPTION

TAKING AIM

The **REDEMPTION** Training Unit will help teens recognize the importance of knowing and experiencing the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Matthew 18:21-35

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

1 John 2:1-2

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

*"We believe that in the person of Jesus Christ the Divine and human natures are united, so that He is truly and properly God and truly and properly man."*¹⁸

*"We believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocence, but by their disobedience they lost their purity and happiness; and that in consequence of their fall all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God."*¹⁹

*"We believe that The Lord Jesus Christ has, by His suffering and death, made an atonement for the whole world so that whosoever will may be saved."*²⁰

¹⁸ "Doctrine 4 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

¹⁹ "Doctrine 5 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

²⁰ "Doctrine 6 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **REDEMPTION** Training Unit will gain an understanding that those who have received redemption have done so through what God has done through Jesus Christ, not by their own works. Consequently, those who have been redeemed should live in a way that demonstrates this experience.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **“This Coupon Can Be Redeemed For ...” Coupons** (one to be given to each teen either at the conclusion of last week’s Bible study meeting or sent to them during the week prior to this week’s meeting; print extra copies and fill in the blanks as you did for the ones handed out in the last Training Unit, in case students forget to bring theirs to the meeting)
- **Items to Be Redeemed by Coupons** (enough for each teen in your group; this may be chocolate bars, candy, or some other snack or prize that you indicated on the coupons given to your teens)
- **Wrapping Paper** (wrap each of the Items to be Redeemed; optional)
- **Red Yarn** (tie a bow around each wrapped gift, or around the whole stack of redeemed treats, for visual connection of the red thread connecting the CHRIST-centred Story we find ourselves in as Christians)
- **“Release Him” or “Back to God” Video Clips** (from *Les Misérables*, available from WingClips.com)
- **“Sin & Redemption” Handouts** (one copy, cut and distributed to groups)
- **“Sin & Redemption” Handout Answer Key**
- **24-50 Piece Puzzles (2)**
- **Small Sharable Prize** (candy, chocolate bars, chips, etc. that can be shared by a winning group in the “Broken & Put Back Together” activity; optional)

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: "Release Him" or "Back to God"

from one of the two *Les Misérables* movies produced. Video Illustrations are available from WingClips.com. (5 minutes)

"Release Him" (<http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/les-miserables-2012/release-him>)

"Back to God" (<http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/les-miserables/back-to-god>)

Show one of the video illustrations indicated above (both are taken from the same scene in the two productions of *Les Misérables*) and illustrate the grace shown to Jean Valjean by the bishop, who "buys his freedom," redeeming him, using the gift of silver candlesticks. In both versions the bishop makes reference to the greater redemption that can be Valjean's through the gift of God. Set the video clip up for your students by asking them to look for the examples of redemption in the clip. Teens will likely reference "forgiveness," "bought freedom," "mercy" ... explain that these are all descriptions of the redemption that is offered to us through Jesus Christ.

RECAP

Say something like: *Over the past two weeks we have begun exploring the Story we live in as Christians. It is God's Story, as revealed through our CANON, Scripture. It is a Story that is centred on Jesus. Last week we learned that we worship a HOLY GOD who is "the only proper object of religious worship." This week we are going to explore in more detail how Jesus is central to the Story we live in, and how what God has done through Him makes all the difference ...*

Continue by saying something like: *The Bible describes sin and its results in a number of different ways. But it gives only one solution to the problem of sin. The Salvation Army's fifth Doctrine states that "We believe that our first parents*

were created in a state of innocence, but by their disobedience they lost their purity and happiness; and that in consequence of their fall all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God.”²¹ Today we’re going to explore what Scripture has to say about sin and God’s plan of redemption.

ENGAGE: “Sin & Redemption” Handout (10-15 minutes)

Divide your teens into two groups. Give each group one half of the “Sin & Redemption” Handout. Have students look up the indicated passages of Scripture, writing down what each says about sin or redemption (depending on which half of the Handout they have received). Each group should summarize and be prepared to present a brief description of each Scripture’s teaching on their topic to the other group. Give time for discussion and questions the teens may have.

Say something like: *The Bible teaches that sin separates us from God, and that we are bound by it—and that it was never His intention that we would be separated from Him. His desire is that we be freed from sin, being brought back into a right relationship with Him through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ.*

Explain that sin has broken our relationship with God. What was intended to be whole, and one, has become broken and separated as a result of sin.

ENGAGE: “Broken & Put Back Together” (10 minutes)

Divide your teens into two groups. Give each group a **24-50 Piece Puzzle** still in its box. Point out that the puzzle is intended

²¹ “Doctrine 5 of The Salvation Army,” *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

Sin has broken our relationship with God. What was intended to be whole, and one, has become fragmented and separated as a result of sin.

atonement = at-one-ment

to look like the picture on the front of the box: intact, whole, and complete. Have teens open their boxes and lay the pieces out on the table. Point out that the current state of the puzzle is the opposite of the intended version: broken, separated, and incomplete.

Say something like: *As Salvationists, "we believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has, by His suffering and death, made an atonement for the whole world."*²² *This is what our sixth doctrine affirms.*

Break down the word "atonement" for your teens: "at-one-ment." That is exactly what this very religious-sounding word means: Jesus made it possible for us once again to be made "at one" with God.

Have the groups assemble their puzzles. Consider making this a race between teams, and having a small prize to be shared by the members of the winning group.

Point out that putting the pieces back together into the original, complete picture is like what happens for us in atonement through Christ: being brought back to being at one with, in right relationship with God.

Say something like: *God's gift of redemption is available, and intended for everyone to receive. But we must accept this gift, bought for us by His suffering and death. As the rest of the same Doctrine states, "we believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has, by His suffering and death, made an atonement for the whole world ... so that whosoever will may be saved."*²³

²² "Doctrine 6 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

²³ "Doctrine 6 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

ENGAGE: "Redemption for Whosoever Will ..."

(5 minutes)

Now is the time to revisit the **"This Coupon Can Be Redeemed For ..."** Coupons for those who may have forgotten to bring theirs to your meeting. If no one forgot, simply go on to the Explain section.

Ask if anyone who did not receive a treat gift earlier would like to receive one now. If teens respond by saying they would like the gift, remind them that the gifts were only given out by redemption of the coupons. No one gets a gift without the coupon. Say something like: *Too bad, so sad ...* Ask whether or not they feel this is fair.

Explain: Someone had to pay for these treats, but the teens themselves did not buy them. However, the giver of the gift (you) did buy them and also offers your teens a way to receive the gift—by giving them a coupon. They simply have to receive the coupon and make use of its redemption value to receive the gift.

Explain that everyone is intended to have this gift. Offer to give new coupons to those who forgot to bring theirs. Those who accept your offer can now redeem a coupon to receive their gift.

Ask: *How does the use of the coupons to receive these treats relate to our redemption and atonement as Christians?* (Jesus, the giver of the gift of eternal life, also paid the price of redemption to make us right with God, bringing about our atonement. We simply need to accept His gift and put our faith in Him in order to receive the gift He desires to give us.)

Transition by saying something like: *But our redemption is not just a "get out of jail free" card. We can't simply receive our gift of salvation and be happy that we're saved. The Gospel needs to be lived out as well as received.*

Those who have been redeemed should live in a way that demonstrates this experience.

ENGAGE: "Living the Gospel" Handouts (10-15 minutes)

Divide your teens into three groups (or work on the Handout together as one group), giving one portion of the Handout to each group. Have students look up the passage of Scripture indicated on their sheet of paper, and then read the related Case Study. Have groups summarize what is being taught in Scripture regarding how believers should respond to and live out the gospel, and then identify how the individual(s) in their particular Case Study should find themselves living out the gospel in their given situations.

Case Study 1: Matthew 18:21-35 – This is a picture of forgiveness. We have been forgiven much by Christ, so we ought to forgive others.

Case Study 2: 2 Corinthians 5:17-19 – This is a picture of reconciliation. We have been reconciled to God through Jesus Christ, so we ought to be reconciled to each other. We have been given the ministry of reconciliation, so we ought to be peacemakers.

Case Study 3: Romans 1:16-17 – This is a picture of response to the Gospel. The Gospel points to the way of salvation. We need to respond to it in faith and ought to proclaim it boldly.

Conclude by saying something like: *As people who have experienced God's forgiveness, redemption, and atonement, we are called—and responsible—to live in such a way that demonstrates that to others.*

BACKUP

Lewis, C.S. *Mere Christianity*. London: Harper Collins Publishers, 1977.

The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine. London: Salvation Books, 2010.

Waldron, John, ed. *The Salvationist and the Atonement*.
Oakville: The Triumph Press, 1982.

SIN AND REDEMPTION

ISAIAH 59:2

COLOSSIANS 1:19-22

ROMANS 3:23

ROMANS 3:24-26

ROMANS 6:23

1 PETER 1:18-19

JOHN 8:34

ROMANS 6:23

PSALM 69:5

ISAIAH 44:22

PSALM 97:10

TITUS 2:13-14

"For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

COLOSSIANS 1:13-14 (NIV)

SIN AND

REDEMPTION

ANSWER KEY

ISAIAH 59:2

Sin separates us from God.

COLOSSIANS 1:19-22

Redemption reunites us with God, brings peace, and removes blame.

ROMANS 3:23

Everyone is a sinner.

ROMANS 3:24-26

We are justified—made right in God's sight—through redemption.

ROMANS 6:23

Sin brings death.

1 PETER 1:18-19

Our redemption was costly to Christ.

JOHN 8:34

Sin enslaves us.

ROMANS 6:23

Our redemption is free to us.

PSALM 69:5

Our sin is known and seen by God.

ISAIAH 44:22

Redemption removes our sin.

PSALM 97:10

We should hate sin.

TITUS 2:13-14

Redemption purifies us and sets us apart as Christ's.

"For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

COLOSSIANS 1:13-14 (NIV)

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Meghan checks in at her locker after math class. Just down the hall she hears an all-too-familiar laugh. Danielle ... As the anger creeps up on her, all she can think about is what happened yesterday. How could Danielle have taken what should have rightfully been hers? Not wanting to chance running into Danielle, Meghan slams her locker shut and turns to walk in the opposite direction. She freezes, thinking about what her youth group leader said last Friday night. She remembers ...

WHAT SHOULD MEGHAN DO, BASED ON MATTHEW 18:21-35?



MATTHEW 18:21-35

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Hannah and Karla are hanging out at the mall before Bible study. Karla is telling Hannah how things have not been good lately between her mom and her. It seems they have been growing further and further apart since their lives changed so dramatically last June. She gets a text from her mom that simply says "we need 2 talk." Karla rolls her eyes and quickly types a response. Not sure if she should send it, she shows her phone to Hannah ...

WHAT SHOULD HAPPEN NEXT, USING 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-19 AS A GUIDE?



2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-19

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Connor has been having a rough time lately and has been making some really bad decisions that have gotten him into some trouble. He feels like his life is a mess, but knows that his friend Manny seems to have things together, even though Connor gives him a hard time about always going to church. Manny is well aware that Connor's choices are "bad news" and has been thinking of ways he can help. He is secretly sticking a flyer for the upcoming "Soul Fusion" Christian rock event to Connor's locker when he comes around the corner. "Whaddaya think you're doin'?" ...

HOW SHOULD MANNY RESPOND, BASED ON ROMANS 1:16-17?



ROMANS 1:16-17

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

1. This week, take some time to personally reflect on the relationships in your life.

Are any in need of repair?

How can you take steps to demonstrate the ministry of reconciliation?

Whom do you need to forgive?

Whom do you need to seek forgiveness from?

Check in with your Person of Interest and discuss what steps you can take in this area.

2. Make a list of friends and/or family members who have not yet experienced the salvation offered in Jesus Christ. Commit to regularly praying for them and doing what you can to help lead them to Jesus:

REDEMPTION04BATTLE READY

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

1. This week, take some time to personally reflect on the relationships in your life.

Are any in need of repair?

How can you take steps to demonstrate the ministry of reconciliation?

Whom do you need to forgive?

Whom do you need to seek forgiveness from?

Check in with your Person of Interest and discuss what steps you can take in this area.

2. Make a list of friends and/or family members who have not yet experienced the salvation offered in Jesus Christ. Commit to regularly praying for them and doing what you can to help lead them to Jesus:

REDEMPTION04BATTLE READY



INWARD CHANGE

TAKING AIM

The **INWARD CHANGE** Training Unit will help teens understand the process and work of salvation in a believer's life.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Philippians 2:12b-13 1 John 1:5-2:6

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

*"We believe that repentance towards God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation."*²⁴

*"We believe that we are justified by grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; and that He that believeth hath the witness in himself."*²⁵

*"We believe that continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ."*²⁶

²⁴ "Doctrine 7 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi

²⁵ "Doctrine 8 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi

²⁶ "Doctrine 9 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **INWARD CHANGE** Training Unit will better understand that the faith of a believer is demonstrated by their actions and manner of living.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **“3R’s” Diagram Handouts** (enough for each teen in your group)
- **“Walk of Repentance” Signs**
- **Masking Tape** or **Sticky Tack**
- **“Freezing North American Wood Frogs” Video**
(http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fjr3A_kfspM)
- **Strands of Red Yarn** (enough for each teen to receive 5 strands to tie around their fingers)

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** TransMission – “All Things New,” “By Grace,” “Lead Me”; downhere – “The Problem”; Ten Shekel Shirt – “Healer”; tobyMac – “Lose Myself”; Newsboys – “Restart,” “Overflow”

BASIC TRAINING

Begin the **INWARD CHANGE** Training Unit by having teens share brief reports of how they lived out the experience of the gospel during the past week, or by having them share the names of those they have committed to pray for and share the gospel with.

Open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the work He is doing in the lives of your teens, asking Him to continue making them more like Jesus; pray for those identified by your teens as in need of salvation, and that God would use your teens to point them towards Christ.

RECAP

Begin by saying something like: *We've been exploring the CHRIST-centred Story we live in as Christians—rooted in Scripture, our CANON, revealing the HOLY GOD we worship. In our last BATTLE READY Training Unit we dug further into the gospel story and learned that “at-one-ment” with God was made possible by the REDEMPTION bought by Jesus' suffering and death. But that's not the end of the story we find ourselves in. Not only did Jesus die for us, He also rose from the dead to give us hope and new life. In this Training Unit we are going to better understand the INWARD CHANGE that happens as a result of the process and work of salvation in the life of a believer—that is, how God's work and our will come together in salvation, and the results it has in the way we live our lives.*

Read the three Salvation Army Doctrines that this Training Unit is based on (Doctrines 7, 8, and 9) to your teens.

Say something like: *There are a number of words and concepts in these Doctrines that really lay a foundation for how we will later understand how we are to live in the story we find ourselves. So we are going to use a symbol you are already familiar with to help illustrate the INWARD CHANGE that these Doctrines point to in our lives as believers and followers of Christ ... and as SALVATION SOLDIERS.*

ENGAGE: “3R's” Diagram Handouts

Distribute copies of the “3R's” Diagram Handout to each of your teens. As a group, discuss the 3R's: Repentance, Regeneration, and Renewal. Have students look up the passages of Scripture indicated when they are instructed to do so throughout other elements of the lesson. Have students fill in and label the diagram at the appropriate time during the lesson.

1. **Repentance** – 2 Corinthians 7:9-11; 2 Chronicles 7:14

2. **Regeneration** – Colossians 2:13; John 3:3-6

We believe that repentance towards God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation.

–Doctrine 7 of The Salvation Army

3. **Renewal** – Luke 9:23; Romans 12:1-2

ENGAGE: “Walk of Repentance” (5-10 minutes)

Prior to your Training Unit meeting, print the “Walk of Repentance” Signs found at the end of this Training Unit and stick them up around the room.

Explain: *Our lives can be filled with many things—some good, some bad, some sort of neutral. But if we allow those things to take first place in our lives, they can become sin to us—something that keeps us from putting God first, and following His will for our lives. The Bible calls this idolatry. And that is why God’s Word teaches that we need to Repent (the first of our “3R’s”).* As you explain this, demonstrate by walking towards one of the Signs hung around your meeting space (not towards the sign labelled “Jesus”). Have students look up the Scripture passages indicated on the “3R’s” Diagram Handout connected with “Repentance.”

Explain: *The word “Repent” means “to change one’s mind and actions regarding something,” “to make a change of direction.” Often when we talk about repentance we talk about making a 180 degree turn and walking in the opposite direction from the one we started in. Turn 180-degrees and begin walking toward the opposite side of the room, towards a different sign—not the sign labelled “Jesus.”*

Say something like: *But as you can see, when we simply view repentance as making a 180-degree turn, we might turn from one sin and something else may take its place. That new thing might be better than the old thing, but it might not be the best*

direction: towards God. Continue to demonstrate by walking toward a particular sign, making a 180-degree turn and walking toward a new sign.

Explain: *We believe Christian repentance is different in two ways: The first is that it is “repentance towards God.”*²⁷

Demonstrate by walking towards any given sign in the room (preferably one that indicates a sinful habit or action), then turn from it towards the sign labelled “Jesus” and begin walking toward it. Say: *The second way that Christian repentance is unique is that it is rooted in faith in Jesus, and the atoning work brought about by redemption through His suffering and death, as we learned in our last time together. It is by faith in Jesus that we are made right with God and experience salvation.*

Say something like: *So let’s look again at the Doctrines we are learning about today: “We believe that repentance towards God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation.”*²⁸ *So what is this “regeneration” the Doctrine refers to?*

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: “Freezing North American Wood Frogs” (5-10 minutes)

(http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fjr3A_kfspM)

Say something like: *There is an example in nature that probably shows most closely what the spiritual reality of regeneration is.*

Take a look: Show the YouTube video, “Freezing North

²⁷ “Doctrine 7 of The Salvation Army,” *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi

²⁸ “Doctrine 7 of The Salvation Army,” *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi

American Wood Frogs.” Have students look up the Scripture passages indicated on the “3R’s” Diagram Handout connected with “Regeneration.” Say something like: *The Bible teaches that before coming to God through faith in Jesus we are “dead in our sins.” It is a work of grace (God’s work that we can’t earn or accomplish on our own) that brings our spirit alive, giving us the desire and ability to turn to God in faith, and to live out our experience of salvation.* Refer to The Salvation Army’s eighth Doctrine: “We believe that we are justified by grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; and that he that believeth hath the witness in himself,” saying something like: *This means that God’s Spirit, alive in us, bringing us salvation, is evident by the change that takes place in our lives, and gives us confidence that we have indeed received salvation.*

Discuss: *What change has God’s salvation made in your life?* (Remember to encourage those who may not have had a seemingly drastic change of life—they may have grown up in church and always considered themselves “Christian”—to recognize the reality illustrated by the signs posted around the room that simply pursuing good things in life is not the same as putting God first in everything. Also, if they have “always” believed that God was first in their lives, they can be reminded of God’s staying and keeping power, making them more like Him and growing in their relationship with him.)

As you refer to the “3R’s” Diagram Handout, say something like: *The third “R” we need to know as we begin to understand God’s work of salvation in our lives is “Renewal.” Our ninth Doctrine in The Salvation Army states, “We believe that continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ.”* Have students look up and read the passages of Scripture indicated on the “Renewal” portion of the “3R’s” Diagram Handout. Explain: *When we come to God through faith, the Bible teaches that we are new creations; we have a new identity. God no longer views us as sinners, but as saints. And He works within us so that we want to and are able, by His help, to live as we should: demonstrating the INWARD CHANGE that has taken place in our lives.*

BUT ... we still have free will, and there will be times when we still sin. Each day is a commitment to turn towards God, turn away from what is ungodly, and allow Him to keep changing us, making us more and more like him. In that way we "have the witness in ourselves"²⁹ and "continue in a state of salvation," evidenced by our "continued obedient faith in Christ."³⁰

DROP ZONE

ENGAGE: "Red Yarn Finger Prayers" (10 minutes)

Cut strands of **Red Yarn**—enough for each teen to have five strands to tie around their fingers as "reminders" as your group prays. Spend time giving your teens 5 areas of focus for their **DROP ZONE** prayer time. As they pray with each focus, have them tie one Red Yarn strand onto one of their fingers, until at the conclusion of the **DROP ZONE**, one of their hands has 5 "reminders", one tied to each finger.

Focus 1: Think about and pray for an area of your life you need to turn away from and turn towards God.

Focus 2: Thank God for His gift of salvation found in Jesus Christ, and ask Him to continue to increase your faith and confidence in him.

Focus 3: Thank God for bringing your spirit to life through regeneration by His Holy Spirit.

²⁹ "Doctrine 8 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi

³⁰ "Doctrine 9 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi

Focus 4: Pray that your life as a new creation in Christ would be seen by those you come in contact with.

Focus 5: Pray that you would not get lazy in your faith, that you wouldn't just take your salvation for granted, but that you would daily renew your commitment to have obedient faith. Ask God to show you areas where you need to become more obedient.

Close your group's **DROP ZONE** prayer by pointing out the circular nature of the "3R's" Diagram Handout—that as they come to a point of Renewal, they Repent towards God, and God Regenerates that area of their spirit, bringing them even more alive to His work in their lives.

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **INWARD CHANGE DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

Explain that this week's challenge asks them to journal how they see the **INWARD CHANGE** of God's salvation shown in their lives, as they read and consider 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 and Galatians 5:16-25. Encourage them to continue their Scripture Reading Plan and to make contact with their **PERSON OF INTEREST**, sharing their growth in understanding God's work of salvation in the world and in their lives.

Inform your teens that they will need to bring an item that means something special to them to the next **BATTLE READY** meeting. This item could be something from their childhood, an heirloom passed down to them, or something that they value highly. Let them know that the item does not need to have "spiritual significance" but simply needs to be something they personally value. If possible, give your teens another reminder about bringing this item sometime during the week as your next meeting gets closer.

BACKUP

From Mercy Seat to Spiritual Maturity. Toronto: Territorial Headquarters, 1978.

Hedgren, Steve, and Rob Lyle, eds. *Mapping Our Salvationist DNA: Beliefs, Values, Behaviors.* West Nyack: The Salvation Army, 2012.

The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine. London: Salvation Books, 2010.

3R'S

1. R

2 CORINTHIANS 7:9-11, 2 CHRONICLES 7:14

2. R

COLOSSIANS 2:13; JOHN 3:3-6

3. R

LUKE 9:23; ROMANS 12:1-2

3R'S ANSWER KEY

1. REPENTANCE

2 CORINTHIANS 7:9-11, 2 CHRONICLES 7:14

2. REGENERATION

COLOSSIANS 2:13; JOHN 3:3-6

3. RENEWAL

LUKE 9:23; ROMANS 12:1-2

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05 - INWARD CHANGE

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JESUS



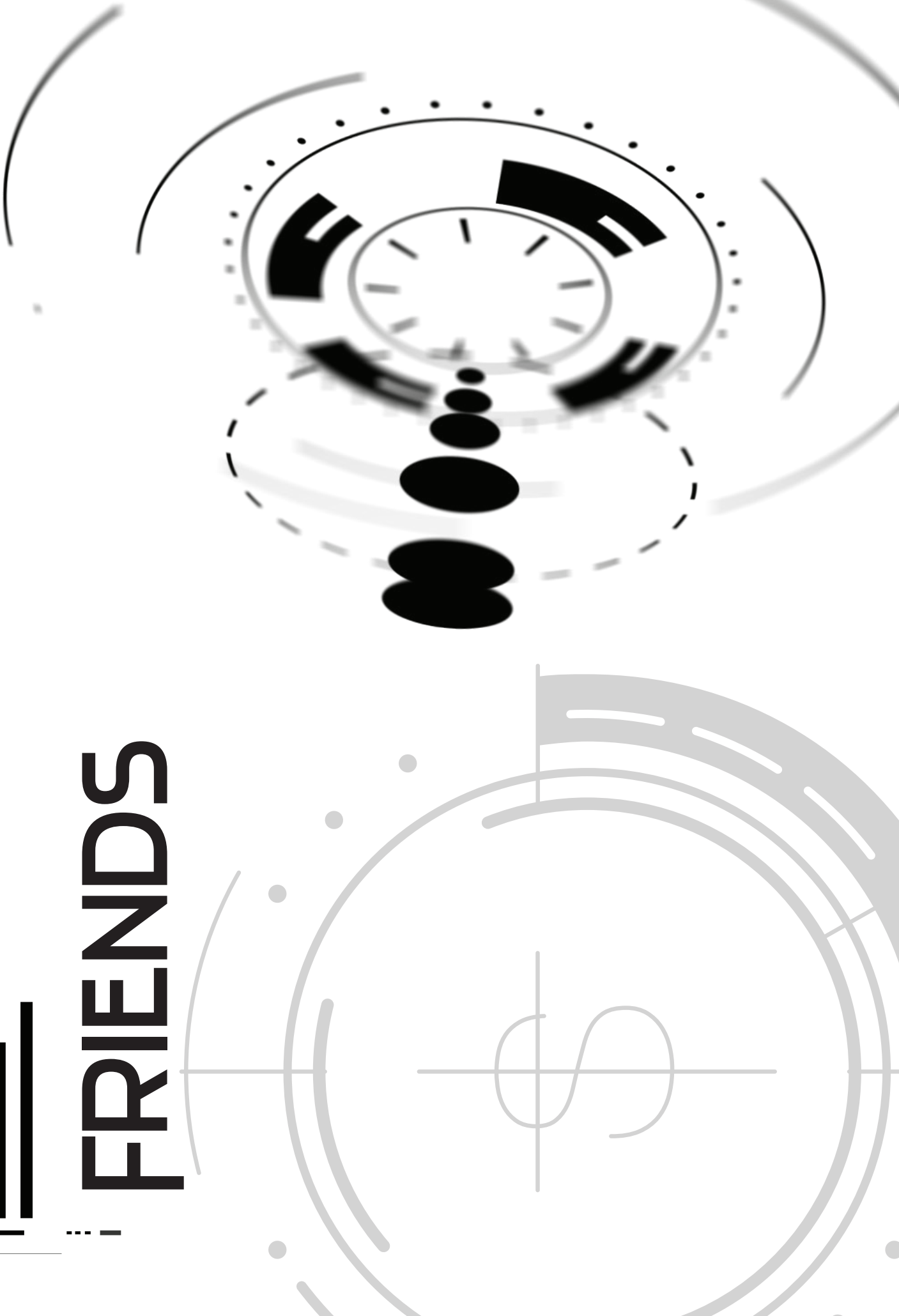
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05 - INWARD CHANGE

