## **Jehovah Rocks:**

'I love saying thank You to You, Yahweh! You have done so many wonderful things in my life and I love to tell others about them.' (Psalm 26:7)

#### See It:

We tell you what we have actually seen and heard so that you can have friendship with us. And our friendship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ.' (1 John 1:3)

#### On It:

If you see an amazing new movie or play an exciting new game what is the first thing you do when it is finished (after thanking God for the opportunity to experience it)? Tell your friends! Why? Well, you want them to experience what you have. You want them to share your excitement, your blessing. This is a very little like fellowship with God. John is writing to a bunch of friends about his experience with the Lord Jesus Christ. But your friends can't enjoy the experience of the movie or game until they agree to join you in it. Once they buy in, they can share that fun. That is the same with Jesus. John invites them into this fellowship. But he explains that the fellowship is all about connecting with God the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And this is what we want to do – get as many people as possible to join us in our fellowship with God. The goal is getting everyone in the whole world to join us in fellowship with God.

## Live It:

The Salvation Army fought hard to raise the age of consent in England to protect young girls from abuse and human trafficking back in the 19th century in a battle called the Maiden Tribute.

## Do It:

Google the 'Maiden Tribute' and find out some more information about it.

## In It:

Thank You for my family and for all the love they give me. Think of one thing about each member of your family that you want to pray for.



#### Eat It:

'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.' (John 13:34-35) Memorize this verse this week.

#### Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Lamentations 3-5, & Revelation 15

## **Jehovah Rocks:**

When I am close to You I know I am safe. You are like a rock to stand on that keeps me from falling over. (Psalm 26:12)

## See It:

'How good and sweet it is when God's people live together in peace! It's like the special olive oil that was poured on Aaron's head. It ran down on his beard and on the collar of his clothes. It's as if the dew of Mount Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. It's there that the Lord gives His blessing.' (Psalm 133: -3)

#### On It:

What is the best idea of tasty blessing that you can imagine? Would it be splashing in jelly? Or swimming in a pool of fair-trade chocolate? Well, these verses are trying to describe that very feeling. So, when you see the bit about the oil being poured on your head and running down your face and onto your clothes, read 'chocolate'! And how do you get this most blessed experience? You dwell. Together. In unity. You make your home there. Together – you are not alone. You do it with friends. In Unity – You agree. You all love Jesus. We can tell you from experience that if you can find a community of believers and warriors with whom to dwell – together – in unity – you are swimming in ice cream!

## Live It:

Today we are going to learn about the Cab Horse Charter - General William Booth had a plan, 'a very humble one, but if realized it would solve the worst problems of modern society.' He called it The Cab Horse Charter. If a cab horse (which is a horse used to take people around the city in a carriage) fell, we would do what it takes to get it right again. It had 'a shelter for the night, food for its stomach and work allotted to it by which it can earn its corn.' 'That,' he continued, 'although a humble

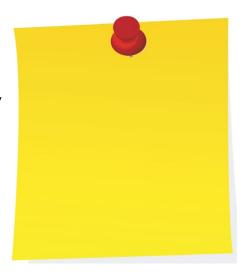
## standard, is at present absolutely unattainable by millions - literally by millions - of our fellow men and women.' Do you get it? He is saying that we should treat all humans at least as well as we treat horses!

#### Do It:

Tell your teacher about the Cab Horse Charter story.

## In It:

Think over your day and make a list of all the things you did. Thank God for each of the parts of the day that involved you receiving something you needed, or something you liked (maybe food, school, sport etc).



## **Eat It:** John 13:34-35

'A new command I give you.' The first followers of Jesus were Jewish. They had several hundred rules they had to obey to be 'good Jews' – a very difficult situation. Jesus over-rides all those rules with this command.

## Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Daniel 1-2, & Revelation 16

## **Jehovah Rocks:**

Thank You, Yahweh, You are so good to me. Whenever I call out to You for help, You are always there. (Psalm 28:6)

#### See It:

'And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had.' (Acts 2:44)

#### On It:

All the believers were together and shared everything. Wow. This verse sounds almost too good to be true. If you have brothers or sisters, you know that sharing everything with them is hard enough! Imagine all the believers together – maybe all your Junior Soldier mates, all your Sunday School friends, the whole Corps, and all the Christians in the neighbourhood – sharing everything! It is tough to get your head around. But the Bible is true. So, we believe it. There is a goal for us. How can we aim for it? Well, first, we have remembered that we don't own anything ourselves, even if you did pay for them! All our toys and our bed and our toothbrush and everything belong to Jesus. He's letting you use them for a time. He's trusting you with them! If we know that all this stuff is His it is easier to share, isn't it! That is the big take away lesson for today – all your possessions belong to Jesus.

### Live It:

Commissioner Gunpei Yamamuro was not the only Japanese Salvationist beaten during missions to rescue prostituted persons in Japan in 1900. They used to swarm brothels and surround the victims to take them from their custody. He and The Salvation Army, known as Kyuseigun in Japanese, became heroes in Japan (his book Common People's Gospel sold many millions of copies).

## Do It:

Look at all your toys and favourite things. Choose one thing to give away to someone else.



## In It:

Please help me to be brave and heroic so I can do the amazing things You need me to do to help Your children.

#### **Eat It:** John 13:34-35

'Love one another.' There is a saying – love covers a multitude of sins. Well, it also fulfills multitudes of laws. You see, those hundreds of laws were not useless. But if you love people then you will be fulfilling these other laws that try to tell you what to do.

#### Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Daniel 3-4, Psalm 81, & Revelation 17

## **Jehovah Rocks:**

You are my strength and my protection for this world, and the next. Thank You! (Psalm 28:7)

#### See It:

'They worshiped together at the Temple every day, met in their homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity.' (Acts 2:46)

#### On It:

Wow. Do you have any friends that you play with every day? Isn't that great? It is more likely that your parents don't, anymore. They are busy working and cooking and cleaning and fixing things and probably don't find time to play with their friends all that often. But this verse shows that the Jesus-believers met a lot to worship God and to fellowship together. We're throwing this out at you now, while you are young. Use this schedule as your goal, not the example of the world out there. What we mean is this: it is important to get together to worship God and to hang around with other people who love Jesus, enjoying His presence in each other through such basic things as eating meals together.

#### Live It:

You may have heard of 'fair trade' products that don't enslave people to make them. More than century ago, The Salvation Army led the way with Tea from Sri Lanka called Hamodava Tea. Hamodava is Singhalese for Salvation.

#### Do It:

Don't eat any non-fair-trade chocolate for the whole week!

## In It:

Thank You that you are a God who loves justice, and that You call us to be people who help others.

#### **Eat It:** John 13:34-35

'As I have loved you, so you must love one another.' Wow! Don't just love but love as Jesus loved! How did He love? Right to the cross. In other words, there is no limit to His love. And we MUST love like Him. Well, what God commands, God enables. Hallelujah! Now, memorize the verse.

#### Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Ezekiel 33-35, & Revelation 18



## **Jehovah Rocks:**

I love knowing that You, Yahweh, are going to be praised FOREVER! It will never end, and that is what you deserve! (Psalm 92:8)

#### See It:

'But as the believers rapidly grew, some of them started to get grumpy with each other. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food.' (Acts 6:1)

#### On It:

Did you notice the key point here? The number of disciples was multiplying! Wow. Praise God! More and more people were coming to give their lives to Jesus and beginning to fight in the Salvation War. But it wasn't all smooth all the time. You see, this whole idea of authentic Christian community can work really well if it is just our small group of keen Christian friends that never changes, never grows. But when you start adding (or multiplying!) new Christians to your group, who are still getting their lives to fit Jesus' demands and who don't know as well as the original group how to live together in authentic Christian community, it can get messy. And it got messy for the believers in this story. They began to complain, and apparently, they were not treating some of the people in the group very well. Now, they worked it out (you can keep reading chapter 6 to see how), but it is a good lesson for us. We WANT our groups to multiply, but we must be ready to bring new people in and to bless them and treat them well. Jesus will help us.

## Live It:

The Salvation Army invaded a terrible prison that was on an Island called 'Devil's Island' that had awful conditions for the prisoners and shut down

the colony and converted the whole Island - the former Devil's Island became Salvation Island! Hallelujah.