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FRIENDS



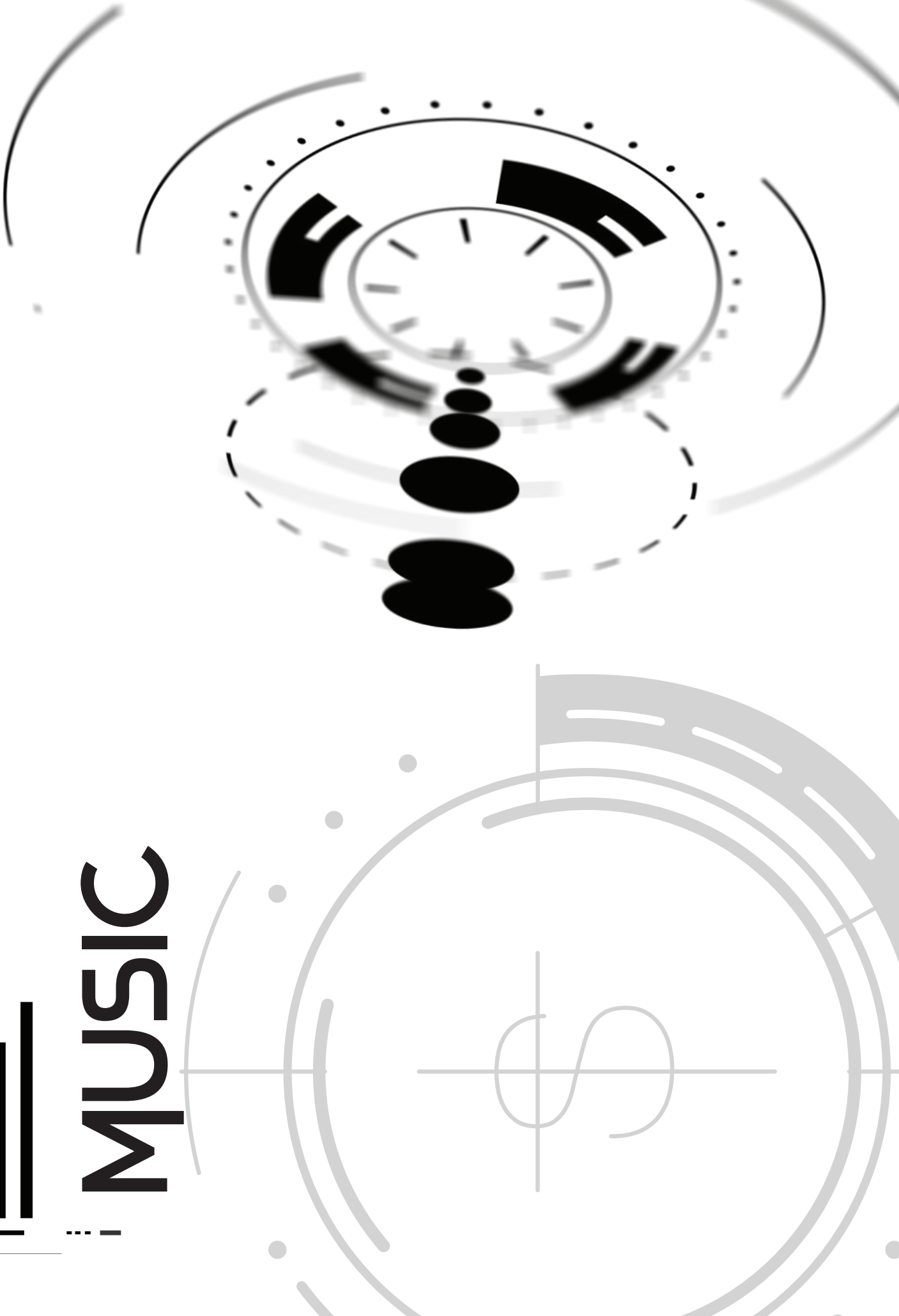
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MUSIC



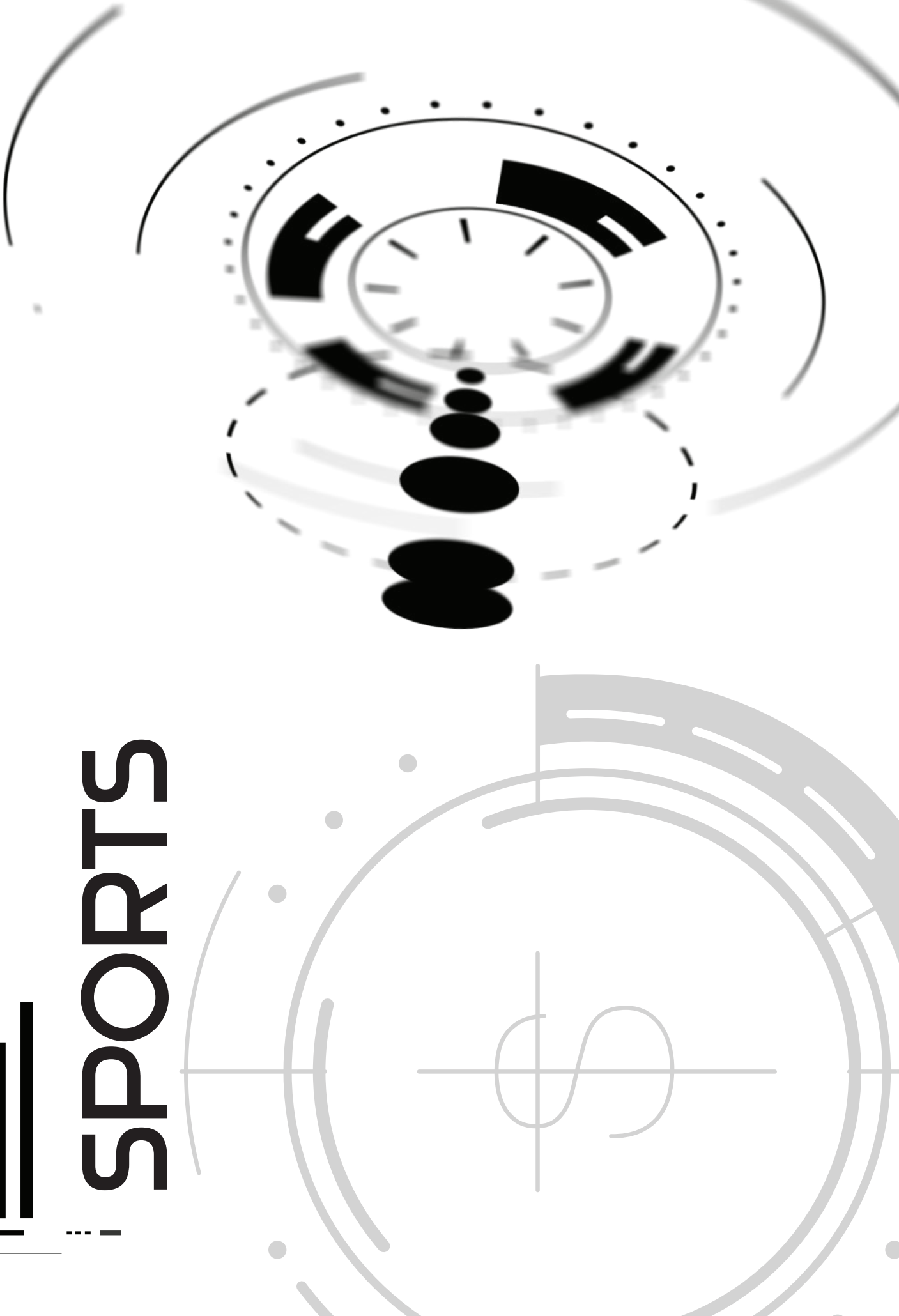
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SPORTS



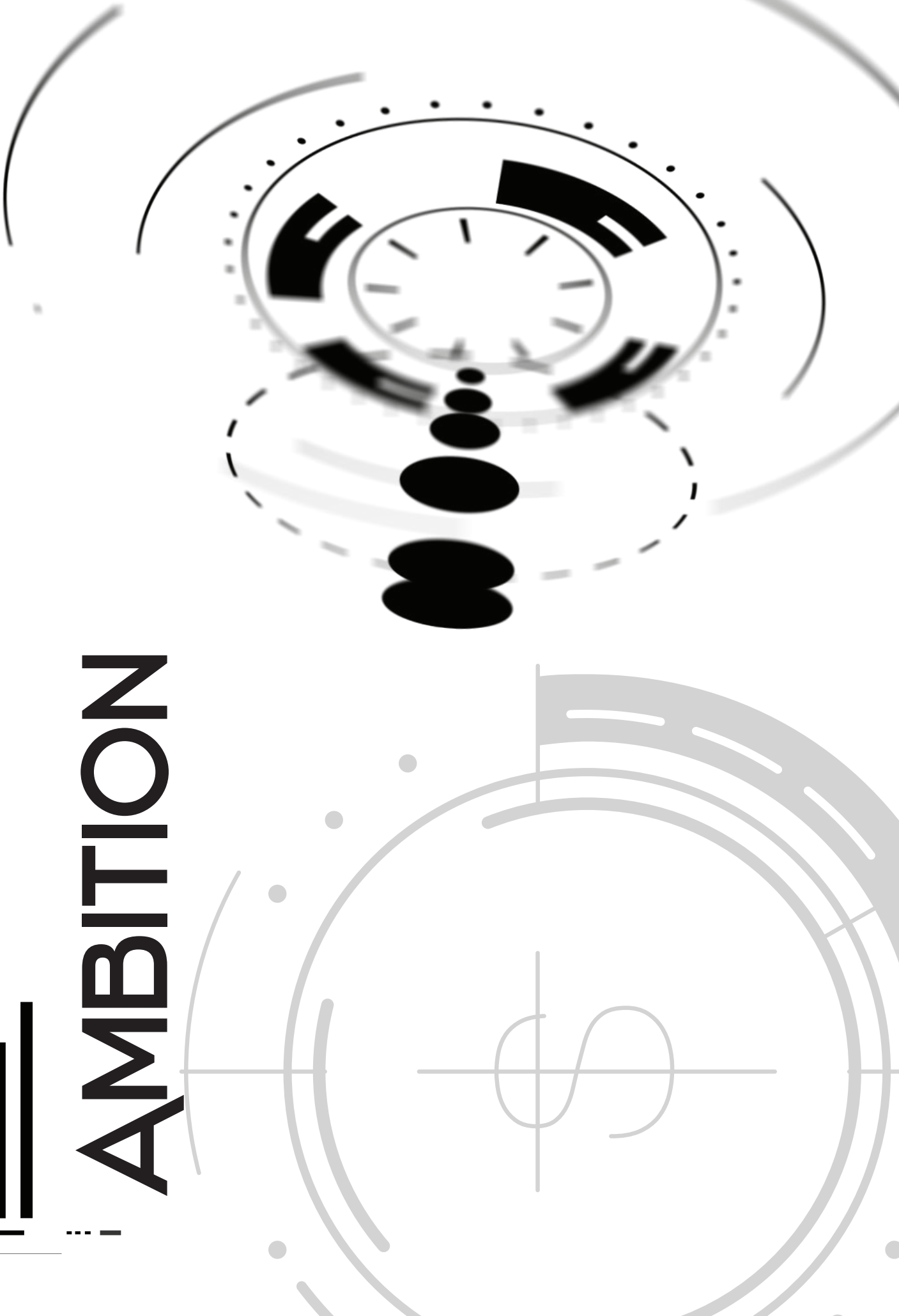
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AMBITION



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JEALOUSY



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DRUGS



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VIOLENCE



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SOCIAL MEDIA



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VIDEO GAMES



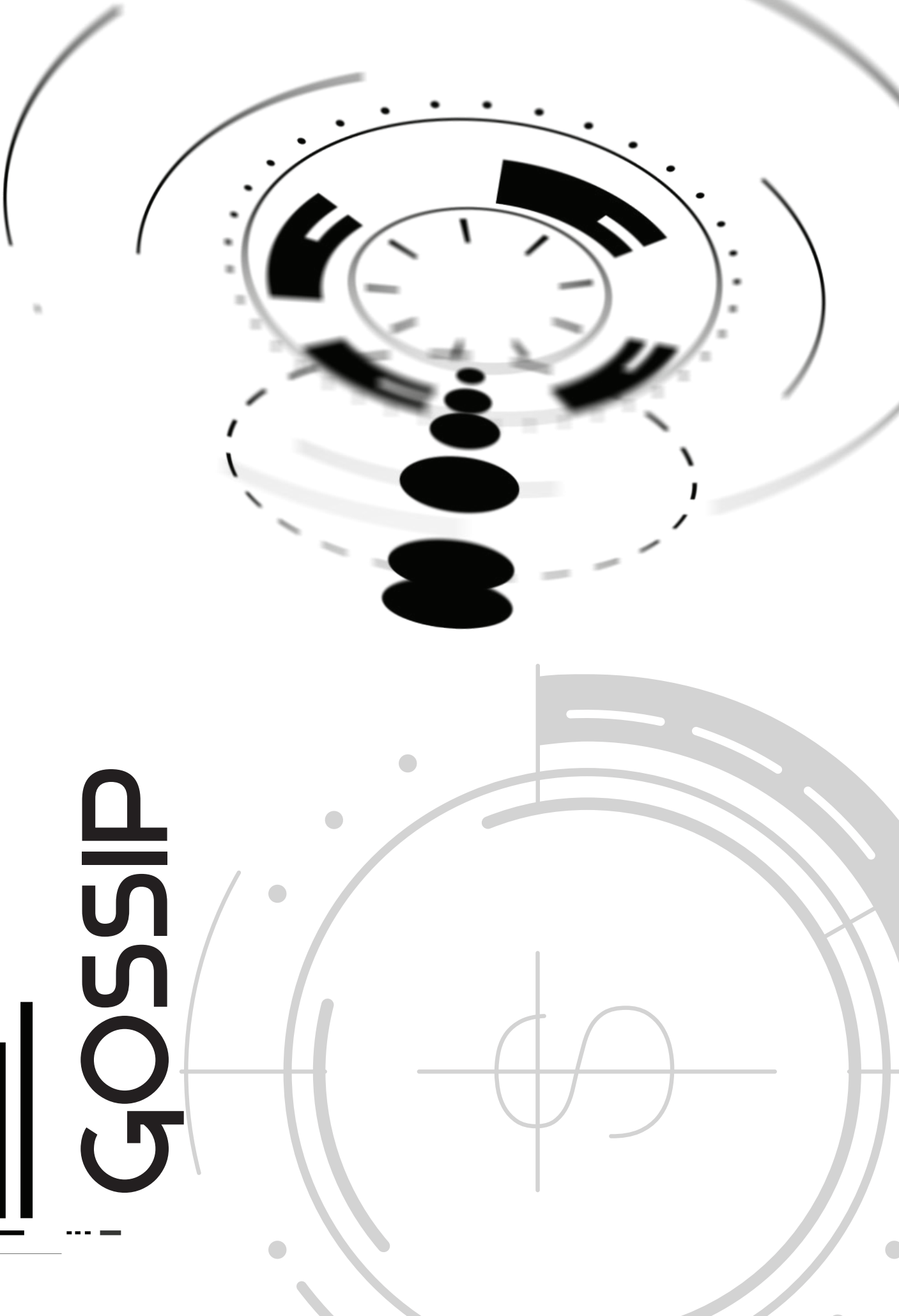
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GOSSIP



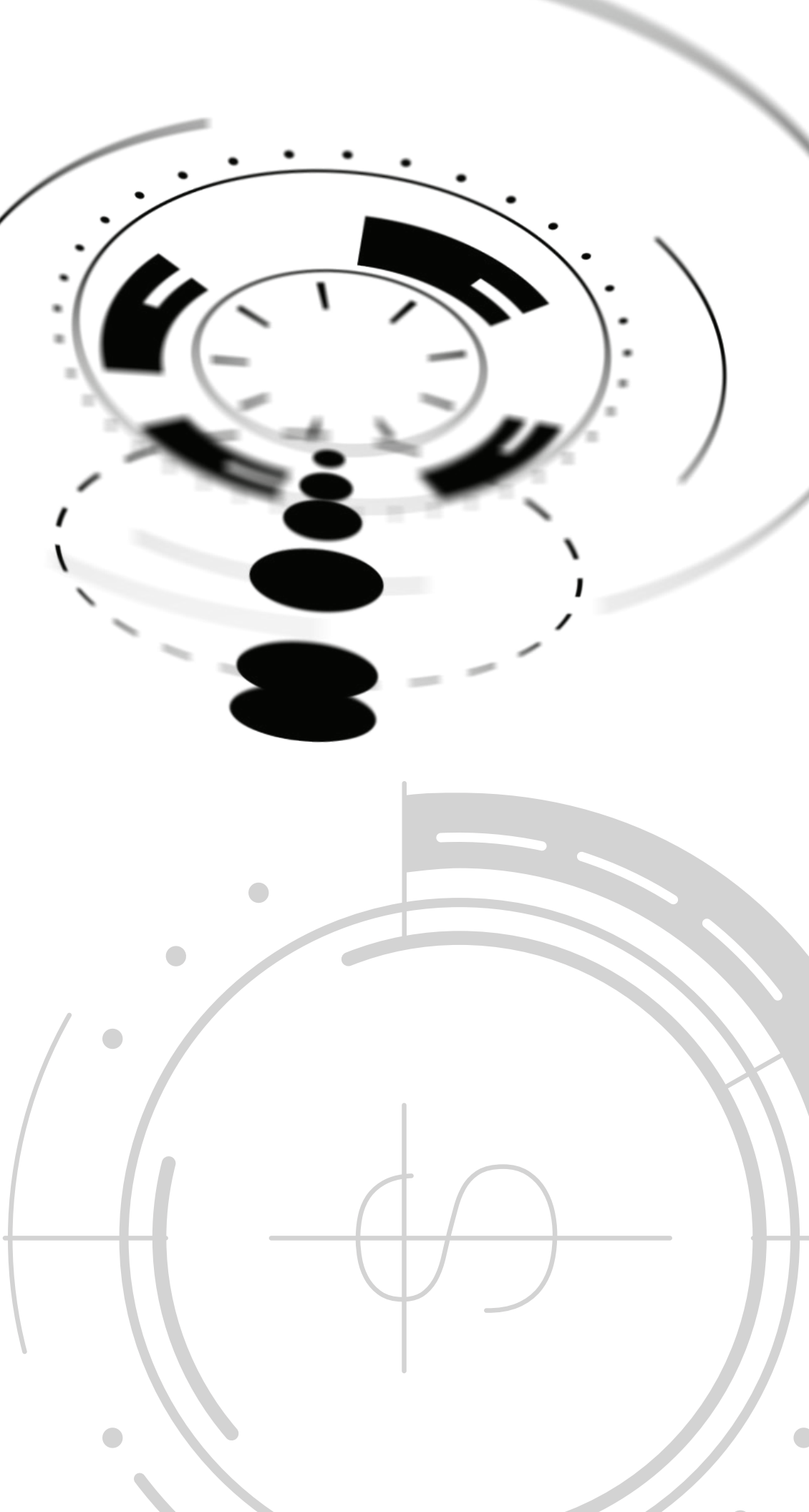
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COMPARISON



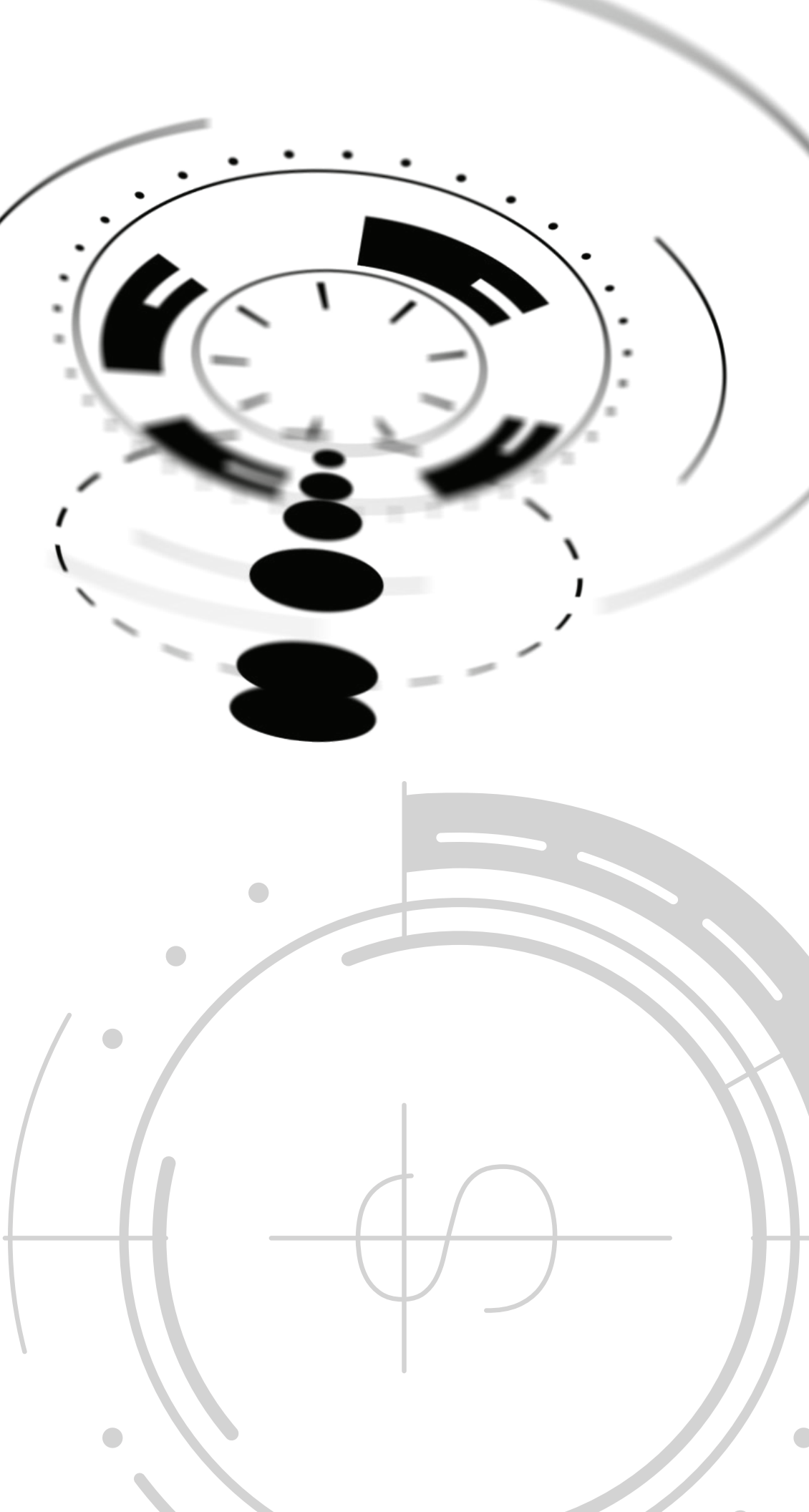
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UNHEALTHY HABITS



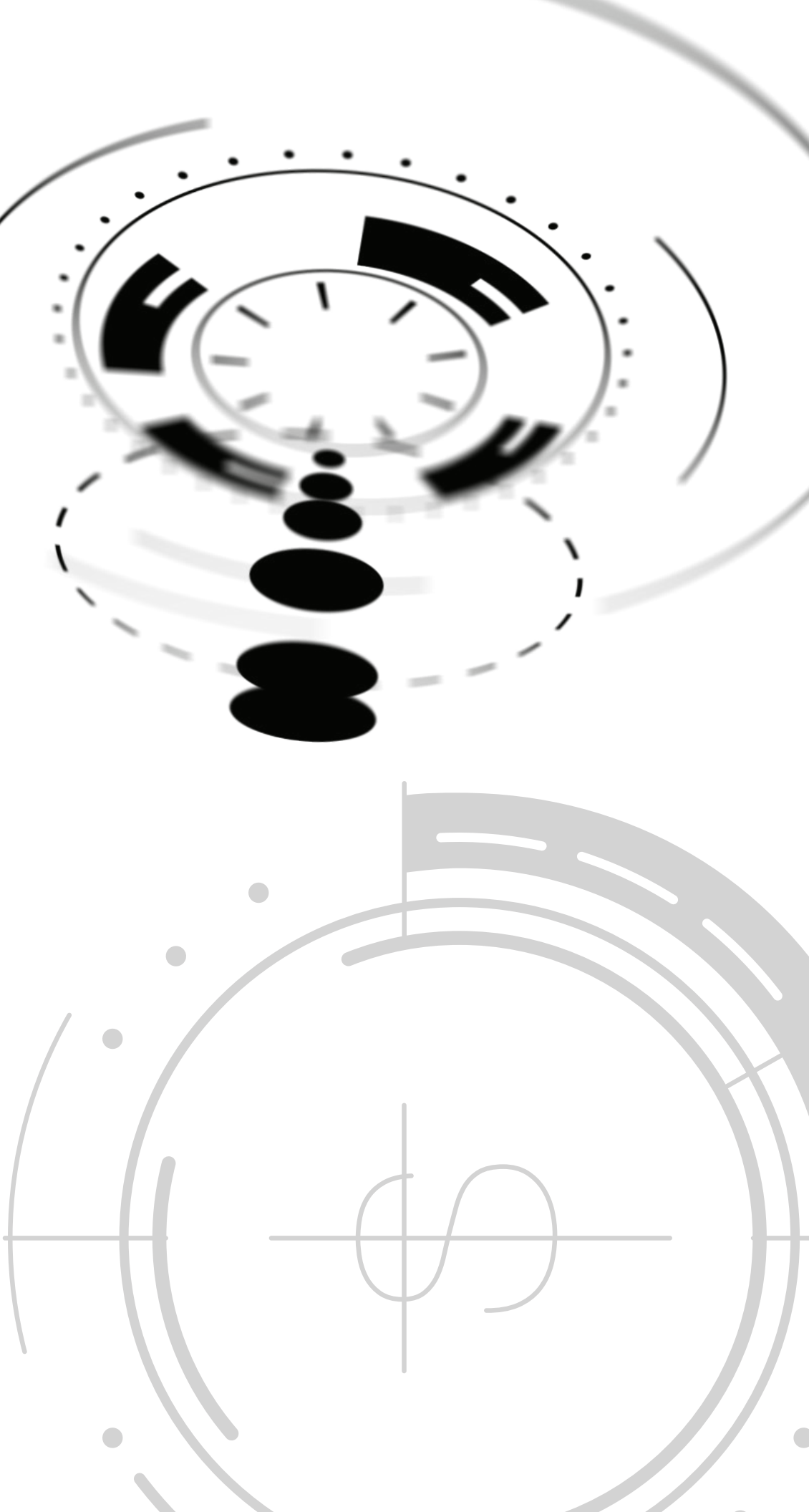
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DISHONESTY



DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

As you continue the Reading Plan from the **CANON** Training Unit, also read the following passages of Scripture each day, journaling how you see the **INWARD CHANGE** of God's salvation shown in your life.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7 (NLT)

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

GALATIANS 16-25 (NLT)

So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses. When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.

INWARD CHANGE **05** BATTLE READY

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

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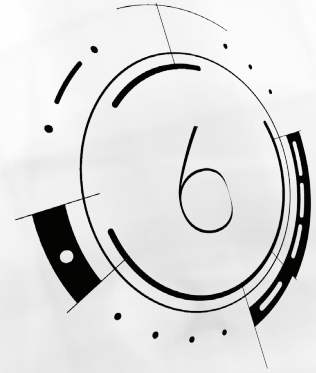
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INWARD CHANGE **05** BATTLE READY



SET APART

TAKING AIM

The **SET APART** Training Unit will allow teens to understand and recognize the privilege of living a holy life, which is made possible through Jesus' work in and through their lives by the Holy Spirit.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Leviticus 19:2

Matthew 5:48

Mark 1:35-39

Philippians 2:12-16

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

2 Timothy 2:20-21

Hebrews 4:14-15, 12:1-3

James 1:27

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

"We believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be wholly sanctified, and that their whole spirit and soul and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."³¹

³¹ "Doctrine 10 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi (based on 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **SET APART** Training Unit will gain an understanding that being “set apart” for holy purposes draws them closer to God and to others through making them more like Jesus.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **Plastic Cups**
- **Multicoloured Candies** (e.g., M&M’s, etc.; enough for game and for prizes)
- **“Holy Set Apart Batman!” Handout** (enough copies for teens to work in pairs)
- **“Life Cycle of Salmon (Discovery Channel)” YouTube Video** (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DqjsWsY8-g>)
- **Red Yarn**
- **“Set Apart From” and “Set Apart For” Signs**

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** TransMission – “Live Right”; By the Tree – “Hold You High”; downhere – “Something Heavenly,” “Reveal the Kingdom”

BASIC TRAINING

RECAP

Begin the **SET APART** Training Unit by saying something like: *So far, as we’ve been looking at the CHRIST-centred Story we live in as Christians, we’ve seen that this is our CANON—the Story that shapes what we believe and how we live out that belief; above all, it is the Story of our HOLY GOD. We have seen our need of REDEMPTION and how it is made available to us through Jesus Christ. We also saw, last week, the kind of INWARD CHANGE that takes place*

in a believer's life as they live a life of "continued obedient faith." The Salvation Army proclaims "full salvation": freedom from sin, and freedom in Christ, being made more and more like him. This week we are going to examine how our lives are **SET APART** to live that "full salvation." But before we dig in to God's Word, we're going to get thinking about things being **SET APART** by playing a game we've called "Set 'm Apart":

ENGAGE: "Set 'm Apart" Game (5 minutes)

Clear an open space in your meeting room. At one end of the room set up 4 **Plastic Cups** (or the same number of cups as there are teens in your group, if you want to involve everyone) filled with **Multicoloured Candies** (e.g., M&M's, etc.). Make sure there are the same number of candies (there should be at least 20) in each plastic cup. Assign one Plastic Cup of candy to each teen who will be playing. Place empty Plastic Cups (the same number of cups as there are colours of candy) around the room, far from the cups holding the candies. Label each empty cup with a candy colour.

On your "Go!" have teens run from their chairs to their assigned Plastic Cup of candy. Taking only one candy at a time, teens must pick a candy from their assigned cup and run to the empty cup labelled with the colour of that particular candy, and drop it in. They then return to their cup of candy and do the same for the next candy drawn. This continues until the first teen completely empties their cup of candy (one at a time), dropping each candy into the correctly labelled cups.

Consider having an extra package of candy for the winner. (Or have enough packages for all players, and have a larger package for the winner.)

Once teens have returned to their seats, open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the work He is doing in the lives of your teens, asking Him to continue making them more like Jesus; pray for those identified by your teens as in need of salvation, and that God would use your teens to point them towards Christ.)

Continue by having teens share brief reports of how they are seeing God work in their lives or how they are growing in knowledge and in their relationship with God as they take part in the **BATTLE READY** Bible Study and complete their **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGES**.

Have teens look up and read 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24.

Say something like: *The Salvation Army's tenth Doctrine is based on the passage of Scripture we just read. It says, "We believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be wholly sanctified, and that their whole spirit and soul and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."³² This is often referred to as our Doctrine of holiness.*

ENGAGE: "Holy Set Apart Batman!" Handout

(10-15 minutes)

Explain that "holiness" means "set apart." The Bible has a lot to say about holiness. Have your teens work in pairs on the "Holy Set Apart Batman!" Handout, looking up the passages of Scripture and matching them to the description or instruction about holiness.

Note: Various translations are used in the answer key below. Another option may be to read the verses as indicated below, and have your group work through the exercise together. Or, if youth are working on the Handout in pairs, as indicated,

³² "Doctrine 10 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi

let them know that they can ask you to read the translation provided here as a help.

After giving them enough time to complete the Handout, discuss the answers together as a group:

ANSWERS:

1 Peter 1:14-15 – *“As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do.”*³³

Holiness means not slipping back into the things that controlled you before you knew any better.

Colossians 1:27 – *“To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”*³⁴

Your personal holiness enables others to see God in you.

1 Thessalonians 4:7 – *“For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.”*³⁵

Impurity is the opposite of holiness; to be holy is to be pure.

Leviticus 20:7-8 – *“Set yourselves apart for a holy life. Live a holy life, because I am God, your God. Do what I tell you; live the way I tell you. I am the God who makes you holy.”*³⁶

It is God who makes us holy.

Ephesians 1:4 – *“For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight.”*³⁷

It has always been God’s plan that we would be holy people.

Being “set apart” for God’s holy purposes draws us closer to God and to others as we become more like Jesus.

³³ *The NIV Study Bible.*

³⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁶ *The Message / Remix.* Carol Stream: NavPress, 2011.

³⁷ *The NIV Study Bible.*

1 Thessalonians 4:4 – *“Each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honourable.”*³⁸

Self-control over our bodies is part of holiness.

2 Timothy 1:9 – *“He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of His own purpose and grace.”*³⁹

God calls us to holiness.

Hebrews 12:10 – *“They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in His holiness.”*⁴⁰

God’s discipline helps us be holy.

Romans 12:1 – *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.”*⁴¹

Holiness requires obedience.

Leviticus 20:7 – *“Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy; for I am the Lord your God.”*⁴²

Holiness requires consecration.

1 Thessalonians 3:13 – *“May He strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all His holy ones.”*⁴³

It takes God’s strength at work in our lives for us to be holy.

Say something like: **God wants us to be holy because He is holy, and we were created in His image. We are to be like him. And He makes it possible for**

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ Ibid.

believers to be holy by His Spirit working in our lives. But holiness means being SET APART. ... Set apart from what? And why?

ENGAGE: “TBT (Throw Back Training): Show & Tell”

(10-15 minutes, or as time allows)

Your teens were told at the end of the **INWARD CHANGE** Training Unit (and were reminded sometime during the week) to bring an item with them this week that had special value or meaning to them. (Hopefully they remembered!) Have teens do a “Throw Back” to their elementary school days—lead them in a mini “Show & Tell”: Have each teen show their item, telling what it is and why it has special significance to them.

Once all teens have had a chance to share, say something like: *You’ve each brought and shared an item that has significant value to you. How do you give it special treatment (or treat it differently from other items that hold less value or meaning)?* (Maybe it is kept in a safe spot; it is not shared; it is only used or worn on special occasions, etc.) Throughout the discussion, draw attention to whether teens are keeping their item from misuse, or keeping and using it for a special purpose.

Explain: *Being “set apart” in holiness is kind of similar to the way some of you treat your special item. Holiness is more than being a “church kid” and attending church on Sundays and coming to Bible study or Corps Cadets during the week. Holiness is God’s desire for how we, as believers, should live out our lives—everywhere. It is like a two-sided coin: it is being set apart from certain things, and being set apart for God’s special purpose.*

Have students look up and read James 1:27. Ask: *What does this verse of Scripture teach about holiness? What does it say about being “set apart”? What are some things we should be set apart from as Christians?*

Being “set apart” is not an easy task, because it often requires dying to one’s self.

Have teens look up and read 2 Timothy 2:20-21. Ask: *What does this verse of Scripture teach about holiness? What does it say about being “set apart”? For what purposes are we set apart as Christians?*

Explain that sometimes being “set apart” is not an easy task. Sometimes it might feel like it would be easier if we simply decided to “blend in” with the crowd and not “go against the current.”

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: “Life Cycle of Salmon (Discovery Channel)” (5-10 minutes)

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DqjsWsY8-g>)

Say something like: *In a minute we’re going to watch a short YouTube video that demonstrates how going against the current might be the very thing that God uses to bring new life. He does it in nature with salmon. And He did it through the life of Jesus.* Read Mark 1:35-39 and Hebrews 4:14-15. Watch the “Life Cycle of Salmon (Discovery Channel)” YouTube video.

Say something like: *Jesus knew what He was set apart for, and what He was set apart from. As Christians, we follow His example. When we draw closer to Him our heart is made more like his—more loving and compassionate—and others are drawn closer to God through us as they see in our lives the same things that drew people to Jesus. But it wasn’t an easy road for Jesus, and we shouldn’t expect it will be an easy road for us.* Read Hebrews 12:1-4. Ask: *What is scary about being “set apart”? What is exciting about it?*

DROP ZONE

ENGAGE: "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" (5 minutes)

Cut one long strand of **Red Yarn** and tape it in a straight line down the middle of the floor of your meeting space. Place the **"Set Apart From" Sign** on one side of the line on the floor, and the **"Set Apart For" Sign** on the other side of the line. Encourage your teens to say short (sentence) prayers as they step to one side or the other of the line: When they stand on the "Set Apart From" side of the line, have them pray about areas of their life or things in their culture they would ask God to give them strength to be "set apart from." When they stand on the "Set Apart For" side of the line, have them pray about those areas of life and purposes for which they seek strength and courage to be "set apart for."

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **SET APART DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

Explain that this week's **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** encourages your teens to be intentional about being set apart, by looking for and identifying ways they consciously choose to be "set apart from" and "set apart for" throughout their week. Teens are encouraged to keep a written record each day of their "set apart" choices and to connect with their **PERSON OF INTEREST** and share the challenges and opportunities the experience has given them.

BACKUP

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Waldron, John, ed. *The Privilege of All Believers*. Oakville: The Triumph Press, 1981.

“HOLY SET APART BATMAN!”

batman. n. a personal servant in any of the armed forces, particularly British

1 PETER 1:14-15

God calls us to holiness.

COLOSSIANS 1:27

Self-control over our bodies is part of holiness.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:7

It takes God's strength at work in our lives for us to be holy.

LEVITICUS 20:7-8

Holiness means not slipping back into the things that controlled you before you knew any better.

EPHESIANS 1:4

God's discipline helps us be holy.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:4

Holiness requires consecration.

2 TIMOTHY 1:9

It is God who makes us holy.

HEBREWS 12:10

Impurity is the opposite of holiness; to be holy is to be pure.

ROMANS 12:1

It has always been God's plan that we would be holy people.

LEVITICUS 20:7

Holiness requires obedience.

1 THESSALONIANS 3:13

Your personal holiness enables others to see God in you.

BATTLE_READY_006
06 - SET APART

5004452
5004452

SET APART FROM ...



BATTLE_READY_006

06 - SET APART

50004529

50004528

SET APART FOR ...



DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

This week, look for and identify ways you consciously choose to be “set apart from” and “set apart for.” Keep a daily record of your “set apart” choices, and connect with your Person of Interest to discuss the challenges and opportunities these choices present. Remember, *holiness* is the combination of God’s work of *sanctification* in you, and your action of *consecration*, setting you apart from what is sinful and setting you apart for God’s will and purpose.

SET APART FROM ...

SET APART FOR ...

SET APART **06** BATTLE READY



DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

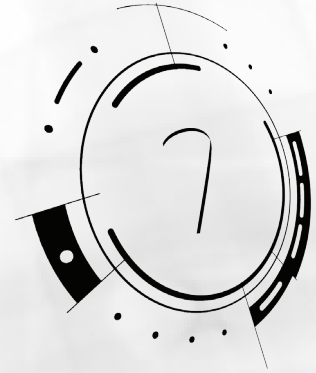
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SET APART FROM ...

SET APART FOR ...

SET APART **06** BATTLE READY





TRIUMPH

TAKING AIM

The **TRIUMPH** Training Unit will help teens be instilled with confidence of faith in the ultimate accomplishment of God's redemptive plan in the world through Jesus Christ. It will emphasize the importance of living in a way that points others to him.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Matthew 1:1-16; 24:36-44

Luke 2:1-4

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

Revelation 21:1-8; 22:12-20

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

*"We believe in the immortality of the soul; in the resurrection of the body; in the general judgement at the end of the world; in the eternal happiness of the righteous; and in the eternal punishment of the wicked."*⁴⁴

⁴⁴ "Doctrine 11 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **TRIUMPH** Training Unit will be aided in developing a faith that is anchored in a lasting hope in Jesus Christ.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **Poster Board** or **Mural Paper**
- **Markers**
- **Masking Tape** or **Sticky Tack**
- **“Arthur Christmas” Movie** or **“Amistad” Movie** (video clips available from WingClips.com)
- **Red Yarn**
- **CANON Ball of Yarn Cutouts with Descriptions**
- **Alpha & Omega Signs**

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** TransMission – “Love Wins”; Chris Rice – “The Final Move”; Chris Tomlin – “God’s Great Dance Floor”; downhere – “My Last Amen”; Newsboys – “Revelation Song”; Crystal Lewis – “Salvation Belongs to Our God”; Third Day – “Agnus Dei”

BASIC TRAINING

Begin the **TRIUMPH** Training Unit by having teens share how they observed themselves as “set apart” during the past week.

Open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the work He is doing in the lives of your teens, asking Him to continue making them more like Jesus; pray that they would be confident in their faith and would realize the importance of gaining an eternal perspective in life.)

ENGAGE: "The End of the World as We Know It"

(5-10 minutes)

Have your teens share ways they have seen "the end of the world" portrayed in popular culture. Say something like: *The future and apocalyptic drama are popular themes in today's entertainment. In what ways have you seen the future—and the end of the world—portrayed in movies and on tv?* (2012, zombie apocalypse, dystopian future representations) *What else have you heard, seen, or read about "the end of the world as we know it"?* (prophecies, astrologists, global warming, nuclear threat, Nostradamus, etc.) Discuss popular beliefs and possible scenarios in real life (news) where people's views of the end of the world have affected their behaviour. (think 2012, end of the world cults, Y2K, etc.) Note that many of these examples are likely not very hopeful portrayals of the end of the world. Consider writing the examples shared on **Poster Board** or **Mural Paper**.

Ask: *Should a person's belief about the future and the "end of time" affect how they live today?* You may receive mixed answers on this, especially if the discussion has centred around the more extreme and seemingly ridiculous beliefs and portrayals. Say something like: *As Christians we believe that the end of history should affect how we live today—not in fanatical, frantic, or fearful ways, but we need to understand that the end of history as we know it is part of the Story we find ourselves in: the Story of Jesus. The end of the Story in Jesus should give us hope and confidence as believers.*

Ask: *What are some things you hope for? What have you heard people express hope for? Finish the sentence: "I hope ..."*

Hope is much deeper
than wishful thinking. It
is anchored in something
real and true.

Use one of the following Video Illustrations to introduce a discussion on the difference between wishful thinking and hope:

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: "Is Santa Real?" (5 minutes)

Arthur Christmas (<http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/arthur-christmas/is-santa-real>)

Show the above clip from *Arthur Christmas*, then say something like: *At Christmas, you will often hear children saying something like, "I hope I've been good enough all year ..."; "I hope Santa brings me ...". And they really do want Santa to be real and to make a visit to their house on Christmas Eve. But what is that "hope" based on? I hate to burst anyone's bubble who is still hanging on, but the "hope" that Santa is real is really just "wishful thinking." It is not anchored to anything that is absolutely secure. Ask: How is the wishful thinking about Santa different from the hope we have in Jesus?*

or

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: "Jesus Illustrated Story"

(5 minutes)

Amistad (<http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/amistad/jesus-illustrated-story>)

Show the above clip from *Amistad*. Set the clip up by explaining that the two slaves awaiting their fate find an old Bible. However, neither of them can read. But looking at the illustrations of the story of Jesus contained in the Bible, they find a confidence in their ultimate fate. After watching the video

ask: *What gave the men confidence, even though they couldn't read? How does the story of Jesus end?*

Say something like: *As Christians we believe that even Jesus' ascension into heaven after rising from the dead is not the end of the Story. We believe that He will someday return to earth and that He will rule in righteousness, setting all things right: redeeming and re-creating the world as it is intended to be. But the ending of the story also has significant consequences: The Salvation Army's eleventh and final Doctrine states that "we believe in the immortality of the soul"⁴⁵ (that means that our soul—the essence of who we are—will last forever), that we believe "in the resurrection of the body"⁴⁶ (that death is not the end; that our soul will be given a new body that will not decay—like Jesus' resurrected body), and that we believe "in the general judgement at the end of the world; in the eternal happiness of the righteous; and in the eternal punishment of the wicked."⁴⁷*

Explain the difference between "wishful thinking" and real "hope": Hope is anchored in something real and true, whereas wishful thinking is simply a desire that something might actually turn out to be real or true.

ENGAGE: "An Anchored Story, An Anchored Hope"

(15-20 minutes)

Prior to your meeting also stick **Alpha & Omega Signs** to objects that are secure and that the Red Yarn Timeline can be tied onto, such as a chair or table leg (but don't attach the yarn to it yet!).

Using the **Red Yarn** and **CANON Ball of Yarn Cutouts** (these are the same as those used in the **CANON** Training Unit, but now

⁴⁵ "Doctrine 11 of The Salvation Army," *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xvi

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

include the descriptions as well as Scripture references), lay the yarn on the floor in a straight line with the CANON Ball of Yarn Cutouts clothes pinned to the yarn in sequential order. (Or: Pin the Cutouts onto the yarn as you work through the exercise: Have students look up and read the Scripture passages. Read them the explanation printed on the Cutout as you pin each sign on the yarn.)

Review the Story (**CANON**) we find ourselves in with your teens. Explain that this is not just a fable, a story of wishful thinking; rather the story of Jesus is a story anchored in history.

Have teens look up and read Matthew 1:1-16 and Luke 2:1-4. Ask: *What is being shown in these passages?*

Say something like: *These passages of Scripture anchor the story of Jesus to history in a very specific way. But you can also see from our timeline that the Story we find ourselves in is the Story of Jesus from beginning to end.* As you talk, take the beginning end of the Red Yarn Timeline and tie it to the object labelled "JESUS: Alpha / Beginning" and then take the other end of the Timeline and tie it to the object labelled "JESUS: Omega / End" Say something like: *The Story is not just anchored in history, but more importantly, history itself is actually anchored in Jesus—the Alpha and Omega, which are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet (the language most of the New Testament was written in), meaning the Beginning and the End. It's about Him, His will, and His glory from beginning to end.*

RECAP

Transition by saying something like: *This is the CHRIST-centred Story we have been examining over the past six weeks, as revealed in our CANON, Scripture; showing us the HOLY GOD we worship; reminding us of our need*

for “REDEMPTION” and how it is available to us through Jesus; proclaiming the INWARD CHANGE that takes place when one finds salvation, and how we have the privilege of being SET APART from sin and for God’s purposes. And now we have come to the end, getting a glimpse of how the TRIUMPH of God’s redemptive plan in Jesus will one day be fulfilled.

Ask: So what does Scripture say about what that TRIUMPH looks like?

ENGAGE: “Apocalyptic Murals”

(15-20 minutes, or as time allows)

Divide your teens into four groups. Assign each of them one of the following Scripture passages: Matthew 24:36-44, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11, Revelation 21:1-8, and Revelation 22:12-20. As your teens explore these passages, say something like: *When Scripture talks about the end of time, it often uses a form of writing called “apocalyptic writing.” This type of writing uses images, or word pictures, to describe realities that are beyond our full comprehension. These word pictures are not necessarily literal accounts, but rather pictures that help give better insight or understanding than we would have had without them. In most cases, the imagery may not be completely clear or understood by us until we see their actual fulfillment.*

Have groups create murals on **Poster Board** or **Mural Paper** portraying the word pictures of the end of history and Jesus’ return as described in their particular passage of Scripture. Once completed, have the groups explain and describe their murals to the other groups.

Note: If you do not have enough time in your Training Unit to complete this exercise, share the explanation of apocalyptic writing above with your teens. Assign each student one of the Scripture passages and encourage them to read it during their

personal devotions this week, making their own drawing or artistic representation of the word pictures. Ask them to bring their pictures back next week to share with the group.

At the beginning of the **TRIUMPH** Training Unit, you asked your teens if one's views and beliefs about the future and the end of time should affect how they live today. Ask: *In light of what we have learned about the end of history and Jesus' righteous judgement of the faithful and unrighteous, how should this affect how we live as Christians?* (We should have a sense of hope and anticipation looking forward to when God will set all things right; we should have care towards and a sense of urgency to share the gospel of salvation in Jesus with those who do not know Him and who still live in their sin.)

DROP ZONE

"Thin Red Line Prayers" (5 minutes)

As you did in the **CANON** Training Unit, have your teens stand together in a circle. Untie the string of **Red Yarn** (including the Clothes Pinned gospel story cutouts and the "JESUS: Alpha / Beginning" and "JESUS: Omega / End" signs) used in "An Anchored Story, An Anchored Hope" and have each teen hold onto a portion of it, as they encircle the group using the yarn (the group should find themselves inside the circle of yarn). Say something like: *This is the Story we each find ourselves in as Christians. We stand together in this Story, bound by the love of Christ for the salvation of the world, and anchored in a hope in the redemption found in Christ for all who repent toward God through faith in Jesus, being brought to everlasting life by*

the Holy Spirit. Read Psalm 145 from *The New Living Translation* (below), and close in prayer asking that God would give each teen a sense of anchored hope in him, and a desire to live their faith in a way that focuses not only on their own relationship with God, but on the needs and salvation of others.

"I will exalt you, my God and King, and praise your name forever and ever. I will praise you every day; yes, I will praise you forever. Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise! No one can measure His greatness. Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power. I will meditate on your majestic, glorious splendour and your wonderful miracles. Your awe-inspiring deeds will be on every tongue; I will proclaim your greatness. Everyone will share the story of your wonderful goodness; they will sing with joy about your righteousness. The LORD is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. The LORD is good to everyone. He showers compassion on all His creation. All of your works will thank you, LORD, and your faithful followers will praise you. They will speak of the glory of your kingdom; they will give examples of your power. They will tell about your mighty deeds and about the majesty and glory of your reign. For your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom. You rule throughout all generations. The LORD always keeps His promises; He is gracious in all He does. The LORD helps the fallen and lifts those bent beneath their loads. The eyes of all look to you in hope; you give them their food as they need it. When you open your hand, you satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in everything He does; He is filled with kindness. The LORD is close to all who call on him, yes, to all who call on Him in truth. He grants the desires of those who fear him; He hears their cries for help and rescues them. The LORD protects all those who love

him, but He destroys the wicked. I will praise the LORD, and may everyone on earth bless His holy name forever and ever.”⁴⁸

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **TRIUMPH DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

Explain that this week’s **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** encourages your teens to begin thinking further about their “**CHRIST-centred Faith**” and how they should live out their part in God’s Story of salvation. The next Training Unit will begin to look at the fact that while our faith is deeply personal, it is not private. This week’s challenge will begin to lay some of the groundwork for the next six, “**OTHERS-focused Faith**” Training Units, by helping them recognize that while there is a definitive end with very real outcomes to the Story they find themselves in, God desires that all would find salvation, and has a particular role for each of your teens in His plan of salvation.

Teens will be challenged to connect with their **PERSON OF INTEREST** and think of specific ways they can begin sharing their faith and the gospel with those they identified following the **REDEMPTION** Training Unit. One suggestion will be for the teen to let at least one of those individuals know about their preparation for Soldiership and to invite them to be present at their enrolment ceremony.

BACKUP

Hedgren, Steve, and Rob Lyle, eds. *Mapping Our Salvationist DNA: Beliefs, Values, Behaviors*. West Nyack: The Salvation Army, 2012.

The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine. London: Salvation Books, 2010.

⁴⁸ Psalm 145:1–21. *The New Living Translation*.

JESUS

OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_007
07 - TRIUMPH

THE STATISTICS CAN BE PRESENTED AS CROSS-TABLES, DIAGRAMS OR MAPS. THERE ARE ABOUT 2 MILLION HITS'S EVE

ALPHA

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- * 1 TYPES
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 - o 2.2 RETICLE FOCAL PLANE
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- * 9 USES
 - o 9.1 MILITARY USE
- * 10 SEE ALSO
- * 11 REFERENCES
- * 12 EXTERNAL LINKS

THE BEGINNING

THE FIRST

JESUS

OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_007
07 - TRIUMPH

THE STATISTICS CAN BE PRESENTED AS CROSS-TABLES, DIAGRAMS OR MAPS. THERE ARE ABOUT 2 MILLION HITS'S EVE

OMEGA

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THE END

THE LAST

OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_007
07 - TRIUMPH

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GENESIS 3:15

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HOPE ... GOD'S PLAN OF REDEMPTION PROPHESED

OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_007
07 - TRIUMPH

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HEBREWS 9:20-22

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REDEMPTION REQUIRES THE GIVING OF LIFE ...

OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_007
07 - TRIUMPH

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ISAIAH 9:7

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A REDEEMER PROMISED ...

OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_007
07 - TRIUMPH

THE STATISTICS CAN BE PRESENTED AS CROSS-TABLES, DIAGRAMS OR MAPS. THERE ARE ABOUT 2 MILLION HIT'S EVE

JOHN 3:16

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A REDEEMER SENT ... JESUS ENTERS HISTORY

OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_007
07 - TRIUMPH

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ISAIAH 53:5

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DAY OF REDEMPTION ... THE CRUCIFIXION

OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_007
07 - TRIUMPH

THE STATISTICS CAN BE PRESENTED AS CROSS-TABLES, DIAGRAMS OR MAPS. THERE ARE ABOUT 2 MILLION HIT'S EVE

ROMANS 1:3-4

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THE RESURRECTION ... VICTORY OVER SIN & DEATH

OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_007
07 - TRIUMPH

THE STATISTICS CAN BE PRESENTED AS CROSS-TABLES, DIAGRAMS OR MAPS. THERE ARE ABOUT 2 MILLION HITS'S EVE

ACTS 2:10-4

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PENTECOST .. THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

OBJECTIVE LENS DIAMETER = 10x50

BATTLE_READY_007
07 - TRIUMPH

THE STATISTICS CAN BE PRESENTED AS CROSS-TABLES, DIAGRAMS OR MAPS. THERE ARE ABOUT 2 MILLION HITS'S EVE

MATTHEW 16:27

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JESUS' RETURN IN TRIUMPH & JUDGEMENT

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. 2 PETER 3:9 (NIV)

Connect with your Person of Interest and think of specific ways you can begin sharing your faith with those you identified in the REDEMPTION DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE as having not yet experienced salvation in Jesus Christ.

Write your ideas down! Here—we've got you started:

Let at least one of the people on your list know about your desire to become a Salvation Soldier, and invite them to be present at your enrolment ceremony.

TRIUMPH07 BATTLE READY

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

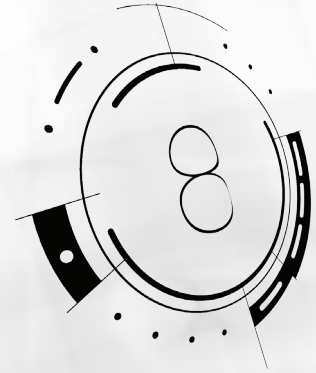
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TRIUMPH07 BATTLE READY



OUTWARD FOCUS

TAKING AIM

The **OUTWARD FOCUS** Training Unit will emphasize the difference between a personal and a private faith, encouraging teens to develop expressions of their faith that include Effective Personal Witness, Sacrificial Compassionate Mission, and Active Engagement with the world.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Matthew 5:13-16

James 1:22-27

1 John 3:16-19

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

*"I will uphold Christian integrity in every area of my life, allowing nothing in thought, word or deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral."*⁴⁹

*"I will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the non-medical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult and all else that could enslave the body or spirit."*⁵⁰

*"I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged."*⁵¹

⁴⁹ "The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant"

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Ibid.