## Do It:

Do you know of someone in your school who gets bullied? Do something to try to help them today or make a plan of what you WILL DO next week.



#### In It:

Lord, please help the person who is being bullied at my school and help me to know what to do.

## **Eat It:** John 13:34-35

'By this all people will know...' What a great proof of our discipleship – love. It is one thing to talk about Jesus but if people see us loving each other they can tell there is something different, something special – that's our Jesus.

#### Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Ezekiel 36-37, Psalm 110, & Revelation 19

## **Jehovah Rocks:**

There is nothing in this world, or in Heaven that comes even close to being as good as You Yahweh. You are awesome! (Psalm 97:9)

#### See It:

'If your brother sins against you, go and talk to him. Tell him what he did wrong. Keep it between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won him back.' (Matthew 18:15)

#### On It:

I used to play football when I was in school. And during try-outs one year my buddy, who was the quarterback, threw a pass to a guy who was trying to make the team as a tight end. The ball bounced off his facemask and fell to the ground, an incomplete pass. Jogging back to the huddle, my buddy confided to me, 'that's the last time I'm throwing to him.' He held a grudge against this guy, and it turned out that this guy never got any playing time as a result. Have you ever held a grudge? Maybe someone mistreated you, so you decided never to talk to them again? Jesus is teaching us that if we have a grudge, we should deal with it. Now there could be some corps where people don't deal with grudges and just pretend that everything is alright. But that is not authentic Christian community. And that kind of situation does not attract people to Jesus. So, deal with your grudges. If you need to confess something to a friend or a parent, do it. If they need to repent to you, be gentle and tell them about it one-on-one. And Jesus will be pleased.

## Live It:

During 2004, The Salvation Army's International Conference of Leaders (held in the USA) declared the promise to 'combat the evil of human trafficking for sexual exploitation'. Since then we have started an

International Social Justice Commission, dedicated a year to this issue called While Women Weep, and are stirring up local and global strategies to conquer this wickedness.

## Do It:

Think of someone you have hurt. Go and ask for their forgiveness.



#### In It:

Forgive me of any grudges I have against people.

## **Eat It:** John 13:34-35

'Love one another.' So, this is a command for which Jesus explains the impact. If we love one another, people will see that we are followers of Jesus. It makes sense. Love one other. And memorize this verse.

## Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Ezekiel 38-39, Psalm 145, & Revelation 20

## **Jehovah Rocks:**

You are the King of the world! (Psalm 99:2)

#### See It:

If we say we are believers, but we walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, cleans us from all sin.' (1 John 1:6-7)

#### On It:

A lot of people put on masks. They pretend to be something that they are not. They pretend to have it together, to be confident, to be cool, or something else. But most people have some problems – they are afraid or insecure or have sins in their lives that they are hiding. Authentic Christian community flicks a spiritual light switch on our lives that shows our sins and weaknesses and burns off our masks so that our friends who love Jesus, too, can see the real us. That can be scary, (letting people see who you really are), but it is really important to do. We all need Jesus' blood for forgiveness. And Jesus can purify us from ALL sin. So, let's walk in the light as He is in the light and share a deep and pure fellowship with one another.

## Live It:

Instead of some toy or game for your birthday, you can ask for a something to help kids, at <a href="mailto:salvationist.ca/world-missions/gifts-of-hope/">salvationist.ca/world-missions/gifts-of-hope/</a>. This helps rescue us from the onslaught of materialistic consumerism that takes away from the spirit of giving. A way of giving that keeps the Spirit of generosity alive and offers us a chance to combat greed with great and joyful giving. Let's face it, you don't need another toy! So, get someone to give you a pig, instead!



Raise some money by talking to others about justice at the meeting on Sunday and then buy something from <u>salvationist</u>. <u>ca/world-missions/gifts-of-hope/</u>.



#### In It:

I love You, Yahweh!

#### Eat It:

'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.' (John 13:34-35) Memorize this verse and tell it to five friends.

#### Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Ezekiel 40-41, Psalm 128, & Revelation 21