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **OUTWARD FOCUS** Training Unit will realize that biblical faith engages the world effectively, compassionately, and sacrificially, and will begin to explore how they can express such a faith as a **SALVATION SOLDIER**.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **Salted and Unsalted Snacks** of the same type (popcorn, crackers, etc.)
- **Candle**
- **Lighter** or 2
- **Lamp** with removable light bulb
- **Mirror** (one that can be hand held and passed around your group of teens)
- **Bible**
- **Salt** (a box of table salt or salt shakers, or both)
- **Prayer Station Instruction Signs**
- **Individual Fast-food Salt Packets**
- **Strand of Christmas Lights** (with C7 bulbs that can be unscrewed)
- **Window Writer Markers** or **Dry Erase Markers**
- **BATTLE READY Soldier's Covenant Handouts** (enough for each teen)

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** Matthew West – “Do Something”; Chris Rice – “The Face of Christ,” “Love Like Crazy”; David Cook – “Light On”; Ginny Owens – “Someone Searching”; KJ-52 – “Are You Real?”; Casting Crowns – “Until the Whole World Hears”; Steven Curtis Chapman – “Live Out Loud”; Rebecca St. James – “You Are Loved”

BASIC TRAINING

Begin the **OUTWARD FOCUS** Training Unit by having teens share ways they were able to share their faith during the past week with those they have committed to pray for and witness to. Ask if they have invited any of these individuals to their enrolment and what their responses were.

Open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for allowing us to participate in the gospel, experiencing salvation, sharing the good news with others, and helping to meet the needs of others in His name; ask that God would give teens His vision for how they specifically can be used in bringing His salvation to their world.)

RECAP

Say something like: *Over the past six weeks we've been exploring the Story we find ourselves in as Christians. It is a CHRIST-centred story, beginning and ending in him. And we are wrapped in it. It is defined in our CANON: God's Word, revealing Him to be the one HOLY GOD worthy of our worship, providing a way of REDEMPTION through Jesus' suffering and death. Those who accept the gift of salvation experience an INWARD CHANGE and are SET APART from sin and for God's purposes, working out His redemptive plan in the world until it reaches fulfillment and TRIUMPH in Christ at the end of time.*

Over the next six weeks, we're going to look more closely at how we live in that Story as Christians, and how we choose to do that as OTHERS-focused SALVATION SOLDIERS.

This Training Unit will aim to help teens see the difference between a personal and a private faith. Explain that while our place in the CHRIST-centred story and each individual's experience of salvation is deeply personal (intimate, changing us at the core), Scripture demonstrates that a biblically rooted faith is not a private faith (keeping it to ourselves, or viewing our relationship with God as simply between "me and God"). Our individualistically-driven culture often eclipses the truth that while God's call of salvation is to every individual, He is making a people His own. We are meant to do faith and life together, with others, but sometimes we forget that we are not supposed to do it on our own.

A biblically rooted faith
is not a private faith.

Our experience of salvation is not solely for our own benefit, but so that we can bring that experience to others.

Have teens look up and read Matthew 5:13.

ENGAGE: "Active Agent" (10 minutes)

Have teens taste the **Salted** and **Unsalted Snacks**. Ask: *What effect does the salt have on what you just ate?* (Teens will most likely default to the easy answer that one tastes salty and the other doesn't. Draw out a deeper answer—the salted snack is tastier; the salt draws out the taste.)

Explain that salt draws out moisture and flavour in food. Say something like: *Salt is an active agent in cooking: it helps preserve food as well as brings out the food's best natural flavour in a way that doesn't happen without it.*⁵² *Jesus tells His disciples, in the verse of Scripture we just read, that they are like salt: intended to bring out the best in the world.*

Explain that Jesus also gives a warning: if salt loses its saltiness it's no longer fulfilling its purpose and is only good to be thrown out. Help your teens understand the context: Although the salt your teens will be familiar with (table salt) does not lose its saltiness, in the time when Jesus was teaching, most salt that was available in that part of the world (Israel) was produced from evaporated sea water. Often found in rock form, this salt would be rubbed over meat, helping to give it a salty flavour. However, this type of salt, found in hot countries, is said to sometimes lose its saline properties (its saltiness). When this happened, all that was left was essentially a rock with no further use for it, but to be thrown onto a path where it would be

⁵² <http://happyeats.com/should-you-salt-meat-before-cooking-yes/>

walked on⁵³—the equivalent of us throwing it in the trash or flushing it down a drain.

Say something like: *Jesus tells us that we are the salt of the earth—we are to be active agents in our world. If our personal faith is not going to be a private faith we need to actively engage the world.* Ask: *What are some ways you can live out your faith that actively engage the world?* (Some suggestions may be: befriending those who are alone or in need; caring about and doing something about injustices in the world; living a godly life with integrity and honour; service projects in your community, etc.)

Continue by saying: *Engaging the world with a faith that brings out the best, and acts to “preserve” what is good, is foundational to living out the Story we find ourselves in. One of the commitments of the Soldier’s Covenant states, “I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged.”*⁵⁴ *Being a Salvation Soldier is a commitment to be an “active agent” engaging the world in order to bring the gospel to our world in words and actions.*

Biblical faith engages the world effectively, compassionately, and sacrificially.

Have teens continue reading Matthew 5:14-16.

⁵³ Freeman, James M. *Manners and Customs of the Bible*. Plainfield : Logos International, 1972. p. 335.

⁵⁴ “The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier’s Covenant”

Our experience of salvation is not solely for our own benefit, but so that we can bring that experience to others.

ENGAGE: "Light It Up" (10 minutes)

Explain the verse above utilizing the **Candle** and **Lamp** (make sure you do not have the light bulb in the lamp when you begin).

Turn out the lights in your meeting space (if possible, meet in a room that would be very dark when all the lights are turned off). As you light the Candle, say something like: *Even the smallest light can illuminate and pierce the darkness.* Walk around the room with the candle, shedding its light on various items and people, pointing out what becomes visible as you get closer with the light. Have teens observe how much more clear colours and shapes are seen the closer they are to the light of the candle.

Extinguish the Candle as you draw attention to the Lamp. Say something like: *A candle is a tiny light, and look how much difference it made to the things that would have otherwise been in complete darkness. Imagine how much more difference is made by a stronger light.* As you talk, turn the lamp switch on. Obviously nothing will happen since there is no light bulb screwed into the socket. Continue by "finding" the light bulb and explaining that it is of no benefit to anyone if you hold the light (Hold up the light bulb.) and do not allow it to shine. Insert the light bulb into the socket and turn the lamp on. Reread Matthew 5:14-16.

Ask: *In what ways can you let your light shine? What effect does letting your light shine have on your world? How can your personal choices of integrity and lifestyle affect how your light shines?*

Explain that while the commitments in the Soldier's Covenant are personal choices, and for the individual's own personal spiritual growth and health, many are also missional in nature—that is, they have an impact on the

effectiveness of our witness, and are made to “stand with” others that we might serve, as we bring the message (and example) of new life in Jesus Christ.

Read the following statement of commitment from the Soldier’s Covenant, asking teens to consider the impact such commitments have on the individual making them, as well as on others: *“I will uphold Christian integrity in every area of my life, allowing nothing in thought, word or deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral.”*

Ask: *What kind of impact might this have? What would it do for the person making the commitment? What impact might it have on someone else?*

Read the next statement of commitment from the **SOLDIER’S COVENANT**: *“I will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the non-medical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult and all else that could enslave the body or spirit.”* Discuss, asking the same questions as for the previous statement.

Remind teens of the ministry The Salvation Army has to those who are enslaved by addictive behaviours, and that our ministry to help people break free of these vices asks that we “stand with” them in commitment to stay away from those things that may lead to or keep them enslaved. Some teens may wonder about the relevance of such a commitment if they are not dealing specifically with ministries in rehabilitation centres. Remind them that many of these habits are developed early (in adolescence).

Ask: *How can a commitment such as this have an impact on peers who may not have made a similar commitment?* (Others may have courage to stand up against pressures if they know they are not alone; if teens are in a setting where others have been drinking, etc., they could help ensure the safety of their peers by offering to be a designated driver; they can demonstrate that substances or risky behaviour are not necessary for a good time, etc.) Teens may also point out the reality that commitments such as these may lead to ostracism or some form of ridicule; don’t shy away from this—the first Christians and early Salvationists have counted it an honour to suffer for the sake of the gospel.

Explain that even choices that might look like they are personal—between you and God—have impacts on others. That is why it is important that we don’t

Even choices that look like they are solely personal—between you and God—have impacts on others.

consider only ourselves in our choices and in the spiritual commitments we make, but that we also have an **OUTWARD FOCUS**, and think about how our lives can and will impact others.

Say something like: **The Bible teaches us that there is more to being faithful than simply “not doing” certain things, and leading a clean life. This is only one aspect of living out the Story we find ourselves in. Let’s look at another way that God’s Word reminds us to have an OUTWARD FOCUS in living our faith.**

Have teens look up and read James 1:22-27.

ENGAGE: “Who’s That in the Mirror?” (10-15 minutes)

Pass around and have teens take turns looking in the **Mirror**. Ask each to describe what they see when it is their turn. Now pass around a **Bible** and have each teen look up and read one of the following passages of Scripture. Ask each to describe the portrait of faithfulness that is described by summarizing their assigned passage:

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES:

Philippians 4:8 1 John 3:17-18 Psalm 119:9
James 2:14-17 Romans 12:2 Leviticus 19:33-34
Colossians 3:12

Explain that in the second **BATTLE READY** Training Unit teens began to look at the Story—the **CANON**—in which we find ourselves. God has given us a part to play in the Story. Our **CANON** also lets us know what it looks like to live in the Story. In this sense, Scripture functions as a mirror. When we look into God’s Word we see what living out our faith should look like; it gives us an image of God’s character and heart, and of what we ought to be. And we should reflect that image by how we live. If we ignore it and don’t live as the Word instructs, James writes that we are taking a look at what shows us who we are as God’s

people (the mirror of Scripture) and essentially forgetting what it is we look like (Whose image we bear).

Say something like: *As we can see from the verses of Scripture we read as we passed around our "mirror" of Scripture, we are to have a faith that engages the world with an effective witness that is characterized by compassionate, sacrificial mission. These are "the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged."*⁵⁵

DROP ZONE

3 Prayer Stations (15 minutes, or as time allows)

Have your teens engage in prayer by silently following the instructions (**Prayer Station Instruction Cards**) of three interactive prayer stations. Divide your teens into three groups and allow them the necessary time to rotate through the stations. Consider playing applicable music during this time (suggestions of a possible playlist are in the GEAR UP section above).

SALT PRAYER STATION: Teens will write their name with salt (**Individual Fast-food Salt Packets**) and ask God for courage to take specific steps to be an "active agent" in the world for him. (If you are unable to use individual salt packets, consider using a box of table salt, poured onto a tray, and have teens write their names in the salt with their fingers.)

Encourage teens to develop expressions of their faith that include an Effective Personal Witness, Sacrificial Compassionate Mission, and Active Engagement in their world.

⁵⁵ Ibid.

LIGHT PRAYER STATION: Teens will insert **Christmas Lights** into sockets as they commit to being an effective personal witness to those in their circles of influence.

MIRROR PRAYER STATION: Teens will read the passage of Scripture indicated on the Instruction Card (James 1:22-27), and will think and pray about specific ways they can care for the needy and disadvantaged. They will write their commitment on the **Mirror** with **Window Writer** or **Dry Erase Markers**.

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **OUTWARD FOCUS DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

Explain that this week's **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** encourages your teens to connect with their **PERSON OF INTEREST** to dream up and write down a plan for them to actively engage their world effectively through compassionate, sacrificial mission.

Also, give each teen a copy of the **BATTLE READY SOLDIER'S COVENANT**.

Say something like: Over the next six weeks we will be exploring how we, as Salvationists, choose to live in the **CHRIST-centred Story**. The copy of the wording of The **SOLDIER'S COVENANT** you are receiving will allow you to read and examine the commitments made when becoming a **SALVATION SOLDIER**. You will see that we have covered the **CHRIST-centred Story** as we learned about what we say "We believe...". And as we continue in our study, we will see how the various declarations made by every **SALVATION SOLDIER** help us live in that Story with a faith that is also **OTHERS-focused**.

BACKUP

Bowen, John P. *Evangelism for "Normal" People*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2002.

Chosen to Be a Soldier: Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army. London: International Headquarters, 1987.

Hedgren, Steve, and Rob Lyle, eds. *Mapping Our Salvationist DNA: Beliefs, Values, Behaviors*. West Nyack: The Salvation Army, 2012.

Hunter, Zach. *Be the Change: Your Guide to Freeing Slaves and Changing the World*. El Cajon: Youth Specialties, 2007.

Sider, Ronald J. *Good News and Good Works: A Theology for the Whole Gospel*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1993.

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BATTLE_READY_008

08 - OUTWARD FOCUS

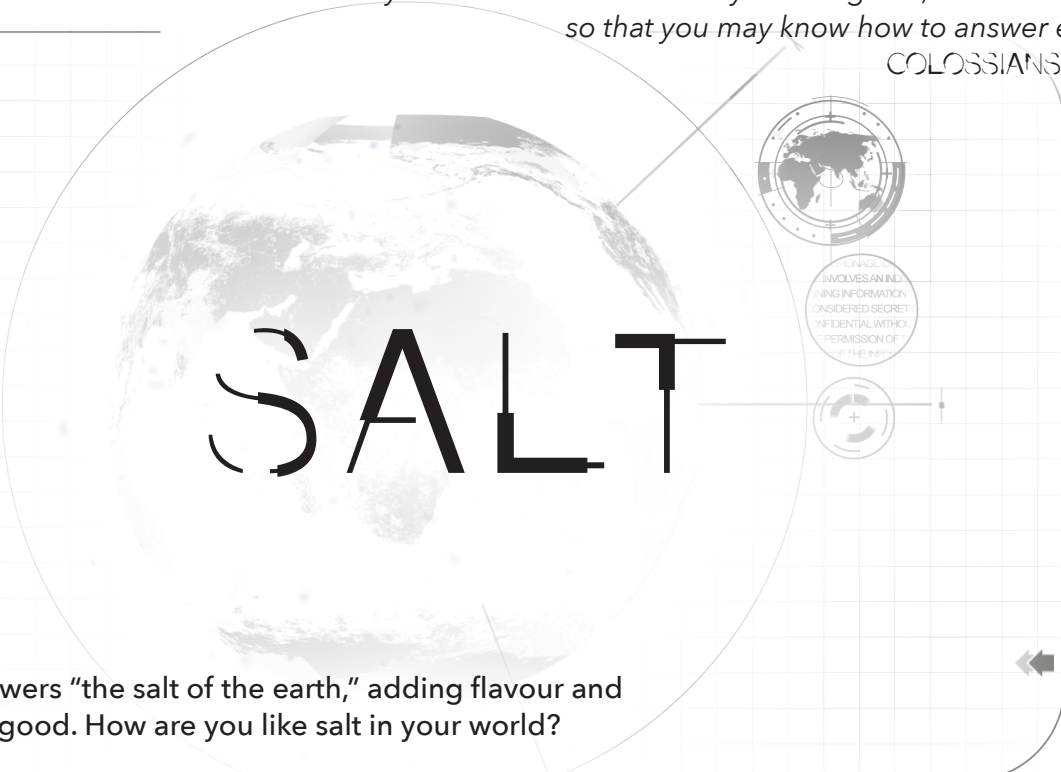
Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt,
so that you may know how to answer everyone.

COLOSSIANS 4:6 (NIV)

LEVELS



IN FINANCE, A BOND IS A DEBIT SECURITY IN WHICH THE AUTHORIZED ISSUER OWES THE HOLDER A CERTAIN AMOUNT, DEPENDING ON THE TERMS OF THE BOND, IS OBLIGED TO PAY INTEREST PERIODICALLY.



- TARGETING
- LOCKED
- MAP
- AREA
- COMPUTE
- SPYWARE
- ECON
- FOUND
- 5:15AM
- EARTH

Jesus calls his followers “the salt of the earth,” adding flavour and preserving what is good. How are you like salt in your world?

Write your name using the salt on the table. As you do, ask God for the courage to take specific steps to be an “active agent” for him in your world.

Fold along the dotted line.

BATTLE_READY_008

08 - OUTWARD FOCUS

You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.

MATTHEW 5:14-16 (MSG)

LIGHT

Consider how God can use you as a light to those in your world by letting them know of God's love for them in Christ Jesus.

As you insert a light bulb in its socket, allowing the light to shine, commit to being an effective personal witness to those within your circles of influence. Ask God to give you the words and actions to help point others to him.

Fold along the dotted line.

BATTLE_READY_008

08 - OUTWARD FOCUS

Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God’s way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.
2 TIMOTHY 3:16 (MSG)

REFLECTION

Read James 1:22-27 in the Bible provided.

As you read the Scripture passage, think and pray about specific ways you can care for the needy and disadvantaged. Write your commitment on the mirror with the markers provided.

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

“God wants men and women to walk about the world so that those around, believers and unbelievers alike, shall see the form and hear the voice of the living God; people who shall be so like Him in spirit and life and character as to make the crowds feel as though the very shadow of God has crossed their path. Will you be a shadow of God?” –William Booth, The Seven Spirits

Connect with your PERSON OF INTEREST this week to begin dreaming up and writing down a plan for how you can actively engage your world effectively through compassionate, sacrificial mission. Begin taking the steps.

OUTWARD FOCUS08BATTLE READY

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

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OUTWARD FOCUS08BATTLE READY

A Salvation
Soldier is

BATTLE READY

... marked by a faith that is

CHRIST-CENTRED AND OTHERS-FOCUSED

Having accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour and Lord, and desiring to fulfill my membership of His Church on earth as a soldier of The Salvation Army, I now by God's grace enter into a sacred covenant.

I believe and will live by the truths of the word of God expressed in The Salvation Army's eleven articles of faith:

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; and that they only constitute the Divine rule of Christian faith and practice.

We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.

We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost—undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory.

We believe that in the person of Jesus Christ the Divine and human natures are united, so that He is truly and properly God and truly and properly man.

We believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocence, but by their disobedience they lost their purity and happiness; and that in consequence of their fall all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has, by His suffering and death, made an atonement for the whole world so that whosoever will may be saved.

We believe that repentance towards God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation.

We believe that we are justified by grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; and that he that believeth hath the witness in himself.

We believe that continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ.

We believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be wholly sanctified, and that their whole spirit and soul and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe in the immortality of the soul; in the resurrection of the body; in the general judgement at the end of the world; in the eternal happiness of the righteous; and in the endless punishment of the wicked.

WHAT STORY DO I LIVE IN?

I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to His leading in my life, growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible. I will make the values of the Kingdom of God and not the values of the world the standard for my life.

I will uphold Christian integrity in every area of my life, allowing nothing in thought, word or deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral.

I will maintain Christian ideals in all my relationships with others; my family and neighbours, my colleagues and fellow salvationists, those to whom and for whom I am responsible, and the wider community.

I will uphold the sanctity of marriage and of family life. I will be a faithful steward of my time and gifts, my money and possessions, my body, my mind and my spirit, knowing that I am accountable to God.

I will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the non-medical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult and all else that could enslave the body or spirit.

I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged.

I will be actively involved, as I am able, in the life, work, worship and witness of the corps, giving as large a proportion of my income as possible to support its ministries and the worldwide work of the Army.

I will be true to the principles and practices of The Salvation Army, loyal to its leaders, and I will show the spirit of salvationism whether in times of popularity or persecution.

I now call upon all present to witness that I enter into this covenant and sign these articles of war of my own free will, convinced that the love of Christ, who died and now lives to save me, requires from me this devotion of my life to His service for the salvation of the whole world; and therefore do here declare my full determination, by God's help, to be a true soldier of The Salvation Army.

HOW DO I CHOOSE TO LIVE IN THIS STORY?

and lived in sacred

COVENANT



TENACITY OF FAITH

TAKING AIM

The **TENACITY OF FAITH** Training Unit will examine and emphasize the importance of both the personal and communal elements of faith, helping teens see the value in developing Healthy Spiritual Habits and Healthy Spiritual Community in order to give their faith “stickability.”

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 Philippians 2:12-13 Hebrews 10:23-25

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

“I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit’s work and obedient to His leading in my life, growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible. I will make the values of the Kingdom of God and not the values of the world the standard of my life.”⁵⁶

“I will maintain Christian ideals in all my relationships with others; my family and neighbours, my colleagues and fellow Salvationists, those to whom and for whom I am responsible, and the wider community.”⁵⁷

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ Ibid.

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **TENACITY OF FAITH** Training Unit will understand that spiritual formation and growth are dependent on nourishment from developing healthy spiritual habits and being immersed in healthy spiritual community, and will begin taking next steps to strengthen these areas of their faith development.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **The Lego Movie DVD**
- **“Making It Stick” Handout** (enough copies for each teen)
- **Poster Board or Mural Paper**
- **Sticky Tack or Masking Tape**
- **Bold Markers**
- **Small Puzzles, Models, or Lego Kits** (one for each teen)

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** downhere – “I Will Follow Your Voice,” “Cathedral Made of People”; Jars of Clay – “I Need Thee Every Hour”; Matt Brouwer – “Lead”; Steven Curtis Chapman – “Still Listening”

BASIC TRAINING

Begin the **TENACITY OF FAITH** Training Unit by having teens share their plans to actively engage their world effectively through compassionate, sacrificial mission.

RECAP

Say something like: *During the first half of this Bible Study, we looked at the CHRIST-centred Story we find ourselves in as Christians. Last week, we began exploring how we choose to live in that Story as SALVATION SOLDIERS.*

We choose to live an *OTHERS*-focused faith. One element of that kind of expression is that our faith has an **OUTWARD FOCUS**—we should develop an effective personal witness, motivated by sacrificial compassionate mission, as we are active agents in our world. This week we are going to look at developing a **TENACITY OF FAITH**.

Ask: *Who knows what the word “tenacity” means?* Give time for teens to respond, eventually making sure they come to an understanding of the word that includes “the ability to be able to grip or hold on to something firmly.”

Say something like: *Tenacity gives our faith the ability to stick for the long haul. But how do we develop it? That’s what we’re going to explore in this week’s Training Unit.*

Open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the spiritual growth happening in the lives of your teens; ask that they would be encouraged by seeing the effectiveness of their witness in their world; ask God to open their eyes to the importance of developing healthy spiritual habits and making connections in healthy spiritual community.)

Say something like: *If you are building something and want it to last—to stand the test of time—you need to make sure it stays together. You need to glue it, to bond it to ensure that it does not easily come apart.*

tenacity, n. the quality or property of holding together firmly

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: “Release the Kra-gl!” (5 minutes)

Say something like: *In The Lego Movie, “the Kra-gl” was seen by the son as an obstacle to an awesome toy being played with. However, the Dad in the movie wanted to make sure that what he had put so much effort into building actually was able to last.*

Watch: **The Lego Movie** (1:18:47–1:21:09)

Say something like: *The Dad later understood that there was something that was more important to keep intact than the Lego blocks: his relationship with his son.*

Transition by saying something like: *Building our faith and keeping it intact is vitally important to keeping our relationship with Jesus alive, as well as to the witness we are to others about God’s work of salvation. Studies have shown that in order to keep our faith intact, to hold onto it throughout our lives, we need to make sure there are two things that are being developed in our lives: healthy spiritual habits, and healthy spiritual community. These are like “glue” for our faith, and help give it a “stickability.” These are what can help develop* **TENACITY OF FAITH.**

ENGAGE: “Making It Stick” Handout (10–15 minutes)

Distribute copies of the **“Making It Stick” Handout** to each teen. Say something like: *One of the statements made in the Soldier’s Covenant—the commitments made by those choosing to become SALVATION SOLDIERS—says, “I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit’s work and obedient to His leading in my life, growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible.” Worship, prayer service, reading your Bible—these are all healthy spiritual habits. There are many more that can also be developed as you grow in your faith, but these are a few that are foundational.*

Work through the exercise together, reading the Scripture passages indicated on the Handout, giving your teens opportunity to fill out their own sheets individually, giving themselves a self-evaluation of how strong the “bonding agent” is in their life by marking where they see their faith’s “stickability factors” on the scale beneath each description of a particular spiritual discipline or habit.

Stop before completing the last item on the Handout. Leave the passage relating to “Connecting with Other Believers” and have students complete this item later in the lesson.

Discuss your teens' self-evaluations as a group. Have willing individuals share their "strongest" and "weakest" areas of maintaining a healthy connection to God through healthy spiritual habits.

Have teens look up and read Philippians 2:12-13. Remind them that they are not left alone in the process of becoming more and more like Jesus; God Himself works in us, giving us the desire and the power to do His will. Also remind them that God will also help them keep the commitments they make to Him—including those in the Soldier's Covenant—as we rely on His Spirit's power working in our lives.

Say something like: *Developing healthy spiritual habits can be a difficult task. It takes self-discipline and commitment to integrate habits into our lives that intentionally add to the "stickability" of our faith. But there is something else that will help us stay strong in our faith.*

Have teens look up and read Hebrews 10:23-25. Ask: *What other "bonding agent" is vitally important to our faith development and to living out the Story we find ourselves in?* (Teens may identify various actions such as encouragement, service, inspiring one another, meeting together. Draw out how all these elements of living faith are connected: they involve healthy spiritual community.)

At this point have teens complete the final item on the "Making It Stick" Handout.

Say something like: *We are not meant to be left on our own to develop a healthy faith. God intends that we would do faith and life together in healthy spiritual community, by connecting with other believers.*

Helping teens see the value
in developing Healthy
Spiritual Habits and
being involved in Healthy
Spiritual Community will
help give their faith a
sense of "stickability."

ENGAGE: "I've Got Your Back!" (5-10 minutes)

Say something like: *A soldier does not stand alone and fight a battle on their own; a soldier needs other soldiers to fight alongside them so they can protect each other's weaknesses and trust each other's strengths.*⁵⁸ *We need to "have each others' backs."*

Have students sit on the floor with their knees bent and feet flat on the floor, directly in front of them. Ask them to stand up from their sitting position without using their hands and arms to boost them against the floor, or by rolling over to get into a new position. This should be next to impossible.

After giving teens time to attempt the task, ask them to get into pairs, sitting in the same position on the floor, except this time they are to sit back-to-back with their partner, linking their arms. Now ask them to reattempt the task, staying linked to their partner. The task, although challenging for some, will now be possible, as long as teens stay connected with each other and use the force against the back of their partner to steady them. (Another element to point out to your teens is that when connected, it was not likely that one partner would be able to stand if the other did not; they needed each other to complete the task.)

Say something like: *The principle of this exercise is true in our spiritual lives, and in our commitments as SALVATION SOLDIERS: we need each other, and should be doing whatever we can in our relationships to strengthen each other's faith. The Salvation Army's Soldier's Covenant states: "I will maintain*

⁵⁸ This principle is explored in "The Fifth Rung: Discovering Your Destiny," Thrall, Bill, Ken McElrath, and Bruce McNicol. *Beyond Your Best: Develop Your Relationships, Fulfill Your Destiny*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2003.

Encourage your teens to think of ways that healthy spiritual community can take place, both in “programmed” meeting times or events, as well as outside the regular church schedule and programming, in their everyday life. Remind your teens, if they haven’t already identified this, that their connection with their PERSON OF INTEREST is a way of connecting with healthy spiritual community outside of “officially programmed” times.

DROP ZONE

“Prayer Huddle” (5-10 minutes)

Say something like: *This week’s Training Unit has examined developing a TENACITY OF FAITH—giving our faith a “stickability” factor that will help it endure. We do that by connecting with others in healthy spiritual community and by disciplining ourselves to develop healthy spiritual habits such as “worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible.”*⁶¹ Explain that in this week’s DROP ZONE your group will incorporate these two elements together by forming a Prayer Huddle.

Have teens form a huddle, on their knees with arms around each other’s shoulders, in an open space in your meeting room. Let them know that they are each going to pray out loud twice during the DROP ZONE: once for the person on their right, and once for the person on their left. You may have teens who feel uncomfortable praying out loud; tell them to have no fear! This is a great exercise for those who feel uneasy doing

⁶¹ “The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier’s Covenant”

so, because no one except God will be listening to their prayer: On your countdown, “3-2-1, Pray,” everyone will pray for the person on their right, at the same time. Once every teen is finished, countdown again and have them pray for the person on their left.

When your prayers for each other are completed, say something like: *You have each prayed for and have been prayed for by two people who are part of your spiritual community. Keep praying for one another during this week. Consider even calling, texting, or meeting up to pray for each other.*

Close by praying for your group. If time allows, pray a short prayer for each teen individually, so they can see and hear your heart for them.

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **TENACITY OF FAITH DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

Explain that this week’s **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** requires time, self-discipline, and patience. Give each teen a small **Puzzle, Model, or Lego Kit** to take home. As they build their kit or put together their puzzle during the week, teens will be challenged to think about and identify things or people that can encourage and help develop a “stickability” to their faith. (Suggest to your teens that they may want to find the appropriate type of modelling glue to keep their work together.)

Teens will be challenged to journal what they have identified and take steps to intentionally integrate them into their lives.

BACKUP

Booth, Catherine. *Practical Religion*. London: Salvation Books, 2008.

Chosen to Be a Soldier: Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army. London: International Headquarters, 1987.

From Mercy Seat to Spiritual Maturity. Toronto: Territorial Headquarters, 1978.

Hedgren, Steve, and Rob Lyle, eds. *Mapping Our Salvationist DNA: Beliefs, Values, Behaviors*. West Nyack: The Salvation Army, 2012.

Hybels, Bill. *Too Busy Not to Pray*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1988.

The Song Book of The Salvation Army. Verona: National Headquarters, 1987.



09 - TENACITY OF FAITH

Below are listed some examples of habits and disciplines that can help strengthen your faith. Read the Scripture passages indicated, and give yourself an evaluation of the level of "stickability" you are allowing each "bonding agent" to have in your life right now.

WHAT WILL YOU DO TO ALLOW EACH HABIT AND DISCIPLINE TO HAVE A GREATER "STICKABILITY FACTOR" IN YOUR LIFE?

READING THE BIBLE			PSALM 119:11-16			
CHEWING GUM	STICKY TACK	SCOTCH TAPE	DUCT TAPE	WHITE GLUE	KRAZY GLUE	CEMENT
PRAYER			COLOSSIANS 4:2			
CHEWING GUM	STICKY TACK	SCOTCH TAPE	DUCT TAPE	WHITE GLUE	KRAZY GLUE	CEMENT
WORSHIP			PSALM 100:1-5			
CHEWING GUM	STICKY TACK	SCOTCH TAPE	DUCT TAPE	WHITE GLUE	KRAZY GLUE	CEMENT
SERVICE			1 PETER 4:10			
CHEWING GUM	STICKY TACK	SCOTCH TAPE	DUCT TAPE	WHITE GLUE	KRAZY GLUE	CEMENT
GIVING			2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-7			
CHEWING GUM	STICKY TACK	SCOTCH TAPE	DUCT TAPE	WHITE GLUE	KRAZY GLUE	CEMENT
CONNECTING WITH OTHER BELIEVERS			HEBREWS 10:24-25			
CHEWING GUM	STICKY TACK	SCOTCH TAPE	DUCT TAPE	WHITE GLUE	KRAZY GLUE	CEMENT

ZOOM 0.35 TARGET LOCKED

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

This week's Deployment Challenge will give you a chance to be patient and do some thinking ...

You've been given something to take some time to put together.

As you do, think about and identify things and people that can encourage and help you develop a stronger "stickability" to your faith.

Journal about what you identify and take steps to intentionally integrate them into your life.

TENACITY OF FAITH09BATTLE READY

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

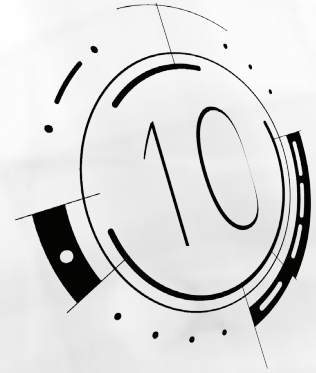
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You've been given something to take some time to put together.

As you do, think about and identify things and people that can encourage and help you develop a stronger "stickability" to your faith.

Journal about what you identify and take steps to intentionally integrate them into your life.

TENACITY OF FAITH09BATTLE READY



HOLY LIVING

TAKING AIM

The **HOLY LIVING** Training Unit will introduce teens to an understanding of full salvation (receiving salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ, and experiencing sanctification through the fire of the Holy Spirit), and will challenge them to choose to live in such a way that reflects both elements of new life in Christ.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Matthew 6:33

Ephesians 4:21-5:20

1 Peter 1:14-16

1 John 1:5-2:6

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

"I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to His leading in my life, growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible. I will make the values of the Kingdom of God and not the values of the world the standard of my life."⁶²

"I will uphold Christian integrity in every area of my life, allowing nothing in thought, word or deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral."⁶³

"I will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the non-medical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult and all else that could enslave the body or spirit."⁶⁴

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **HOLY LIVING** Training Unit will understand that one's experience of holiness is both personal and missional in nature—for their own benefit and for the benefit of others.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **Chocolate Coins** (a few packages: enough to be used in the "Changing Values" Game, and one package to be used as a prize for the winner)
- **Images of Retail Items** (image files attached)
- **Current Prices of Retail Items Above** (you will need to find these on retail websites, prior to your meeting)
- **"Changing Values" Score Sheet** (enough for each teen)
- **Poster Board** or **Mural Paper**
- **Markers**
- **Coin** (any value; used for "Coin Toss Prayers")

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** Ginny Owens – "Land of the Grey," "Own Me"; Kutless – "Take Me In," "Draw Me Close"; Newsboys – "Man on Fire"; Spring Harvest – "Send the Fire"; Chris Tomlin – "Give Us Clean Hands"; Vineyard Music – "Be the Centre"

BASIC TRAINING

Begin the **HOLY LIVING** Training Unit by having teens share what steps they have taken to begin further developing healthy spiritual habits and engaging in healthy spiritual community.

Open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the encouragement and community your group provides for each other; thank God for those who

play an active, intentional role in helping your teens' faith grow and develop; ask that teens would continue to grow in faith, knowledge, and grace, experiencing the full salvation through the blood of Jesus and fire of the Holy Spirit.)

ENGAGE: "Changing Values" Game (10 minutes)

Prior to your meeting time, look up and make note of the current prices of the retail items pictured in the **Images of Retail Items** included with this Training Unit. Distribute a copy of the **"Changing Values" Score Sheet** to each teen. Show your group the images, one at a time, having teens write down what they think the value/price of each item is, on their Score Sheet. Announce the correct answers, giving a **Chocolate Coin** to the teen whose guess is correct or closest to the actual price. Award a full package of Chocolate Coins to the teen who has the highest score of correct/closest guesses.

Say something like: *The value of things we buy is constantly changing, but changing values don't just apply to prices. The world's values—the principles it says we should live by—are also in a constant state of change. Sometimes the world's values line up with God's values, but very often they don't.*

Ask: *What are some examples of the world's changing values that you can think of?* Write the examples on a **Poster Board** or **Mural Paper** on the wall for your group to see.

Have teens look up and read Matthew 6:33.

Ask: *According to these words of Jesus, what are we to keep first in our lives?* (His kingdom and His righteousness.) Explain that in applying this to our lives we might ask ourselves these questions: How can I best serve God? How can I best become the person God created me to be? or Does this situation advance God's kingdom—His will on earth? Does this situation allow me to demonstrate God's character to others?

Say something like: *One of the commitments made in The Salvation Army's SOLDIER'S COVENANT states that "I will make the values of the Kingdom of God and not the values of the world the standard of my life."*⁶⁵ Explain that God's values are unchanging, even though sometimes how they might be expressed in our world may change. If we are to make His values the standard for our life, then the practices that were explored in last week's **TENACITY OF FAITH** Training Unit are vitally important to us as believers and as **SALVATION SOLDIERS**. In order to make the values of the Kingdom of God our own, we need to be continually in contact with Him through worship, prayer, reading the Bible, as well as through regular involvement in healthy spiritual community.

ENGAGE: "Full Salvation: A Two-Sided Coin" Handout

(15-20 minutes)

Explain that The Salvation Army expresses the experience of full salvation through its motto, "Blood and Fire."

RECAP

Say something like: *A few weeks ago, as we were looking at the CHRIST-centred Story we find ourselves in, we examined the realities of REDEMPTION, the INWARD CHANGE, that are brought to those who repent and put their faith in Jesus, and the privilege of being SET APART for God's purposes. The Salvation Army describes this as the experience of full salvation. Our motto, "Blood and Fire," reminds us that the experience of salvation is not just being set free from sin and condemnation through the redemption bought by Jesus' blood; we were also set free for the purpose of being sanctified (or made holy) by the fire of the Holy Spirit. Salvation and sanctification are God's work in our lives. They are both necessary to HOLY LIVING. In this way the experience of full salvation is like two sides of the same coin.*

⁶⁵ Ibid.

Distribute copies of the **“Full Salvation: A Two-Sided Coin” Handout** to each teen. Have your teens work through the sheet all together or in groups. As your teens look up and examine Ephesians 4:21-5:20, have them identify what the passage indicates we are “set free from” (habits, sins, patterns of our old life, before experiencing salvation) and what we are “set free for” (holy living, habits, actions, and attitudes that show the reality of our salvation and our desire to live for God’s purposes).

The Salvation Army's motto, “Blood and Fire” expresses its emphasis on redemption and holiness.

Explain: *The passage of Scripture we have just examined is just one of the many examples of the Bible’s teaching on holiness. God’s Word is full of instruction, letting us know what we are “set free from,” and the purposes that we have been “set free for.” Jesus’ blood purifies us: “sets us free from ...,” and the Holy Spirit’s fire purifies us, “setting us free for ...”*

Have teens look up and read 1 Peter 1:14-16.

Say something like: *God sets us free from sin so that we can be holy. Even though our holiness is the work of God in our lives, we are responsible for the “working out” of our salvation. As we do this, God will use us to have an impact on those in our world. We need to consider how the personal commitments made in The Salvation Army’s SOLDIER’S COVENANT may also be OTHERS-focused.*

Ask: *How do the following statements also communicate a “set free for” element of faith? (How might God use commitments such as these for His purposes, and in His mission to bring salvation to others?)* Have teens consider the two following statements from the SOLDIER’S COVENANT: *“I will uphold Christian integrity in every area of my life, allowing nothing in thought, word or deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral”⁶⁶* and *“I will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the non-medical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult and all else that could*

⁶⁶ Ibid.

Our experience of holiness
is both personal and
missional in nature.

enslave the body or spirit.”⁶⁷ (In some ways this will be a review of aspects of the **OUTWARD FOCUS** Training Unit. However, the aim here is to allow teens to see that **HOLY LIVING** is not solely for the benefit of the individual who has experienced salvation, but also has a missional nature—it has benefit and purpose towards others. The living out of this **COVENANT** is an outward expression of God’s work of sanctification in our lives.)

DROP ZONE

“Coin Toss Prayers” (5-10 minutes)

Have teens take turns praying “set free from” prayers or “set free for” prayers. Each teen will take a turn tossing a **Coin** to determine which type of prayer they will pray. “Tails” = “set free from ...,” “heads” = “set free for.” Give some suggestions regarding each focus in prayer:

“Set free from”: thanks for God’s gift of salvation; strength to overcome temptation; courage to stay away from things that may be harmful or enslaving, even when others may ridicule them; prayer for others who have not yet experienced salvation in Jesus; etc.

“Set free for”: courage to stand by convictions and commitments to stay away from harmful and enslaving habits and actions, for the sake of others who may also struggle in these areas; prayer for Christ’s character to be displayed in their life and witness; ask for guidance and vision to see how God can use them; prayer that God would sanctify them, making them holy for His purposes; etc.

⁶⁷ Ibid.

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **HOLY LIVING DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

Explain that this week's **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** gives teens a selection of lyrics from "Salvation" and "Holiness" sections of *The Song Book of The Salvation Army*, as well as some suggested recordings from various Christian artists. As they read and/or listen to the songs during the week, they are to use them as a guide for their own prayers during their personal devotions. Teens will be encouraged to journal these prayers and share their experience with their **PERSON OF INTEREST**.

BACKUP

Chosen to Be a Soldier: Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army. London: International Headquarters, 1987.

Hedgren, Steve, and Rob Lyle, eds. *Mapping Our Salvationist DNA: Beliefs, Values, Behaviors*. West Nyack: The Salvation Army, 2012.

The Song Book of The Salvation Army. Alexandria: The Salvation Army National Headquarters, 2015.

Waldron, John, ed. *The Privilege of All Believers*. Oakville: The Triumph Press, 1981.

Waldron, John D. *The Salvationist Lifestyle*. New York: The Salvation Army, 1989.

CHANGING VALUES



ZOOM 0.35

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CHANGING VALUES



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CHANGING VALUES



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CHANGING VALUES



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CHANGING VALUES

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ZOOM 0.35 TARGET LOCKED

FULL SALVATION: A TWO-SIDED COIN

Read EPHESIANS 4:21-5:20. Identify what the passage indicates that believers are "set free from" and "set free for":

SET FREE FROM ...

SET FREE FOR ...

BLOOD & FIRE

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

Use lyrics from *The Song Book of The Salvation Army* or recordings of some suggested recorded Christian songs as a guide for your prayers during your personal devotions this week. Journal your prayers and share your experience with your Person of Interest.

I BRING MY HEART TO JESUS by Herbert Howard Booth

I bring my heart to Jesus, with its fears,
With its hopes and feelings, and its tears;
Him it seeks, and finding, it is blest;
Him it loves, and loving, is at rest.
Walking with my Saviour,
heart in heart, none can part.

I bring my sins to Jesus, as I pray
That his blood will wash them all away;
While I seek for favour at his feet,
And with tears his promise still repeat,
He doth tell me plainly:
Jesus lives, and forgives.

I bring my life to Jesus, with its care,
And before his footstool leave it there;
Faded are its treasures, pure and dim;
It is not worth living without him.
More than life is Jesus,
love and peace, ne'er to cease.

I bring my all to Jesus: he hath seen
How my soul desireth to be clean.
Nothing from his altar I withhold
When his cross of suffering I behold;
And the fire descending
brings to me liberty.

CHRISTIAN RECORDINGS ON HOLY LIVING:

"Give Us Clean Hands" – Chris Tomlin
"Nothing But the Blood" – Page CXVI
"Live for You" – downhere
"Something Beautiful" – Newsboys

"Send the Fire" – Spring Harvest
"Own Me" – Ginny Owens
"Live the Life" – Michael W. Smith

FOR THY MISSION MAKE ME HOLY by Brindley Boon

Thou hast called me from the byway
To proclaim thy wondrous love;
Thou hast placed me on the highway
That to all men I may prove
There is mission in my living,
There is meaning in my word;
Saviour, in my daily striving
May this message yet be heard.

*For thy mission make me holy.
For thy glory make me thine.
Sanctify each moment fully.
Fill my life with love divine.*

Have I lost the sense of mission
That inspired my early zeal,
When the fire of thy commission
Did my dedication seal?
Let me hear thy tender pleading,
Let me see thy beckoning hand,
Let me feel thee gently leading
As I bow to thy command.

Lord, release that latent passion
Which in me has dormant lain;
Recreate a deep compassion
That will care and care again.
Needy souls are still my mission,
Sinners yet demand my love;
This must be my life's ambition,
This alone my heart shall move.

HOLY LIVING **10** BATTLE READY

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

Use lyrics from *The Song Book of The Salvation Army* or recordings of some suggested recorded Christian songs as a guide for your prayers during your personal devotions this week. Journal your prayers and share your experience with your Person of Interest.

I BRING MY HEART TO JESUS by Herbert Howard Booth

I bring my heart to Jesus, with its fears,
With its hopes and feelings, and its tears;
Him it seeks, and finding, it is blest;
Him it loves, and loving, is at rest.
Walking with my Saviour,
heart in heart, none can part.

I bring my sins to Jesus, as I pray
That his blood will wash them all away;
While I seek for favour at his feet,
And with tears his promise still repeat,
He doth tell me plainly:
Jesus lives, and forgives.

I bring my life to Jesus, with its care,
And before his footstool leave it there;
Faded are its treasures, pure and dim;
It is not worth living without him.
More than life is Jesus,
love and peace, ne'er to cease.

I bring my all to Jesus: he hath seen
How my soul desireth to be clean.
Nothing from his altar I withhold
When his cross of suffering I behold;
And the fire descending
brings to me liberty.

CHRISTIAN RECORDINGS ON HOLY LIVING:

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"Own Me" – Ginny Owens
"Live the Life" – Michael W. Smith

FOR THY MISSION MAKE ME HOLY by Brindley Boon

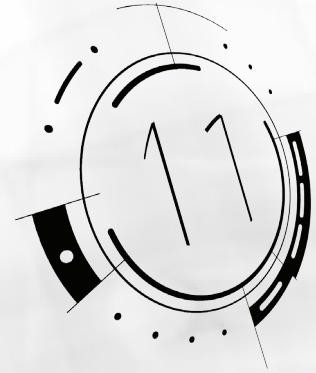
Thou hast called me from the byway
To proclaim thy wondrous love;
Thou hast placed me on the highway
That to all men I may prove
There is mission in my living,
There is meaning in my word;
Saviour, in my daily striving
May this message yet be heard.

*For thy mission make me holy.
For thy glory make me thine.
Sanctify each moment fully.
Fill my life with love divine.*

Have I lost the sense of mission
That inspired my early zeal,
When the fire of thy commission
Did my dedication seal?
Let me hear thy tender pleading,
Let me see thy beckoning hand,
Let me feel thee gently leading
As I bow to thy command.

Lord, release that latent passion
Which in me has dormant lain;
Recreate a deep compassion
That will care and care again.
Needy souls are still my mission,
Sinners yet demand my love;
This must be my life's ambition,
This alone my heart shall move.

HOLY LIVING **10** BATTLE READY



ENGAGED IN MINISTRY

TAKING AIM

The **ENGAGED IN MINISTRY** Training Unit will help teens recognize that spiritual growth does not only happen by “being fed,” but also through active service and ministry to others.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Romans 12:3-11 1 Timothy 4:12-16

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

“I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged.”⁶⁸

“I will be actively involved, as I am able, in the life, work, worship and witness of the corps, giving as large a proportion of my income as possible to support its ministries and the worldwide work of the Army.”⁶⁹

⁶⁸ Ibid.

⁶⁹ Ibid.

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **ENGAGED IN MINISTRY** Training Unit will understand that they have an active role to play in the whole Church, contributing to and gaining spiritual health and life through their active involvement in ministry, starting now.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **“Never Too Early” YouTube Video**
(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPRkoIfZIJQ>)
- **“I’m in the Lord’s Army!” Biographical Sketches**

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** Matthew West – “Do Something”; Audio Adrenaline – “Hands and Feet”; Delirious – “History Maker”; Newsboys – “That’s How You Change the World”; Ginny Owens – “Free,” “I Am Nothing”; Mark Schultz – “Let’s Go”; downhere – “Here I Am”

BASIC TRAINING

Begin the **ENGAGED IN MINISTRY** Training Unit by having teens share which songs/lyrics, during their personal devotions, challenged them to live in full salvation. Ask teens what steps or actions they are taking to live the truth that they have been “set free from” the power of sin in their lives, and “set free for” God’s will to be accomplished in and through their lives.

Open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the deepening of understanding of grace and mission that teens are gaining through their experience of connecting with others in discipleship training; ask that God would give them a true sense of calling upon their lives to offer themselves in service to Him and to others; ask God to open your teens’ eyes to opportunities for ministry that they can readily become involved in.)

Say something like: *The commitment to Salvation Army Soldiership is a big one. It is a significant step of faith and witness. It is a commitment that should not be taken lightly, or made too quickly. But, don't ever let anyone allow you to think that it is too large a step for you to take, simply because you are young. You are not only the Army of tomorrow. You are very much the Army of today. The Salvation Army and the world need you to be "actively involved ... in the life, work, worship and witness of your corps."*⁷⁰ *When considering a commitment of this magnitude, Satan will often try to place doubts in our minds, making us feel as if we are unqualified and unready: "I'm not up to it ... I'm not ready ..."* These feelings are natural, but we need to be even more aware that God promises His grace and strength to live as He calls us to live.

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: "Never Too Early" (5 minutes)

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPRkoIfZIJQ>)

Show "Never Too Early" to encourage those in your group who may be wondering whether or not they are "old enough" or "up to the task" of committing to Salvation Army Soldiership. Say something like: *The call of discipleship and to follow Jesus has always been larger than what anyone can live up to in their own strength. That is why we have been reminded over and over during the past few weeks that God's Spirit, working in us, qualifies and enables us to do His will. Taking the step to become a SALVATION SOLDIER is no different. And being young does not exclude or excuse you—it is not a reason to put off being actively engaged in ministry to others.*

The call of discipleship and to follow Jesus has always been larger than what anyone can live up to in their own strength ... God's Spirit, working in us, qualifies and enables us to do His will.

Have teens look up and read 1 Timothy 4:12-16.

Say something like: *It is easy to read that passage of Scripture as a teen and only pay attention to the first 11 words: "Don't let anyone look down on you*

⁷⁰ Ibid.

Spiritual growth does not only happen by “being fed,” but also through being Equipped for and Entrusted with active service and ministry to others.

because you are young.”⁷¹ But God’s Word has so much more to say to those who are young in verses such as these. In fact, there are a number of examples and actions that are expected even though you might be young.

Have teens identify what actions and examples this passage of Scripture instructs them to do. (Set an example for other believers in the way they talk and what they say, in their actions, in how they show love, in living out their faith, in their purity. They should be bold in their faith, and active in ministry: public reading of Scripture, preaching and teaching others, putting their gifts and abilities into practice. They should give their best, with determination and perseverance. They should be careful how they live and what they believe, recognizing the impact of their life and ministry on themselves and on others.)

ILLUSTRATION: “A Tale of Two Seas” (5 minutes)

Read the following illustration to help your teens see the importance of being actively involved in ministry, not only for the good of others but for their own spiritual growth and development as well.

There are two major bodies of water around the area where Jesus ministered during His time on earth: the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea.

The Sea of Galilee is about 21 km long and 11 km wide. It is surrounded by green shores, and is teeming with life.

The Dead Sea, on the other hand, is much larger: about 80 km long and 18 km wide. It is around 400 m below sea level, and due to extreme evaporation, the salt content in the water is between 26–35%, making it close to 10 times as salty as the oceans in the world. There is no seaweed or greenery surrounding the Dead Sea and no life at all within it.

⁷¹ 1 Timothy 4:12 New Living Translation.

There is only one major difference between the two bodies of water that account for the drastic change in life surrounding and within them: the Sea of Galilee has an outlet, allowing the life and water to stream out of it, and the Dead Sea does not, keeping its life to itself, resulting in death.

RECAP

Say something like: *Over the past three weeks, we have looked at how we can choose to live in the CHRIST-centred Story, with an OTHERS-focused faith: a faith that has an OUTWARD FOCUS; that develops TENACITY through healthy spiritual habits and healthy spiritual community; and that expresses itself through HOLY LIVING. Our spiritual health also depends on our allowing what God has done in our lives to overflow, through use of our God-given gifts and abilities in ministry to others. Thankfully, we belong to a denomination that has always encouraged, equipped, and entrusted youth for ministry! It is an important aspect of a SALVATION SOLDIER'S expression of faith, that we become actively ENGAGED IN MINISTRY.*

ENGAGE: "I'm in the Lord's Army!" Handouts

(15-20 minutes)

Remind your teens of the old Sunday School chorus, "I'm in the Lord's Army!": "I'm too young to march in the infantry, shoot the artillery, ride with the cavalry; I'm too young to zoom o'er the enemy, but I'm in the Lord's Army!" Make copies of the "I'm in the Lord's Army!"⁷² Biographical Handouts, and divide your teens into three groups, giving each group a biographical

One of the common practices of The Salvation Army throughout history has been to readily engage its members, including youth, in meaningful ministry.

⁷² "I'm in the Lord's Army" is a traditional Sunday School chorus sung in many corps in The Salvation Army, as well as in other denominations.

What do you sense God calling you to do?

How can you become better equipped for the tasks you have identified?

Whom do you need to connect with to begin being entrusted with ministry?

What do you need to demonstrate in your own life, in order for people to entrust you with ministry?

Being young is not a reason to put off being actively engaged in ministry to others.

(Again, throughout your discussion, refer your teens back to the Scripture they have just examined: Romans 12:3-11.)

DROP ZONE

"Catch & Release" Prayers (5-10 minutes)

Use the **Tennis Ball** in this week's DROP ZONE. Toss the tennis ball to one of your teens; have them begin by praying a short prayer focused on being **ENGAGED IN MINISTRY**. This could be thanks for opportunities, open eyes to opportunities, expressing desire to be better equipped, thanking for heritage where youth are valued in ministry, asking for God's character to be further developed in their life to be shown in ministry to others, etc.

When the first teen has finished praying, they toss the tennis ball to a different teen who takes their turn praying, and then tossing to another teen who has not yet prayed.

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **ENGAGED IN MINISTRY DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

This week's **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** requires your teens to make contact with their Corps Officer and/or particular leaders in your corps, interviewing them, using the guide provided, searching out areas of opportunity where your teens can be equipped for and entrusted with ministry.

BACKUP

Chosen to Be a Soldier: Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army. London: International Headquarters, 1987.

Hedgren, Steve, and Rob Lyle, eds. *Mapping Our Salvationist DNA: Beliefs, Values, Behaviors.* West Nyack: The Salvation Army, 2012.

Hunter, Zach. *Be the Change: Your Guide to Freeing Slaves and Changing the World.* El Cajon: Youth Specialties, 2007.

Munn, Neelson, and David Collinson. *Insane: The Stories of Crazy Salvos Who Changed the World.* Australia: The Salvation Army Australia Southern Territory, 2007.

Shellenberger, Susie. *Rock Your World: How You Can Make a Difference.* Ann Arbor: Servant Publications, 1998.

“I’M IN THE LORD’S ARMY!”

“My name is Eliza Shirley. I was born in 1863 to Amos and Annie Shirley. My father was a part-time minister.

When I was fifteen years old, the Salvation Army marched into my hometown and began a work led by women preachers that came to be known as Hallelujah Lassies. The women’s mission was to reach the poorest of the poor, whom no one else cared about, with the saving message of Jesus Christ. I was so affected by the preaching of these women that I dedicated my life to God’s service and wanted to become a Salvation Army worker.

After I turned sixteen, I was summoned by William Booth, General of The Salvation Army, to discuss my entry into full-time service with the group. The General met with me and I accepted a post in Bishop Auckland, a coal mining village in Northern England.

As part of my new post, I lived in impoverished conditions among the poor of the village, getting most of my food from keeping what was thrown at our Salvation Army meetings. Most of the money taken in offerings to be used to help with the work was stolen by the crowds before it ever reached us. Though times were hard, we saw God move in that village in a powerful way as even the worst men were converted to Christ during our meetings. We remained faithful to the work, and lives were changed.

Later that year my father sent word that he and my mother were moving to America, and they wished I would go with them. My dad thought that I could start a work for The Salvation Army in

America. I decided to ask General Booth for his advice as to whether I was suited for the task. He gave his blessing for me to test the waters in the U.S. I was a courageous young woman who had heard God’s calling and answered.

My family arrived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1880 and immediately began looking for a building to hold meetings. Their first meeting was attended by only 12 people and the work grew slowly. Though the rough crowds often pelted us with mud, stones, sticks, and rotten vegetables, we didn’t lose hope.

Nearly four weeks after their first small meeting, God intervened. As we made our way to the lot where we would be holding our meeting, we noticed a glow in the sky. A fire had been started on our lot and hundreds of people turned out to see the spectacle! We knew God had a plan, so we began to sing and preach. After the sermon, a drunken man known as Reddy came forward and asked if God would even forgive a drunk like him. Yes, even him, we explained. So, at that moment, Reddy gave his life to the Lord and his life was changed ... and so was the ministry in Philadelphia. Reddy became such a living testimony to the grace of God that people filled the meeting house to see it for themselves.

Soon after this, I was able to find another building [an old chair factory] on the West Side of Philadelphia and opened a new work for the Salvation Army, [calling it Salvation Factory]. I asked General Booth for reinforcements and the work of the Salvation Army spread throughout America.”

ELIZA SHIRLEY

“CAN I GO AND DO SOMETHING?”

“I’M IN THE LORD’S ARMY!”

“One picture among the many that I cherish of my father I should like to place at the very beginning of what I have to say of him here. It explains a certain new development in the history of the Army, but it also gives a glimpse of the deep fires that burned in the personality of William Booth. One morning, away back in the eighties, I was an early caller at his house in Clapton. Here I found him in his dressing-room, ... [t]he hair-brushes which he held in either hand were being wielded with quite eloquent vigour upon a mane that was more refractory than usual, and his braces were flying like the wings of Pegasus. No good-morning-how-do-you-do here!

‘Bramwell,’ he cried, when he caught sight of me, ‘did you know that men slept out all night on the bridges?’

He had arrived in London very late the night before from some town in the south of England, and had to cross the city to reach his home. What he had seen on that midnight return accounted for this morning tornado. Did I know that men slept out all night on the Bridges?

‘Well, yes,’ I replied, ‘a lot of poor fellows, I suppose, do that.’

‘Then you ought to be ashamed of yourself to have known it and to have done nothing for them,’ he went on, vehemently.

I began to speak of the difficulties, burdened as we were already, of taking up all sorts of Poor Law work, and so forth. My father stopped me with a peremptory wave of the brushes.

‘Go and do something!’ he said. ‘We must do something.’

‘What can we do?’

‘Get them a shelter!’

‘That will cost money.’

‘Well, that is your affair! Something must be done. Get hold of a warehouse and warm it, and find something to cover them. But mind, Bramwell, no coddling!’

That was the beginning of The Salvation Army Shelters, the earliest and most typical institutions connected with our now world-wide Social Work.”

BRAMWELL BOOTH

“GO AND DO SOMETHING!”

“I’M IN THE LORD’S ARMY!”

“I was born Catherine Mumford in 1829. I was the daughter of a preacher and grew up in a home where the Bible was read and taught, and where my family prayed together. When I turned twelve, my doctors noticed a curvature in my back, and I was ordered to stay in bed for several months. Not liking to waste any time, I spent these months reading my favourite storybook—the Bible. I read the whole Bible through cover to cover EIGHT times that year.

My favourite Bible story was the story of how God called Samuel when he was just a young boy. I hoped that God would also call me to do something important for Him. I often felt that God might not be able to use me because I wasn’t sure I had any special talents. But my mother always reminded me that when God calls you to do a job, He also gives you the ability to do it.

When I was 16 years old, my family moved to London, where I began to lead a Bible study and prayer meeting for girls. One day a young man came to speak at my church—it was one of the best sermons I had ever heard! This young man was William Booth. A week later William and I were both guests at a dinner where William recited a poem about how it was wrong for bar owners to sell alcohol. This created quite a controversy, but I agreed with William, having firsthand seen the damaging effects of alcohol, and I stood up and said so.

After this dinner, William and I spent much time together, talking about the Bible and our faith. Eventually, we fell in love and were married. We knew that we would help each other to know God better, that we would be great partners in preaching and caring for the needs of people, and also in raising our children to love and serve God. Soon, we put our skills and our passion for reaching the lost, both of which God had given us, to good work as we started what is now known as The Salvation Army. I eventually became known as “The Army Mother.”

My mother was right. Not only did God call me, but he gave me all the ability I needed to do his work.”

CATHERINE BOOTH

“I WILL GO AND DO SOMETHING!”

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

Make contact with your Corps Officer and/or particular leaders in your corps this week.

Interview them, using the questions on this card as a general guide, to help you discover areas where you may be able to be further **EQUIPPED FOR & ENTRUSTED WITH MINISTRY**.

1. How old were you when you first took on a ministry responsibility?
2. What advice would you give to someone my age regarding becoming **ENGAGED IN MINISTRY**?
3. What ministry needs does our corps have that a teen could become involved in?
4. How do you possibly see me helping meet these needs, or becoming actively involved in ministry?

ENGAGED IN MINISTRY 11 BATTLE READY

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

Make contact with your Corps Officer and/or particular leaders in your corps this week.

Interview them, using the questions on this card as a general guide, to help you discover areas where you may be able to be further **EQUIPPED FOR & ENTRUSTED WITH MINISTRY**.

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ENGAGED IN MINISTRY 11 BATTLE READY



RESPONSIBILITY

TAKING AIM

The **RESPONSIBILITY** Training Unit will help teens recognize that they are responsible to God for all that has been entrusted to them, and will help them identify areas in their lives in which they can be faithful stewards.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

2 Chronicles 31:1-10 John 6:1-13 2 Corinthians 8:9-14

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

"I will uphold the sanctity of marriage and of family life. I will be a faithful steward of my time and gifts, my money and possessions, my body, my mind and my spirit, knowing that I am accountable to God."⁷⁶

"I will be actively involved, as I am able, in the life, work, worship and witness of the corps, giving as large a proportion of my income as possible to support its ministries and the worldwide work of the Army."⁷⁷

⁷⁶ "The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant"

⁷⁷ Ibid.

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **RESPONSIBILITY** Training Unit will understand and begin taking action to demonstrate that their daily living should reflect that all they have and are belongs to God and should be used for His glory and honour.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **Prizes for Intro Activity Game** (for “This Teen’s Got Talent!,” “Charades,” or “Play-dough Creations”)
- **Play-dough** (a few small containers, if using the “Play-dough Creations” activity)
- **Poster Board** or **Mural Paper**
- **“What’s in Your Hand?” Handouts** (enough for each teen)
- **Envelopes** (enough for each teen)
- **Money** (an agreed-upon amount, with your Corps Officer’s approval; suggested denomination: \$10 for each teen)

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** Chris Rice – “The Power of a Moment,” “Life Means So Much”; Chris Tomlin – “Not to Us”; downhere – “For the Heartbreak”; LeCrae – “Just Like You”; Mandisa – “Good Morning”; tobyMac – “Steal My Show”

BASIC TRAINING

Begin your meeting with one of the following “Engage” Intro Activities:

ENGAGE: "This Teen's Got Talent!" Intro Activity

(10-15 minutes)

Have teens "compete" in a Talent Show of sorts, made up of various "Stupid Human Tricks" (see suggestions below). Call out the category of "talent" and have individuals perform for the group to be "judged" by either yourself or by the group itself based on the level of applause. Award a treat to the winner of each category.

"Stupid Human Tricks" Suggestions:

- touch your nose with your tongue
- physical contortion
- wiggle your ears
- flip your tongue over
- celebrity impressions
- belching the alphabet (provide soda!)
- stand up comic (remind them to keep it clean)
- animal impressions
- armpit music
- move only one eye

or

ENGAGE: "Charades" Intro Activity (10-15 minutes)

Have teens "compete" in a game of Charades (see suggestions below). Have each teen take their turn acting out the charade assigned to them. Whoever guesses correctly performs the next charade. The winner is the teen who guesses the most correctly. Award a treat to the winner.

Charade Suggestions:

- "Heart to God, Hand to Man"
- "The Hunger Games"
- The Salvation Army Crest
- Chocolate Milkshake
- William Booth
- Lava Lamp
- "Send the Fire"
- "Angry Birds"
- Uniform Epaulet
- "Throwback Thursday"

or

ENGAGE: "Play-dough Creations" Intro Activity

(10-15 minutes)

Have teens "compete" in a Sculpturing Contest, of sorts. In the same fashion as "Charades," have each teen take their turn sculpting an assigned "Play-dough Creation" using the **Play-dough**. Whoever guesses correctly takes the next turn. The winner is the teen who guesses the most correctly. Award a treat to the winner.

"Play-dough Creation" Suggestions:

- Salvation Army Kettle
- Hamburger
- Salvation Army Shield
- Horse
- Drum

- iPhone
- Cornet
- Yoda
- Headphones
- Teacup

RECAP

Say something like: *You were given something in this activity that you were responsible to do something with. Some of you found this more challenging than others, depending on what you were given. Living a CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith is similar in some ways: We each have RESPONSIBILITY for what God has given us, and to live our lives in a way that brings glory to him. Part of this is living our faith in the ways that we have been exploring over the past few weeks—with an OUTWARD FOCUS with an effective personal witness, motivated by sacrificial compassionate mission, being actively engaged in our world. We also ought to grow in the faith we have by developing a TENACITY OF FAITH through healthy spiritual habits and healthy spiritual community. We continue to allow God to do His work in and through our lives, through HOLY LIVING, experiencing and expressing our salvation through Jesus' blood and sanctification by the Holy Spirit's fire. Last week we explored the opportunities and value of being ENGAGED IN MINISTRY. This week, we are going to look at what we have been given by God, and who we are, as we become more and more like Jesus. Our faith should be marked by a sense of RESPONSIBILITY to God in these areas.*

Open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the teens in your group, that He has placed them where they are for this time and for His purposes; ask God to open their eyes to all that He had given them, helping them realize that all they have and are is his.)

Before diving into the RESPONSIBILITY Training Unit, have teens share about their interview experiences throughout the past week, and if there was

All we have and are belongs to God and should be used for His glory and honour.

something they learned about being **ENGAGED IN MINISTRY** through their conversations, or through the experiences and stories of those they interviewed.

ENGAGE: “Count Your Blessings” Brainstorm

(15-20 minutes)

Ask: *What do you think it means to be a “steward”?* Allow teens to think of instances where they may have heard the word used. This may be a time when “Lord of the Rings” fans may remember a character, “the Steward of Gandor,” who was charged with taking care of the land of Gandor until the return of the king.

Discuss what it means to be a faithful steward: you are given care of and responsibility for something that belongs to someone else. Help teens understand that all they have and are rightfully belongs to God. Brainstorm with your teens, identifying as many blessings as possible that they have been given by God, writing down all that is identified on a sheet of **Poster Board** or **Mural Paper**. Encourage them to go beyond more obvious answers such as shelter, food, family, money, etc., and identify more “intangible” blessings as well, such as relationships, time, freedom, etc.

Divide teens into three groups, assigning one of the following passages of Scripture to each group: 2 Chronicles 31:1-10; John 6:1-13, and 2 Corinthians 8:9-14. After your teens have had enough time to examine their passages of Scripture, ask: *What was the situation in each of your passages of Scripture? What were those in your passage responsible for? How were they faithful in their stewardship? In what ways did their faithful stewardship bring glory to God?*

Bring the attention of your group back to the blessings listed on the wall. Ask: *How can you be a faithful steward of what God*

has given you? How might you bring glory to God by being a faithful steward of what you have been given responsibility for?

Say something like: *The SOLDIER'S COVENANT incorporates faithful stewardship into much of its wording, recognizing that we are responsible to God for all that He has given us, materially, relationally, in physical ability, time, and spiritually.*

Read the following commitments made as part of the Soldier's Covenant to your teens:

"I will uphold the sanctity of marriage and of family life. I will be a faithful steward of my time and gifts, my money and possessions, my body, my mind and my spirit, knowing that I am accountable to God."⁷⁸

"I will be actively involved, as I am able, in the life, work, worship and witness of the corps, giving as large a proportion of my income as possible to support its ministries and the worldwide work of the Army."⁷⁹

Say something like: *We are going to look at three biblical examples of people who were faithful stewards of what God had placed in their hands.*

ENGAGE: "What's in Your Hand?" Handout (20 minutes)

Distribute copies of the "What's in Your Hand?" Handout to each of your teens. Guide your teens as they read the indicated passages of Scripture and examine the examples of Esther, Moses, and Daniel, reflecting on their own lives and what God has given them responsibility for, to be used for His glory.

⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ Ibid.

The example of Esther challenges teens to recognize that they have been placed where they are “for such a time as this.”⁸⁰

Teens will consider the questions “Where am I?” and “What needs to be done?” On the diagram, they will write down their thoughts in the space provided near the wristwatch.

The example of Moses challenges teens to consider “What’s that in your hand?”⁸¹ Teens will consider “What do I have to work with?” examining their Circles of Influence, their Gifts, Skills, and Knowledge, their Personality, their Experiences (both positive and negative), and their Interests and Passions.⁸² Teens will write down “what is currently in their hand” on the palm of the Hand diagram.

The example of Daniel challenges teens to commit to putting what is in their hand to use for God’s glory, recognizing that although Daniel lived in a society that was ungodly, he remained faithful to God, using His time, talents, relationships, wisdom, and abilities for God’s glory. Teens will write their name on the Ring portion of the diagram, indicating their commitment to be faithful stewards of all that is “in their hand” “for such a time as this.”⁸³

⁸⁰ Esther 4:14, *The NIV Study Bible*.

⁸¹ Exodus 4:2, *The NIV Study Bible*.

⁸² Adapted from Doug Fields’ “Finding Your SHAPE in Ministry” in Fields, Doug. *Purpose-Driven Youth Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1998.

⁸³ Esther 4:14, *The NIV Study Bible*.

DROP ZONE

"Open Hand" Prayers (5 minutes)

This week's **DROP ZONE** encourages teens to make use of particular physical actions associated with the type of prayers they pray.

Have teens reach out their arms with the palms of their hands facing upward as the group prays (individuals can take turns, or have the group pray silently, or all together out loud as they did in the "Prayer Huddle" **DROP ZONE**). Today's **DROP ZONE** prayer focus should include thanksgiving for what God has given teens "in their hands" to be responsible for, as well as expressions of intention to be faithful stewards, holding those things with "open hands," giving them back to God to be used for His glory.

DEPLOYMENT

You will need to get approval from your Corps Officer prior to this week's meeting in order to incorporate the money portion of this week's **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE**. With approval, place the **RESPONSIBILITY DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** along with the agreed-upon amount of money in each sealed envelope. Distribute one to each teen.

The Challenge, based on the Parable of the Talents, will give each teen a suggested amount of money (\$10) and will challenge them to be faithful stewards of it, using it in some (legal) way to increase its value over a period of time determined by you and your Corps Officer. (Perhaps having the teens return their money on the date of their Senior Soldier enrolment would be an option.) The money raised would be used for a worthy cause, determined by you, your Corps Officer, and/or your group of teens (suggested possibilities:

World Missions, the YP Budget, a mission project in the works, the Christmas Kettle campaign, to help a needy family in your corps, etc.).

If you are not able to get approval to use corps money for the project above, use the second **RESPONSIBILITY DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout provided, which will challenge teens to identify at least one way they can begin using what God has given them responsibility for as a faithful steward, beginning this week.

In both options, students are encouraged to connect with their **PERSON OF INTEREST** and have them help guide and suggest possible ways in which the teen can accomplish the challenge.

BACKUP

Chosen to Be a Soldier: Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army. London: International Headquarters, 1987

Hedgren, Steve, and Rob Lyle, eds. *Mapping Our Salvationist DNA: Beliefs, Values, Behaviors.* West Nyack: The Salvation Army, 2012.

Zydek, Heather, ed. *The Revolution: A Field Manual for Changing Your World.* Orlando: Relevant Books, 2006.

LEADER'S NOTE

The next two Training Units take a different format from the previous lessons in **BATTLE READY**. Preparation will require room set-up, and acquiring the participation of other leaders and soldiers in your corps.

WHAT'S IN YOUR HAND?

DANIEL DANIEL 6:1-10

Like DANIEL, commit "what's in your hand" to God, to be used by Him for His glory. Sign your name on the ring symbolizing this commitment.

GIFTS, SKILLS, AND KNOWLEDGE

EXPERIENCES-POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE

CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE

PERSONALITY

INTERESTS AND PASSIONS

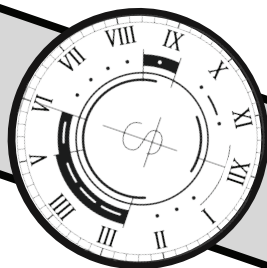
MOSES

EXODUS 3:14-17, 4:1-17

Like MOSES, consider the questions: "What's in my hand?" and "What do I have to work with?"

ESTHER ESTHER 4:5-16

Like ESTHER, consider the questions "Where am I?" and "What needs to be done?"



DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

Read MATTHEW 25:14-30.

You have been entrusted with a specific amount of money. This cash is not yours—it belongs to your corps. But you are challenged to be a faithful steward of what has been given to you.

Your challenge, should you choose to accept it, is to be creative in using it in some way to increase its value over the next few weeks (work out the exact timing with your **BATTLE READY** leader; maybe your **SALVATION SOLDIER** enrolment date might be a good possibility). Connect with your Person of Interest to help guide you and suggest possible ways you can accomplish the challenge.

The money you raise will go towards a worthy cause/ministry of The Salvation Army to further its work and mission. (Work this out with your **BATTLE READY** leader as well.)

What are you waiting for? Get to it!!

RESPONSIBILITY¹2 BATTLE READY

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

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What are you waiting for? Get to it!!

RESPONSIBILITY¹2 BATTLE READY

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

Read MATTHEW 25:14-30.

Take a look at the “WHAT’S IN YOUR HAND?” worksheet you completed in this week’s Training Unit.

What has God entrusted you with? Remember, all we have is God’s. We are given responsibility for it to be used for his glory.

Connect with your Person of Interest this week and share what you have identified on the worksheet with him/her. Together, think of at least one way you can begin to be a faithful steward of what God has given you.

What are you waiting for? Get to it!!

RESPONSIBILITY¹2BATTLE READY

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

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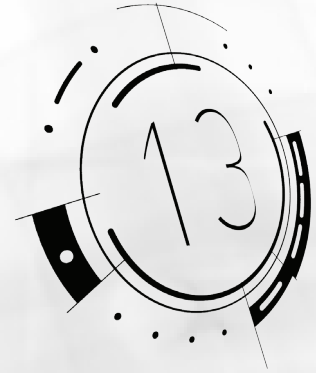
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What are you waiting for? Get to it!!

RESPONSIBILITY¹2BATTLE READY



SALVATIONISM

TAKING AIM

The **SALVATIONISM** Training Unit will introduce teens to some specifics and distinctives of Salvationism in belief and practice, particularly in areas of symbolism, abstinence, mission, and the Army's position regarding the Sacraments.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATIONS

Matthew 25:31-46

John 13:1-17

Acts 1:4-8

James 1:22-27

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

*"I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged."*⁸⁴

*"I will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the non-medical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult and all else that could enslave the body or spirit."*⁸⁵

*"I will be true to the principles and practices of The Salvation Army, loyal to its leaders, and I will show the spirit of salvationism whether in times of popularity or persecution."*⁸⁶

⁸⁴ "The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant"

⁸⁵ Ibid.

⁸⁶ Ibid.

FORMATION

Teens who actively engage the **SALVATIONISM** Training Unit will recognize that Salvationism is a unique expression of faith within the Christian Church, and will consider their place and role within The Salvation Army.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- **“Stations of Salvationism” Signs**
- **Items from “Interactive Suggestions”** (each “Station of Salvationism” has suggested options for ways to enhance the setting and atmosphere of the experience)
- **“The Crest of The Salvation Army” Animated Video**
available from Salvation Factory, USA Eastern Territory
(<http://vimeo.com/album/3215722/video/117005389>)
- **“The Flag of The Salvation Army” Animated Video**
available from Salvation Factory, USA Eastern Territory
(<http://vimeo.com/album/3215722/video/117005393>)
- **Epaulet Mash-Up** (two sets of cards)
- **Bass Drum**

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS

- **Music:** TransMission – “Soldier’s Hymn,” “The World for God,” “A Story to Tell,” “Greater Things”; Newsboys – “Fishers of Men,” “Live With Abandon,” “That’s How You Change the World”; downhere – “Remember Me,” “Break My Heart”; Ginny Owens – “Someone Searching”; Connervine – “Hero”; Matthew West – “Do Something”; Casting Crowns – “Until the Whole World Hears”

BASIC TRAINING

The format of the **SALVATIONISM** Training Unit is significantly different from the approach taken in the previous Training Units of **BATTLE READY**. Instead of a small group Bible study discussion, teens will take a “tour” of Salvationism. Consider recruiting other leaders and soldiers in your corps to help lead this week’s Training Unit by being present and guiding your teens through a specifically assigned “Station of Salvationism.”

Begin the **SALVATIONISM** Training Unit by having teens share their ideas and plans to accomplish the **RESPONSIBILITY DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE**.

Open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the teens in your group and for the heritage of faith that has been passed down to them and to you by those who have gone before; ask that God would give them a better understanding of the unique place The Salvation Army has within the Christian Church through the experience they will take part in this week; ask that He would make His will clear to them regarding their decision to take the step of **SALVATION SOLDIERSHIP**.)

ENGAGE: “Stations of Salvationism”

Set up stations in your corps as instructed by the “**Stations of Salvationism**” **Signs** included in this Training Unit. Assign one station to each leader/soldier you have been able to recruit in helping guide teens through the experience. (If you do not have enough leaders/soldiers available to assign one station to each, feel free to double up, or assign multiple stations to particular individuals. In extreme circumstances, you may need to lead teens through the stations yourself, acting as a type of “tour guide” of Salvationism.) Teens will spend approximately 10-15 minutes at each station, discovering the meaning, symbolism, and history of various elements of **SALVATIONISM** as they interact with what is set up at each station. Encourage

Salvationism has a unique expression of faith and role within the broader Christian Church.

teens to make notes, writing down points of interest and impact, as well as questions the experience may bring to them.

Recap the previous Training Units by reading the following: *We are coming to the end of our journey together, preparing you to be **BATTLE READY SALVATION SOLDIERS**. This week's Training Unit will take a different format from how we have held our group meetings so far. This week will be more like a quick "Tour of Salvationism." But before we begin, let's recap where we have been so far.*

*We began our study by looking at the imagery of a soldier as it relates to being a follower of Jesus, and although there are many different ways to portray discipleship, The Salvation Army has chosen to use this image, emphasizing the active and fully engaged nature a soldier has—becoming a soldier is not just joining a club or simply being a member of a church and doing nothing about it. A **SALVATION SOLDIER** is **BATTLE READY**, marked by a faith that is **CHRIST-centred**, **OTHERS-focused**, and lived in sacred covenant.*

*We spent six weeks learning about the **CHRIST-centred** aspect of our faith—the fact that we live in a **CHRIST-centred** Story. And that Story, rooted in our **CANON**, Scripture, is well articulated by what we say "we believe" in The Salvation Army's 11 Doctrines of Faith. We have come to understand, in a better way, the **HOLY GOD** we worship. We recognize our need for **REDEMPTION**, and how that is provided in Jesus Christ. We see the **INWARD CHANGE** that is brought about through salvation, and the privilege of being **SET APART** through sanctification, having an anchored hope in the **TRIUMPH** of God's redemptive plan in the world through Jesus. And we are a part of that Story!*

*So, how do we choose to live in that Story as Salvationists? We choose to live a **CHRIST-centred**, **OTHERS-focused** faith. That faith is characterized by an **OUTWARD FOCUS**, including an effective personal witness, sacrificial compassionate mission, and active engagement in our world. We work to develop a "stickability," a **TENACITY OF FAITH**, through putting healthy*

spiritual habits in place, and becoming involved in healthy spiritual community. We have seen how our faith should be an expression of the realities of full salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ and sanctification by the fire of the Holy Spirit, resulting in HOLY LIVING. We see the importance of being ENGAGED IN MINISTRY, recognizing that the outflow of one's faith is just as critical to spiritual health as is "soaking in." And last week we were reminded that we have a sense of RESPONSIBILITY in our faith: We are responsible to God for all He has given us, and for all He is making us to be.

This week, in the last area of focus as we look at the OTHERS acronym, we will explore some of the specifics, symbols, and distinctive elements of SALVATIONISM, in order to better understand the particular part of the Church, the body of Christ, that we belong to as The Salvation Army.

The following is a brief description of each station with suggestions for making the stations more interactive, as well as a general scripting to help leaders/soldiers introduce and facilitate each station.

CREST & SHIELD

Most corps will have a large Salvation Army Crest somewhere on their building. Have teens begin their "Tour of Salvationism" here. This station will examine the symbolism incorporated into the Crest.⁸⁷ The station will also look at the Red Shield and examine what it represents to our society at large.⁸⁸

Interactive Suggestions

- Watch **"The Crest of The Salvation Army" Animated Video** (<http://vimeo.com/album/3215722/video/117005389>)

⁸⁷ Information provided in supplemental material adapted from Slous, Sheryl. *The Animated Crest of The Salvation Army*. West Nyack: Salvation Factory, 2014.

⁸⁸ Information provided in supplemental material adapted from http://www.usc.salvationarmy.org/usc/www_usc_appleton.nsf/vw-sublinks/11AF7DE075404DB380256F2E006B0BFE?openDocument

- Send the teens around the corps building on a “Crest & Shield Photo Scavenger Hunt.” Give them a time limit (approximately 3-5 minutes) during which they will search the corps for occurrences of the Crest and Shield, taking a photo on their phones each time they find one. The team or individual with the most photos wins.

Have teens return to the Crest & Shield station. Read any portion of the station sign that was either not covered by the video or not read prior to their scavenger hunt.

Have teens proceed to the Flag station.

FLAG

Teens will be made aware of the Flag’s Trinitarian symbolism, its use, and purpose in relation to the Great Commission and the Army’s public witness.⁸⁹

Read the Scripture passage on the station sign, and say something like: *In a similar way that Moses said that “the LORD is my banner,” after the Israelites defeated the Amalekites (Exodus 17:8-16), the banner—or Flag—of The Salvation Army is a representation of the HOLY GOD we worship, and whose name and salvation we proclaim.*

⁸⁹ Information provided in supplemental material adapted from *CrossTraining for Corps Cadets*. Alexandria: National Headquarters, 2014.

Interactive Suggestions

- Watch **“The Flag of The Salvation Army” Animated Video** (<http://vimeo.com/album/3215722/video/117005393>)

Read the Flag station sign aloud.

- As another interactive activity, if you have time, hide two Salvation Army ‘Glory Flags’ (small size flags) in the corps building. Divide the group into two teams and give each team a set of clues to the hidden flag (similar to the “Hidden Immunity Idol” on the TV show Survivor). The first team to retrieve their flag and bring it back to the Flag station, wins.

As Salvationists, we choose
to live a CHRIST-centred,
OTHERS-focused faith.

Have teens proceed to the Social Services station.

SOCIAL SERVICES

If your corps is connected to a form of Social Service ministry, set up this station there, giving teens an exposé of various ministries of The Salvation Army, incorporating a reminder of the missional purpose behind the Army’s position on and commitment to abstinence. If your corps is not connected to a form of Social Service ministry, consider setting up a representation of this type of ministry as a display. If you are conducting your **BATTLE READY** Bible study leading up to the Christmas season, perhaps a Christmas kettle would be an effective visual representation of this.

Say something like: *One of the slogans of The Salvation Army throughout its history has been “Heart to God, Hand to Man.”*

The essence of this motto is that, as Salvationists, our hearts (our lives) are offered to God, and as an outflow of this dedication, our “hands,” or our service, are offered to those in need. It is a slogan that reflects the CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused nature and expression of our faith as Salvationists.

Read the Social Services station sign aloud.

Interactive Suggestions

- Ask the Corps Officer to provide you with a task that needs to be completed in the food pantry, warehouse, etc. Have teens help out with this task. If time does not allow for this in your group meeting, consider having teens sign up to volunteer sometime in their own schedules.
- Invite an Officer, employee, or volunteer to explain the various social services ministries offered by your corps and their particular role within it.

Have teens proceed to the Soldiers & Officers station.

SOLDIERS & OFFICERS

Teens will interact with a display of copies of “The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier’s Covenant,” the Officer’s Covenant, as well as various commissions, as they recognize that Call and Covenant play a critical part in the life of a Salvationist. Teens will also examine the role that Local Officers play in the life and leadership of the corps, as well as the rank system within the Army.

Say something like: *The Salvation Army is characterized by covenant. From the earliest moments in life, through the journey of faith, entering into and living out specific covenants are a vital part of the CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith that is expressed by Salvationists around the world.*

Ask: *Can you name some of the specific covenants that are a part of Salvationist expression of faith?* (Some examples are: Junior Soldier Promise; Senior Soldier Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant; Officer Covenant; marriage covenant, dedication, etc.)

Say something like: *The Soldier's Covenant is a commitment an individual makes, affirming the doctrines and practices of The Salvation Army. It is primarily a covenant between the individual, God, and a particular people within the Church: those who identify themselves as Salvationists. It is more than a personal promise; it is an identification as part of that people, choosing to live and express one's faith in a particular way.*

Interactive Suggestions

- Epaulet Mash-Up: Provide a set of cards indicating ranks and corresponding epaulets for each team. Teens will race to be the first to correctly match the epaulet to the rank.
- Invite a uniformed Soldier and an Officer to share their stories and answer questions

Have teens proceed to the Uniform station.

When people see a Salvation Soldier in uniform, they should be able to expect to see a faith that is practised with Christ at the centre, and others as a primary focus.

UNIFORM

Encourage the leader who will be facilitating this station to wear their uniform. As students interact with this uniformed Salvation Soldier, they will begin to understand the Army's sacramental position on baptism as it relates to Soldiership and uniform wearing. Have the leader say something like this: *One unique characteristic of The Salvation Army is the privilege given for all soldiers to be able to wear the uniform. In many other church denominations there may be special clothing worn by the clergy (pastors, priests, or other ordained ministers), but not the members of the congregation. In The Salvation Army, we believe in "the priesthood of all believers," and this is reflected by the fact that every soldier—the clergy (ordained ministers, Officers) and the laity (those who are not ordained ministers)—is able to wear what would be seen in other denominations as a "priestly garment."*

More specifically, as The Salvation Army does not practise water baptism—as explored in the Sacramentalism station—the enrolment as a soldier, and the putting on of the uniform, is as close a ceremony and expression of one's "baptism" into the Body of Christ as the Army has. In fact, it expresses our Sacramental position well, in that the wearing of the uniform is not a one-time ritual, but rather a constant reminder and witness of the INWARD CHANGE that has taken place in the life of a SALVATION SOLDIER.

The uniform doesn't only function as a witness. Although it is well recognized throughout the world, identifying its wearers as those who have chosen to practise their faith in a particular way, as part of a specifically covenanted people, it also reminds its wearers that ours is a CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith: The S's on the lapels remind us of our doctrine of full

salvation. We are “saved to serve,” “saved to save!” The soldier, through wearing one’s uniform, proclaims that we are not only saved from sin, but saved and **SET APART** for God’s purposes. When others see a **SALVATION SOLDIER** in uniform, they should be able to expect to see a faith that is practised with Christ at the centre, and Others as a primary focus.

Interactive Suggestions

- Salvo Selfies: Have a few Salvation Army tunics and hats available for teens to try on. Encourage them to take “Salvo Selfies” on their phones and post them to FaceBook or Instagram.
- If possible, arrange with The Salvation Army’s Supplies & Purchasing Trade Department to make some uniforms available to your group to try on, with the intent of placing an order for your teens. Or, consider setting another time to take your teens to Trade to try on uniforms and be fitted.
- Explore whether your territory has a financial assistance plan to help soldiers cover some of the cost of their first uniform. If so, make your teens and their families aware of this resource available to them.

Have teens proceed to the Sacramentalism station.

SACRAMENTALISM

As teens visit the corps kitchen, or sit at a table set up as if for a meal, they will learn about The Salvation Army’s sacramental position on the Lord’s Supper, and the role that Love Feasts & Fellowship Meals have played in the Army’s worship and

The Salvation Army has chosen not to officially practise Sacramental ceremony, believing that specific ritual(s) are not necessary for salvation or holy living.

experience of communion. Teens will also learn of the Army's "ultra-sacramental" position⁹⁰ as it relates to making each meal a sacred and communal experience, and one's life a living sacrament.⁹¹ Teens will also recognize that The Salvation Army believes that the only distinctive, uniquely Christian baptism is baptism by the Holy Spirit. It acknowledges various worthy expressions of having been baptized into the body of Christ; public testimony, the Soldiership enrolment ceremony and the wearing of the uniform are ways Salvationists choose to demonstrate this.

Ask: *Who knows what we mean when we refer to Sacraments?*

(You may receive a variety of responses from your teens, depending on the experience and exposure to other Christian denominations. They may identify particular sacraments such as communion or baptism, or they may give you a description of what sacraments mean to Christians. Either of these types of response is acceptable. The aim here is to get your teens thinking and talking about an area of the Christian faith that is often not addressed specifically within The Salvation Army because of our unique Sacramental position.)

Read the Sacramentalism station information sign to your group.

Say something like: *The Salvation Army, along with another group of Christians known as the Quakers (or Religious Society of Friends) are in the minority within the Christian church in regard to their Sacramental positions. We, along with the Quakers, have chosen not to officially practise Sacramental*

⁹⁰ Information provided in supplemental material is quoted and adapted from Clifton, Shaw. *Who Are These Salvationists?* Alexandria: Crest Books, 1999. p. 61; Street, Robert. *Called to Be God's People.* London: International Headquarters, 1999. pp. 86 & 89

⁹¹ Song quoted in supplemental material from Orsborn, Albert. "My Life Must Be Christ's Broken Bread," *The Song Book of The Salvation Army.* Verona: National Headquarters, 1987.

ceremony, believing that specific ritual(s) are not necessary for salvation or HOLY LIVING. The Salvation Army is not anti-sacrament—we don't believe it is wrong to practise the Sacraments. Rather, we believe that all of life, as Christians, should be a Sacrament, an outward sign/witness of an INWARD CHANGE and reality. As such, not only do we not believe particular rituals are necessary to experience salvation and HOLY LIVING, but we also believe that HOLY LIVING is able to demonstrate one's whole life as being Sacramental.

Interactive Suggestions

- Provide a snack that is shared at this station. Share the following prayer after the "meal" in an act of "returning thanks" as a way of remembering Christ's sacrifice: *We thank Thee Lord for this, our food ... much more because of Jesus' blood. Let manna to our souls be given: the Bread of Life sent down from heaven. Amen.*

Have teens proceed to the Mercy Seat & Holiness Table station.

THE MERCY SEAT & HOLINESS TABLE

Teens will move into the sanctuary/chapel area of your corps and come to the front. As they gather at the Mercy Seat, teens will learn of its significance and use, recognizing it as a place of prayer and grace.⁹² They will also explore the use of the Holiness Table and learn of its place reminding them of the Army's doctrine of full salvation.⁹³

⁹² Information provided in supplemental material adapted from Street, Robert. *Called to Be God's People*. London: International Headquarters, 1999.

⁹³ Quote from General Paul Rader taken from Bovey, Nigel. *The Mercy Seat Revisited*. London: United Kingdom Territory, 2010. p. 90

After reading the Mercy Seat & Holiness Table information sign to your teens, say something like: ***At the front of just about every Salvation Army corps, you will find something that looks like this*** (as you refer to the Mercy Seat and Holiness Table). *This is a place of prayer—and of “communion,” not in a ritualistic sense, but in the truest sense of it being a place to “meet with God.” From Old Testament times, the place of meeting with God was referred to as the “Mercy Seat,” and The Salvation Army has adopted this term for this place of prayer. In other churches, a place such as this might be referred to as an altar or penitent form.*

There was a time in our history when the Mercy Seat and Holiness Table seemed to serve two different functions related to prayer: the Mercy Seat was seen as a place to come to seek “mercy,” to repent from sins and seek salvation; the Holiness Table was a place to seek the blessing of sanctification and power to live a holy life. Today, the distinction between the two places of prayer is less defined, both being seen as appropriate places where anyone could come and pray for any purpose.

Note for your teens that the specific objects of the Mercy Seat and Holiness Table are not what makes these “holy” or sacred places, but rather their use and purpose. Your DROP ZONE prayer activity will help your teens understand this by using a more common object (your corps bass drum) as a place of prayer.

Interactive Suggestions

- see DROP ZONE section of this Training Unit.

If time permits, have teens share some of their thoughts and questions noted during their experience. If time does not permit, encourage them to contact

you, your Corps Officer, and/or their PERSON OF INTEREST during the week to discuss what they have learned, what has impacted them, and what questions their “Tour of Salvationism” has sparked.

DROP ZONE

“Bass Drum Prayers” (5-10 minutes)

Bring your corps **Bass Drum** and lay it on the floor in front of the Holiness Table / Mercy Seat area in the front of the corps sanctuary/chapel. Have teens kneel for prayer, circling the Bass Drum, utilizing it as a Mercy Seat and place of prayer, explaining that this was often done in the early days of The Salvation Army when Salvationists would be holding Open-Air evangelistic services. Have teens take turns praying, focusing on what they have learned about their heritage, the spirit, practice, and expression of **SALVATIONISM** through history and in their own spiritual experience.

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **SALVATIONISM DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

This week's **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** requires your teens to take home and prayerfully consider *The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant*, before coming to next week's Training Unit, which focuses on **COVENANT**, giving teens an opportunity to make the commitment to become a **SALVATION SOLDIER**, signing their own **SOLDIER'S COVENANT**. The **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** also provides teens with an invitation to give to their parent(s) and/or their **PERSON OF INTEREST** to come to next week's **COVENANT** Training Unit, which will take the form of an overview of the Soldier's Covenant, as well as prayerful time of commitment. (It should be noted that the **COVENANT** Training

Unit is not the Senior Soldier Enrolment Ceremony, but rather is designed to be an intimate and meaningful time of commitment for the families and intentionally spiritually invested adults who are supporting the teens as they take the step of making the commitment of Soldiership within The Salvation Army.

(At some point before next week's **COVENANT** Training Unit the names of those teens considering the step of **SALVATION SOLDIERSHIP** should be brought forward to and vetted by the Senior Pastoral Care Committee / Census Board for approval.)

You may have teens in your group who do not believe they are ready to make the commitment of **SALVATION SOLDIERSHIP** at this time. Encourage their honesty and integrity to themselves, others, and before God. The option to be enrolled as an Adherent within The Salvation Army may be presented to them, and further discussion to that end should be had between the teen and your Corps Officer, including yourself and the teen's parent(s), letting them know what Adherency is, and how it differs from Soldiership. If the teen opts to be enrolled as an Adherent, you may still encourage them to attend next week's **COVENANT** Training Unit, and have them sign a Certificate of Adherency at the time of commitment. If they choose not to make that commitment either, you can give them the invitation to attend next week's **COVENANT** Training Unit with the understanding that they will not be making the commitment, but as a show of support and encouragement to their peers who are making the commitment and with whom they have shared the past thirteen weeks of discipleship training.

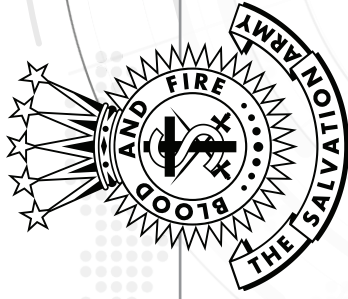
BACKUP

Chosen to Be a Soldier: Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army. London: International Headquarters, 1987

Hedgren, Steve, and Rob Lyle, eds. *Mapping Our Salvationist DNA: Beliefs, Values, Behaviors.* West Nyack: The Salvation Army, 2012.

Kitching, Wilfred. *Soldier of Salvation.* London: Salvationist Publishing and Supplies, Ltd., 1978.

Street, Robert. *Called to Be God's People.* London: International Headquarters, 1999.



CREST

THE SCRIPTURE

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name [but Jesus] under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."
—ACTS 4:12

THE SIGNIFICANCE

The Salvation Army Crest was designed by Captain William H. Ebdon and first appeared in a letter from Bramwell Booth to Elijah Cadman dated March 26, 1879.

Today, it is an international symbol throughout the Army world. Each piece of the Crest represents a particular belief or aspect of the Christian faith.

The Sun represents the light and the fire of the Holy Spirit.

The Cross represents the cross on which Jesus died for an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

The Letter "S" represents salvation, which is available to all people through Jesus Christ.

The Crossed Swords represent God's Word, our weapon, with which we find for God & salvation, and against sin & the Devil.

The Gospel Shots represent seven basic truths of the Gospel as identified in the original seven Articles of Faith drawn up by William Booth.

"Blood and Fire" is the motto of The Salvation Army.

The Crown represents the eternal reward of life in heaven for all who are faithful to Jesus.

THE SYMBOL



SHIELD

THE SCRIPTURE

"The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold." —PSALM 18:2

THE SIGNIFICANCE

The Red Shield is an internationally recognized symbol of The Salvation Army. Traditionally, it has been largely associated with the Social Service ministries, but more recently it has become a public representation of The Salvation Army's ministry as a whole.

It represents the shield the Army provides to people in need of spiritual, physical, financial, or emotional help. It also represents our faith and trust in God as our shield and salvation.

At the turn of the twentieth century, a Silver Shield with the words "Salvation Army" embossed on it was worn as a badge by many Salvation Army personnel, especially those serving with the British Defense Forces. The shields of Officers were embossed with red as a distinguishing feature. Col. Walter Peacock, a Canadian Salvation Army Officer, designed and introduced a red shield into Canadian held trenches in France in 1915. The silver was eventually permanently replaced by red enamel, becoming a symbol of Salvation Army service.

The Red Shield was adopted worldwide soon after.

THE SYMBOL

THE FLAG

THE SCRIPTURE

"As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army ... Moses built an altar and called it "The LORD Is My Banner." —EXODUS 17:11-13, 15

THE SIGNIFICANCE

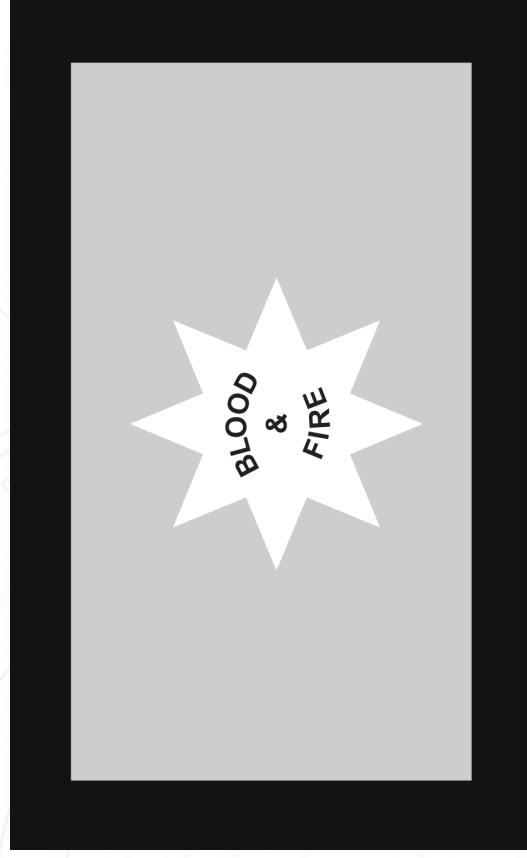
The Flag is a central element in every corps and is used in every Salvation Army ceremony. It is also present as a public witness in Salvation Army outreach efforts such as Open-Airs, outdoor meetings, marches of witness, etc. When Salvationists stand under the Flag in witness or to make promises, they acknowledge belief in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, claiming the holiness, salvation, and power of God in their lives.

While the Flag represents The Salvation Army, it also carries deep symbolism that portrays that The Salvation Army is a mainstream Christian Church accepting the doctrine of the Trinity of God: God the Father is represented by the Blue border, which symbolizes the holiness and purity of God.

God the Son is represented by the Red inner layer, symbolizing the atoning blood of Jesus, shed on the cross.

God the Holy Spirit is represented by the Yellow Star, symbolizing the fire of the Holy Spirit.

The phrase "Blood and Fire" represents the experience of full salvation: being set free from sin by the blood of Jesus Christ, and being set apart and empowered to live holy lives by the fire of the Holy Spirit.



SOCIAL SERVICES

THE SCRIPTURE

"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. ... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine you did for me." —**MATTHEW 25:35-36. 40**

THE SIGNIFICANCE

It was a cold and windy night in the East end of London when General William Booth was walking home and noticed people huddled in doorways, covering themselves in newspapers and rags, trying to protect themselves from the cold. His heart was stirred and he decided right there on the street that he would open shelters for the poor, hungry, alcoholic, jobless, homeless, sick, and discouraged people he was noticing day after day. People were given food, clothing, a place to sleep, and also the good news that God loved them, was willing to forgive their sins and help them turn their lives around. Lives were changed in these early shelters. This was the beginning of what The Salvation Army now calls its 'social work'.

Today, lives continue to be changed as The Salvation Army continues to tirelessly provide for the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of hurting people through its Social Services efforts all over the world. From shelters to food assistance programs, help for the abused and neglected to rehabilitation for addicts, soup kitchens to medical care—in an endless list of services, The Salvation Army serves with care, dignity, and compassion, all in the name of Jesus. The Salvation Army is best known all around the world for its exemplary Social Services ministry.

The Salvation Army's commitment to social services has shaped our views on abstinence from any and all harmful and addictive habits, including alcohol, tobacco, drugs, gambling, and pornography. So as to protect one's own body, mind, and spirit from the often enslaving nature of such habits, as well as in an effort to stand alongside and encourage those who struggle with addictions in these areas, Salvation Soldiers commit to total abstinence as part of their covenant.

SOLDIERS & OFFICERS

THE SCRIPTURE

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." —1 PETER 2:9

THE SIGNIFICANCE

The soldiers of The Salvation Army are active members who live a life of CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith in sacred covenant within The Salvation Army. They affirm the doctrines and practices of The Salvation Army and have signed the Soldier's Covenant.

Soldiers may take on volunteer and/or vocational responsibilities both within the corps and in the Army's broader ministries. Trained and qualified soldiers are appointed as "local officers" holding key lay leadership positions.

Other members of the congregation may be Adherents, who express faith in Jesus Christ, participate in the life of the church, but who have not made a commitment of Soldiership. Adherents may take on some lay responsibilities within the corps.

Soldiers have the privilege of wearing the Salvation Army uniform and promise to abstain from the use of alcoholic beverages, drugs, and tobacco, for the sake of protecting both themselves and others from the enslaving potential of these habits.

Salvationists hold to the conviction that all believers are members of a "royal priesthood" and as such, the uniform (which relates to a priestly garment) is worn by both Soldiers and clergy (Officers) alike. Officers are Soldiers who have dedicated their lives, skills, and service completely to God in full time vocational ministry, in response to God's specific call on their lives to be an Officer within The Salvation Army. They have completed an intensive two-year training at a Salvation Army College for Officer Training, have signed the Officer's Covenant, and have been ordained and commissioned as ministers within the Christian Church. Officers are ordained with the rank of Lieutenant, and may be promoted to Captain and Major through years of service, and Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel, or Commissioner dependent on specific appointment, or elected to General.



LIEUTENANT



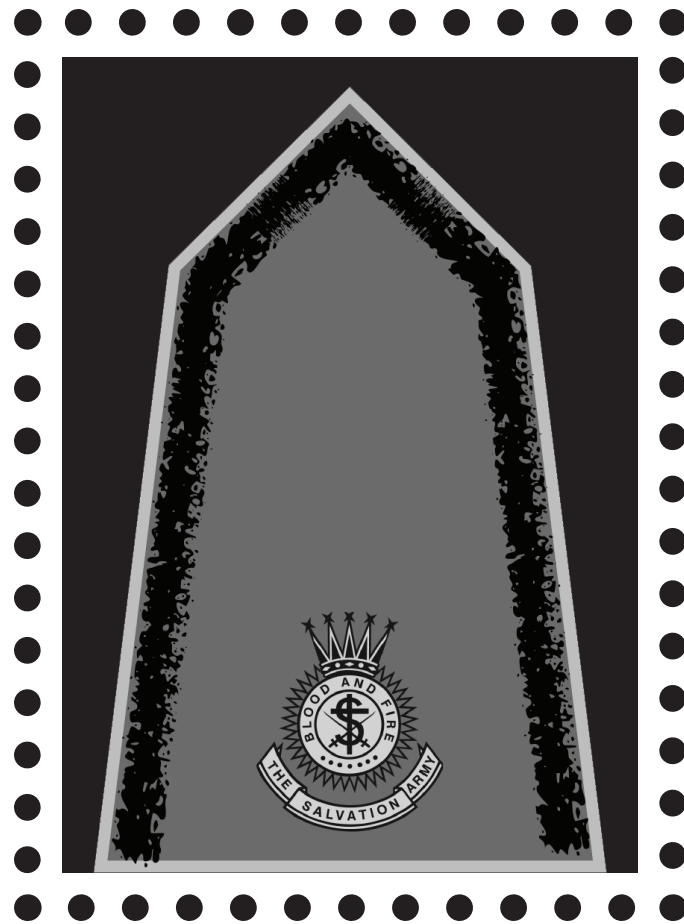
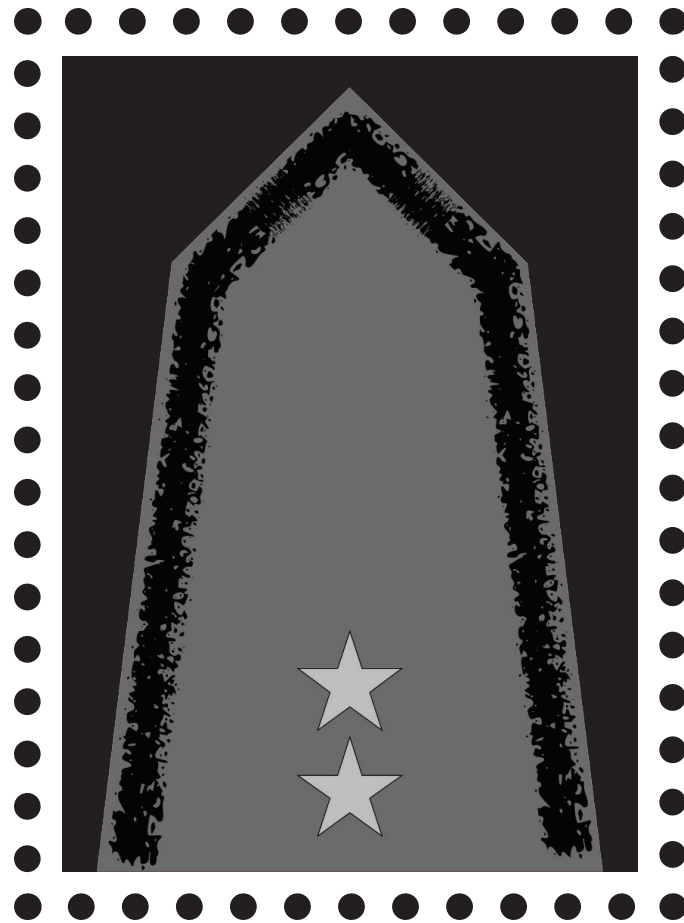
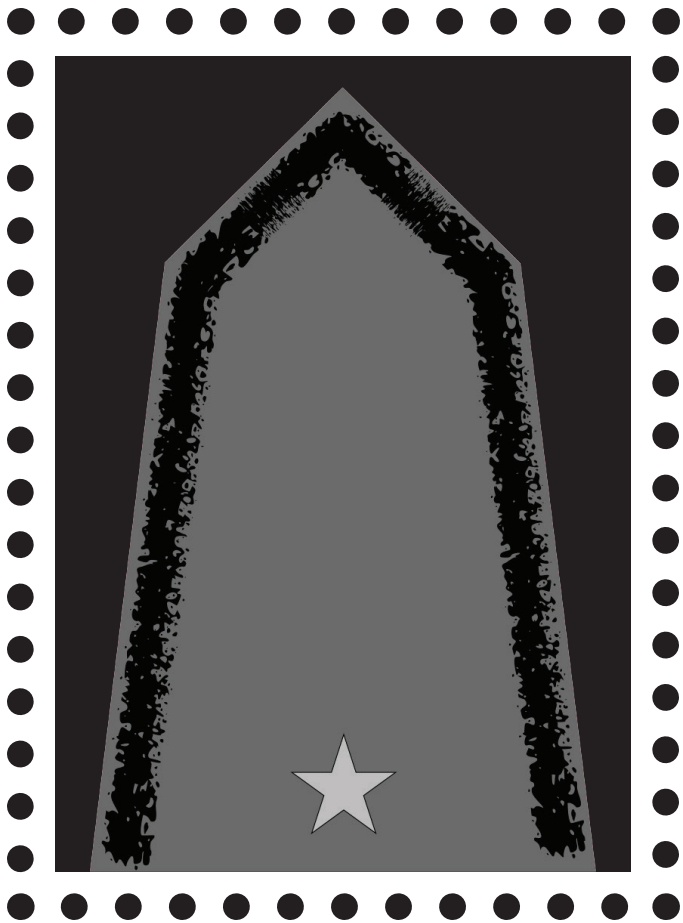
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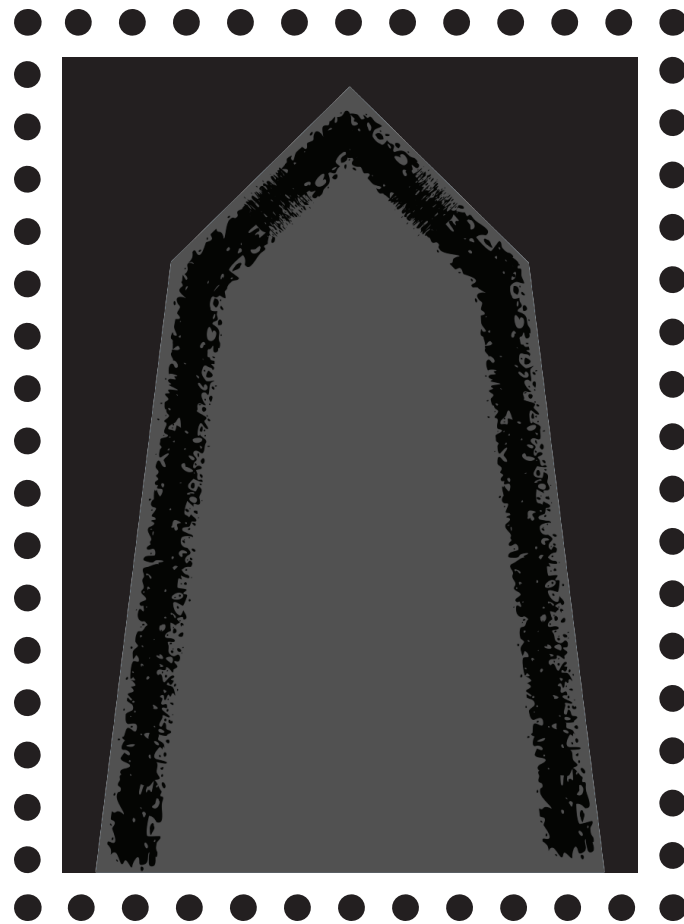
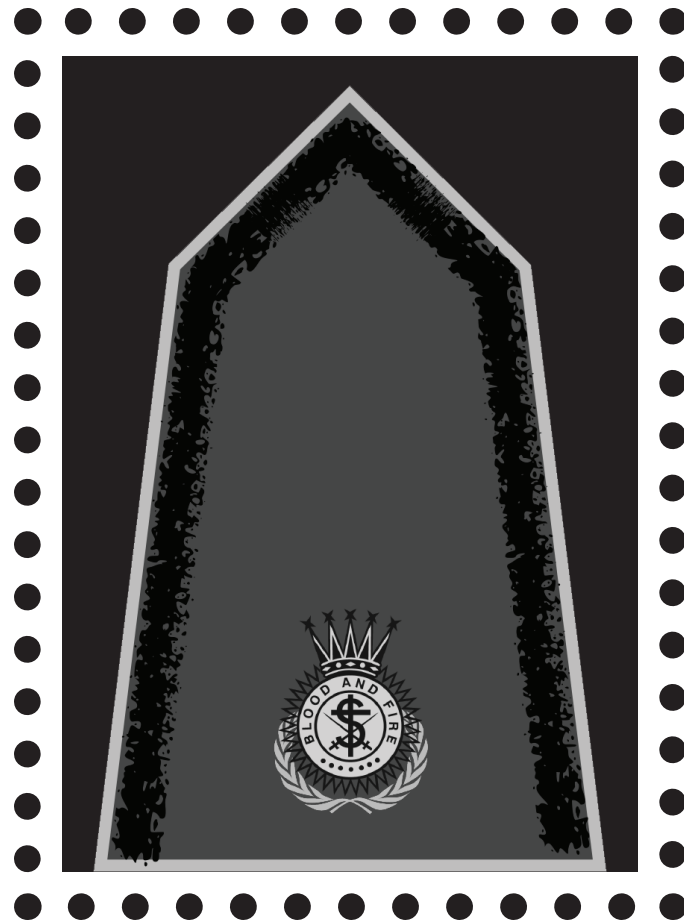
COMMISSIONER



GENERAL



SENIOR
SOLDIER



THE UNIFORM

THE SCRIPTURE

"Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh." —**ROMANS 13:14**

THE SIGNIFICANCE

"I should like to wear a suit of clothes that would let everybody know I meant war to the teeth and salvation for the world."

—Elijah Cadman, first Captain of The Salvation Army, credited with instigating the wearing of military-style uniforms.

Uniforms have been worn in many forms since the Army's earliest days. The original Salvation Army uniform was modelled after the British Victorian military but it has evolved many times over its history and been adapted in different cultures.

While many denominations of the Christian Church have a particular form of dress for the clergy, The Salvation Army is unique in that the uniform is worn by both its officers and soldiers. Color and the design of trim distinguish Officers (ordained ministers) from Soldiers (laity), as well as identify rank for Officers.

Salvationists consider it a privilege to wear the uniform, which is an outward expression of an inward change in their lives. It represents their salvation experience and their desire to give testimony to their faith, as well as their willingness to share the love of Jesus Christ through their service to humanity. In essence, the wearing of the uniform is the closest likeness to 'baptism' within The Salvation Army.

The uniform also serves as a public witness to a Salvationist's identity as a soldier of Jesus Christ serving in The Salvation Army. In public settings, the uniform gives an extraordinarily high visibility and visual impact. It indicates membership, provides a widely recognized symbol of availability and service, and is one of the unifying features of The Salvation Army internationally.

SACRAMENTALISM

» THE LORD'S SUPPER (COMMUNION)
» BAPTISM

THE SONG

"My life must be Christ's broken bread, My love his outpoured wine, a cup o'erfilled, a table spread beneath his name and sign, that other souls, refreshed and fed, may share his life through mine." —**ALBERT ORSBORN**

THE SCRIPTURE

"There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called—one Lord, one faith, one baptism; on God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." —**EPHESIANS 4:4-6**

THE SIGNIFICANCE

sacrament

noun | sac·ra·ment | \ˈsɑ-kṛə-mənt\
noun: sacrament; plural noun: sacraments

1. a religious ceremony or act of the Christian Church that is regarded as an outward and visible sign of inward and spiritual divine grace, in particular.

Through history, many of these ceremonies have been observed in the Church.

In terms of Protestant tradition, of which The Salvation Army is a part, two sacraments are recognized: Baptism and The Lord's Supper (Communion).

The Salvation Army itself does not practise either of these sacramental rituals. We believe that Salvationist sacramentalism is not dependent on an outward form or ceremony. We believe that no ceremony is essential to salvation, living an obedient life or growing in grace. It is not that we are non-sacramental, but rather ultra-

sacramental, believing that "When our hearts are made holy, all of life is a sacrament." (General Shaw Clifton)

While these sacraments are not practised, they are acknowledged and recognized as worthy faith expressions and are by no means prohibited for soldiers when attending services in other denominations.

The Salvation Army believes that the only distinctive, unique Christian baptism is baptism by the Holy Spirit.

It acknowledges that there are many worthy ways of publicly witnessing to having been baptized

into Christ's body by the Holy Spirit, of which water baptism is one.

Public Testimony and the wearing of the Uniform are two ways Soldiers in The Salvation Army can express this outward sign of inward grace.

The Salvation Army believes that Jesus Christ is the one true sacrament and chooses to celebrate Christ's real presence at all meals and in all gatherings.

Salvationists are encouraged to find creative ways to grace meals both in home and at the corps with remembrance of the Lord's sacrificial love.

THE SYMBOL

THE MERCY SEAT AND HOLINESS TABLE

THE SCRIPTURE

"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." —**HEBREWS 4:16**

THE SIGNIFICANCE

The presence of the Mercy Seat symbolizes God's call to his people to meet with him. It is not only a place for repentance and forgiveness, but also a place for communion and commitment. Here we may experience a deep awareness of God's abundant grace and claim his boundless salvation. The mercy seat may be used by anyone, at any time, and particularly in Army meetings when, in response to the proclaimed word, all are invited to share loving and humble communion with the Lord. (*Called to Be God's People*, p. 19)

In many corps, the Holiness Table stands at the center of the Mercy Seat. It is engraved with the words "Holiness Unto the Lord."

"The presence of the holiness table is a constant reminder of the central importance of holiness of heart in the life of our Movement—a reminder that we are and must be a holiness movement. Ours is a gospel of blood and fire!" —General Paul Rader

DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

Take home a copy of the **BATTLE READY SOLDIER'S COVENANT**.

During the week, prayerfully consider the commitments contained in it, and your choice to live out your part in God's story as a **SALVATION SOLDIER**.

Next week, you will be given opportunity to sign and make the commitment shared by **SALVATION SOLDIERS** through history.

You have had specific people who have walked with, encouraged, and challenged you as you have prepared to become a **BATTLE READY SALVATION SOLDIER**.

Take invitations to next week's final Training Unit: **COVENANT** to give to these people.

It will be a meaningful time of conversation, prayer, and commitment. It would be great if family members, friends, and other **PERSONS OF INTEREST** would be able to join you as you sign your **SOLDIER'S COVENANT**.

SALVATIONISM 13 BATTLE READY

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SALVATIONISM 13 BATTLE READY

Thank you for supporting, encouraging, and challenging me in my relationship with Jesus.

Over the past 13 weeks, I have completed a preparatory Bible study, and am now ready to commit to living a **CHRIST**-centered, **OTHERS**-focused faith, as a Battle Ready Salvation Soldier.

Please join me next week, _____ DATE _____,
as I prayerfully make this commitment and sign my Salvation Army Articles of War:

A SOLDIER'S COVENANT.

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Thank you for supporting, encouraging, and challenging me in my relationship with Jesus.

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A SOLDIER'S COVENANT.

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A Salvation
Soldier is

BATTLE READY

... marked by a faith that is

CHRIST-CENTRED AND OTHERS-FOCUSED

Having accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour and Lord, and desiring to fulfill my membership of His Church on earth as a soldier of The Salvation Army, I now by God's grace enter into a sacred covenant.

I believe and will live by the truths of the word of God expressed in The Salvation Army's eleven articles of faith:

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; and that they only constitute the Divine rule of Christian faith and practice.

We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.

We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost—undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory.

We believe that in the person of Jesus Christ the Divine and human natures are united, so that He is truly and properly God and truly and properly man.

We believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocence, but by their disobedience they lost their purity and happiness; and that in consequence of their fall all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has, by His suffering and death, made an atonement for the whole world so that whosoever will may be saved.

We believe that repentance towards God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation.

We believe that we are justified by grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; and that he that believeth hath the witness in himself.

We believe that continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ.

We believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be wholly sanctified, and that their whole spirit and soul and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe in the immortality of the soul; in the resurrection of the body; in the general judgement at the end of the world; in the eternal happiness of the righteous; and in the endless punishment of the wicked.

WHAT STORY DO I LIVE IN?

I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to His leading in my life, growing in grace through worship, prayer, service, and the reading of the Bible. I will make the values of the Kingdom of God and not the values of the world the standard for my life.

I will uphold Christian integrity in every area of my life, allowing nothing in thought, word, or deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest, or immoral.

I will maintain Christian ideals in all my relationships with others; my family and neighbours, my colleagues and fellow salvationists, those to whom and for whom I am responsible, and the wider community.

I will uphold the sanctity of marriage and of family life. I will be a faithful steward of my time and gifts, my money and possessions, my body, my mind, and my spirit, knowing that I am accountable to God.

I will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the nonmedical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult, and all else that could enslave the body or spirit.

I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged.

I will be actively involved, as I am able, in the life, work, worship, and witness of the corps, giving as large a proportion of my income as possible to support its ministries and the worldwide work of the Army.

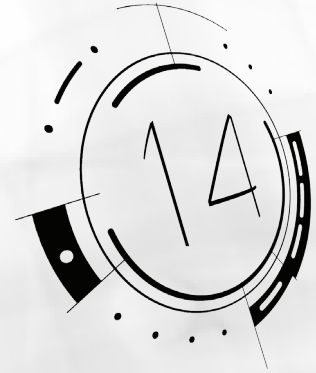
I will be true to the principles and practices of The Salvation Army, loyal to its leaders, and I will show the spirit of salvationism whether in times of popularity or persecution.

I now call upon all present to witness that I enter into this covenant and sign these articles of war of my own free will, convinced that the love of Christ, who died and now lives to save me, requires from me this devotion of my life to His service for the salvation of the whole world; and therefore do here declare my full determination, by God's help, to be a true soldier of The Salvation Army.

HOW DO I CHOOSE TO LIVE IN THIS STORY?

and lived in sacred

COVENANT



COVENANT

TAKING AIM

The **COVENANT** Training Unit will emphasize the concept of covenant to teens making the commitment of Soldiership within The Salvation Army. It will provide meaningful opportunity to prayerfully consider the magnitude and realities of the **SOLDIER'S COVENANT**, giving teens time to enter into it, supported by family members and/or other spiritually invested adults.

RECONNAISSANCE

SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION

Numbers 6:1-21

2 Corinthians 5:11-21

SALVATIONIST EXPRESSION

*"Having accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour and Lord, and desiring to fulfil my membership of His Church on earth as a soldier of The Salvation Army, I now by God's grace enter into a sacred covenant."*⁹⁴

*"I now call upon all present to witness that I enter into this covenant and sign these articles of war of my own free will, convinced that the love of Christ, who died and now lives to save me, requires from me this devotion of my life to His service for the salvation of the whole world; and therefore do here declare my full determination, by God's help, to be a true soldier of The Salvation Army."*⁹⁵

⁹⁴ "The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant"

⁹⁵ Ibid.

FORMATION

Teens who fully engage the **COVENANT** Training Unit will understand that **SALVATION SOLDIERSHIP** is active membership within The Salvation Army, and will sign their **SOLDIER'S COVENANT**, indicating their desire and determination, by God's help, to live a life marked by this sacred covenant.

GEARING UP

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- **"Wake Up" Video**
(<http://vimeo.com/album/3215741/video/118620080>)
- **The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant** (enough for each teen making the commitment of Salvation Soldiership)
- **Pens** (good quality ink: e.g., fine-tip felt pens)

OPTIONAL ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS:

- **Music:** TransMission – "Soldier's Hymn"; downhere – "Little Is Much," "Surrender"; Third Day – "Offering"; Chris Rice – "Go Light Your World"

BASIC TRAINING

Begin the **COVENANT** Training Unit by having teens introduce their parents and/or **PERSONS OF INTEREST**.

Open in prayer. (Consider in your prayer: thank God for the teens in your group and for those who have invested in and helped shape their lives and faith; thank God for His grace, giving us the desire and ability to follow His will in our lives; ask that His presence would be known to be very real during this time of **COVENANT**.)

Say something like: *This is an exciting, and yet very serious, day! This is the final step prior to your enrolment as **SALVATION SOLDIERS**. And it makes it extra special that many of you are able to share this time with those who are invested in your lives and spiritual development.*

Explain that God gave the Israelites, His chosen people, marked by His **COVENANT**, an opportunity to express their devotion to Him in specific and special ways. One of those ways was to commit to a further covenant, the Nazarite vow (found in Numbers 6:1-21). Such a vow or covenant asked more of those who took it on than the covenant of Moses did of God's people in general. They resolved to abstain from certain things and actions, and committed to living in a particular way. The Nazarites were a people within a people. The Salvation Army **SOLDIER'S COVENANT** is similar in purpose: not an expression of spiritual superiority, but a **COVENANT** compelled by the love of Christ, an opportunity to be a part of "a people within a people" by doing one's part to live on mission to see others come to full salvation as a **SALVATION SOLDIER**.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:11-21. (The New Living Translation is a very readable version, designed to be read aloud.)

Summarize the **BATTLE READY** preparatory journey by reading the following: *Recognizing the privilege that God has given us to be His ambassadors and representatives to a world in need of His salvation, and driven by Christ's love, these teens have spent the past thirteen weeks engaged in intensive discipleship training and preparation for this moment. They began by exploring the imagery of soldiership from a biblical viewpoint—that soldiership is not simply membership, but rather fully engaged, active participation as a disciple of Jesus, and in the life of our part of the Christian church, The Salvation Army. The next six weeks were spent exploring the CHRIST-centred Story we find ourselves in as Christians. We came to understand that the Doctrines of The Salvation Army—what we say "We believe..."—help articulate that Story, the Gospel Story, in a concise and understandable way, and we used the word CHRIST to help us see how our Doctrines do that.*

The CHRIST-centred, Gospel story is where we encounter Jesus. And it is found throughout Scripture, our CANON, teaching us the Story we live in as Christians, and how to live in that Story. Our first Doctrine points to that foundation, upon which all the others are built.

Scripture also lays the foundation for all our understanding of who God is and how He can be known as the one true, HOLY GOD, who alone is worthy of our

The Salvation Army
Soldier's Covenant is not
an expression of spiritual
superiority, but is a
commitment motivated
by the love of Christ.

worship. Doctrines 2, 3, and 4 help give a picture and understanding of how Scripture reveals God to us.

We then came to realize how the CHRIST-centred Story shows us our need of REDEMPTION. Doctrines 4, 5, and 6 articulate an understanding of how it is offered and found through Jesus Christ by His suffering and death, “so that whosoever will may be saved.”⁹⁶

When we come to faith in Jesus, finding our place within the CHRIST-centred Story, we also recognize that there is a very real INWARD CHANGE that takes place in a believer’s life. The process and work of salvation is outlined in a concise way in Doctrines 7, 8, and 9.

Our tenth Doctrine is what is commonly referred to as our doctrine of holiness. It reminds us that it is the privilege of all believers to be SET APART—from being powerless in sin, and for the holy and sanctifying purpose of God.

And we came to see that because the Story we find ourselves in, from start to finish, is anchored in Jesus Christ himself, we can, as our eleventh Doctrine helps us see, have confident hope in the TRIUMPH of God’s redemptive plan in the world through Jesus.

The last six weeks of our BATTLE READY preparation were spent exploring how we, as SALVATION SOLDIERS, choose to live in this CHRIST-centred Story. We choose to do so in a particular way—a way that is OTHERS-focused. And we used the word OTHERS to help us understand how the specific declarations made in the Soldier’s Covenant give a framework for how we choose to live and express our faith as a people, as Salvationists.

A SALVATION SOLDIER’S life is marked by a faith that has an OUTWARD FOCUS. It is characterized by an effective personal witness, sacrificial compassionate mission, and active engagement in one’s world.

A SALVATION SOLDIER makes an effort to develop a TENACITY OF FAITH, giving their faith a “stickability” through the development of healthy spiritual habits, and involvement in healthy spiritual community. These two aspects of

⁹⁶ “Doctrine 6 of The Salvation Army,” *The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine*. London: Salvation Books, 2010. p. xv

one's spiritual development are critical to one's long-term spiritual health.

HOLY LIVING is also a characteristic of the life of a **SALVATION SOLDIER**. The person who is committed as a soldier within The Salvation Army should have a growing knowledge, understanding, and experience of full salvation in his or her life—salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ, and sanctification by the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Thankfully, we belong to a denomination that has had a rich history of equipping young people for, and entrusting them with, real ministry opportunities. A **SALVATION SOLDIER** does not consider their place within The Salvation Army simply as a member whose name is on a roll. Soldiers are to be actively **ENGAGED IN MINISTRY**, helping to contribute to the larger body of believers, recognizing that this is as important to their own spiritual health as more inwardly-focused disciplines.

In a world that is often self-centred and “me”-focused, it is vitally important that someone who chooses to live his/her faith as a **SALVATION SOLDIER** does so with a sense of **RESPONSIBILITY**, recognizing that he/she is responsible to God for all they have and all they are becoming. This sense of **RESPONSIBILITY** has huge implications on one's life: it affects one's stewardship. Consequently, it also affects one's discernment and decision-making. It impacts one's relation to authority, and influences one's response to God's calling on his/her life. Every **SALVATION SOLDIER** ought to consider God's will and desire for their life ahead of their own personal ambition.

And finally, we choose to live this **CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused** faith within the context of The Salvation Army. Having a growing knowledge, understanding, and healthy expression of **SALVATIONISM** is vital, if a **SALVATION SOLDIER** is to live one's faith not only individually but also as a part of a covenanted people. Consequently, it is important that we come to better understand our beliefs, how they help form our values, and how they in turn shape our behaviours—what we choose to do, and what we choose not to do, as Salvationists.

This has been a full and intense preparation up to this point. The teens here, who have chosen to take the step of committing their lives to God in a further

The commitment of Salvation Soldiership is not an arrival point but a foundation and commitment, helping one take new steps in their spiritual journey and maturity.

way, through the COVENANT of SALVATION SOLDIERSHIP have learned and grown together over these past 13 weeks. And still they are just at the beginning of the next chapter in their faith journey.

They have not arrived; this is not a step of completion. They have only just begun to wake up to new realities in their spiritual walk and place within The Salvation Army. This is another starting point in the adventure that lies ahead of them as they continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

VIDEO ILLUSTRATION: "Wake Up" (5 minutes)

Play the "Wake Up" video without specific introduction or set-up (<http://vimeo.com/album/3215741/video/118620080>). Allow the statements made in it to be shocking and stirring without giving anything away ahead of time to those viewing it.

Continue by saying something like: *These teens have begun to wake up, and are willing to say, "I will go," in place of "What's in it for me?"*

Indeed, as the Founder stated, "The greatness of a man's power is the measure of His surrender," and Catherine Booth echoed, "If we are to better the future, we must disturb the present."

We have seen how the teens here today have spent weeks seriously looking at Scripture, beliefs, and actions that help them see how such a reality can be lived in their lives.

In a few moments we are going to look at and read "The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant" in its entirety. The words should be familiar to you, as they have formed the basis of, and have provided the roadmap for, where our BATTLE READY Training Units have taken us over the past couple months.

Revisit these words often as a Soldier. They will inspire and challenge you to live out your COVENANT with resolve and perseverance. They will be used to convict you when you realize areas in which you are not living as God might

desire. They will remind you of your heart's desire: to be used by God in His plan to bring salvation through Christ to the world. They will encourage you to grow in new ways, as you go through significant stages and events in your life, requiring that you look at and live out this COVENANT in new ways—different from how you will today.

Read "The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant" to the group (consider having this read by your Corps Officer or other leaders present, or have teens take turns reading individual doctrines and covenant statements).

Address your teens by saying something like: *A COVENANT is not simply a good intention. It is more than wishful thinking or a promise hoped to be kept. It is a sacred vow, a consecration and dedication of your life before God and before those who share this moment with you. And your life is to be a living expression of the COVENANT you are about to make.*

It is a large and significant—and perhaps even overwhelming—commitment. And to be honest, if you try to keep this COVENANT in your own strength, you will fail. But thankfully, it is a COVENANT entered into, not only by you, but by others before you, and with God himself. The phrases at the beginning and conclusion of the Soldier's Covenant should be a strong encouragement to you. Hear them, and hold onto them, today and as you live this commitment. The words are: "I now by God's grace enter into sacred covenant," and I "do here declare my full determination, by God's help ..." "By God's grace" and "by God's help." Christ has promised always to be with us, to never leave us or forsake us. Paul writes in Philippians 2:13, that "God is working in you to make you willing and able to obey him."⁹⁷

You are not alone on this journey. And you are not left to your own strength. God "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us."⁹⁸

The commitment you are about to make is one that is an overflow of your commitment to follow Jesus Christ with all that you are. Continue to rely on Him and His strength in every area of your lives.

⁹⁷ Philippians 2:13. Contemporary English Version. The American Bible Society, 1995.
⁹⁸ Ephesians 3:21. New International Version. Biblica Inc., 2011.

Just as you haven't come to this point in your relationship with Jesus hastily, we want to give you time personally, and with your family and those who are invested in your life, to read again and pray together before you sign your name to the COVENANT before you.

DROP ZONE

"A Soldier's Covenant" (time as needed)

Have "official" copies of **The Salvation Army Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant** placed along the Mercy Seat. Invite teens and their family members and/or "Persons of Interest" to come forward in prayer and reflection as they sign their **COVENANTS**. Play reflective music with a focus on consecration softly in the background during this time (some suggested songs are listed in the GEARING UP section of this Training Unit).

Once each teen has signed their Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant, close the time in prayer, asking God to seal this moment and the commitments made in a very real way for your teens.

DEPLOYMENT

Distribute the **COVENANT DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** Handout.

This week's **DEPLOYMENT CHALLENGE** is in the form of invitations for teens to give to friends and family whom they would like to attend their enrolment ceremony (make sure the date is set in conjunction with your Corps Officer).

In preparation for the enrolment ceremony, consider having each teen's "Articles of War: A Soldier's Covenant" framed to reflect the significance of the commitment made (to the extent your corps budget will allow). Also consider providing each teen with a Bible or some other book that will be useful to them

as they begin living out their part in the Story they now find themselves in as
SALVATION SOLDIERS, BATTLE READY.

BACKUP

Chosen to Be a Soldier: Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army. London: International Headquarters, 1987

The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine. London: Salvation Books, 2010.

Your interest, involvement, and influence
in the life of the newest
BATTLE READY SALVATION SOLDIER
is greatly valued and appreciated.

Would you honour
NAME

with your attendance at the upcoming
ENROLMENT CEREMONY?

DATE:

TIME:

ADDRESS:

ZOOM 0.35 TARGET LOCKED

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BATTLE READY is built on the thesis that “a Salvation Soldier lives a life marked by a CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused faith, in sacred covenant,” and aims to educate and train teens through interactive means, preparing them to make the decision to live as such.

By fully participating in the 14 Training Units, weekly Deployment Challenges, and connection with other spiritually mature adults, teens who choose to make the step of Salvation Soldiership should indeed be “BATTLE READY”, having explored the Soldiers Covenant, its Scriptural foundations and practical expression—ready to engage their world as they live in and live out the salvation story today.

“BATTLE READY ... will bring kids to a discipleship understanding of soldiership that goes beyond the status quo.”

–Captain Krista Andrews, *DYS, Newfoundland & Labrador*

“It’s a rare and beautiful thing to see a training strategy that is creative, engaging and relevant without ‘talking down’ to teenagers. ... Battle Ready is a spiritual boot camp that will prepare a generation to make a difference.”

–Dr. Marv Penner, *National Director, All About Youth, and Youth Specialties Canada*

“Battle Ready strikes the perfect balance between helping teens grow in their relationship with Christ and deepening their knowledge about what that means living in today’s world as a Salvationist.”

–Shona Burditt, *Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, The Salvation Army Oshawa Temple*

“Do use this resource, but do not use it lightly.”

–Aaron White, *The Salvation Army 614 Vancouver / The War College*



Kevin Slous has been in full-time ministry to youth in The Salvation Army for over 20 years, serving in both the Canada & Bermuda and USA Eastern Territories with various corps, divisional and territorial responsibilities. He is currently serving as the Territorial Director of Discipleship in the Canada & Bermuda territorial youth department. Kevin holds a Master of Theological Studies (Youth Ministry) from Wycliffe College. He has a passion to intentionally influence and lead youth, their leaders and families to live real faith in real life, and to finding creative and effective means of communicating the truth of the gospel in a relevant and transformational way.

Kevin loves sharing life, faith and ministry with his wife Sheryl, and their three children, Jacob, Peyton, and Brooke-Lynn.



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