You save me from my troubles and You keep me safe. Thank You! You make sure my enemies are defeated. (Psalm 54:7)

#### See It:

'The Jews all know how I have lived ever since I was a child. They know all about me from the beginning of my life. They know how I lived in my own country and in Jerusalem. They have known me for a long time. So if they wanted to, they could tell you all that I lived by the rules of the Pharisees. Those rules are harder to obey than the rules of any other group in the Jewish faith. Today I am on trial because of the hope I have. I believe in what God promised our people long ago. It is the promise that our 12 tribes are hoping to see come true. Because of this hope they serve God with a true and honest heart day and night. King Agrippa, it is also because of this hope that the Jews are bringing charges against me. Why should any of you think it is impossible for God to raise the dead?' (Acts 26: 4-8)

# On it:

There are lots of ways you can find out about a person's life. You could read a book about them; you could ask their friends... or you could listen to them while they are on trial in court! This is a wonderful way to find out about a person! Paul was on trial for following Jesus and getting so many other people to follow Jesus. And he stood up before the King to tell his life story. Paul was brought up in a religious Jewish home and committed his life to following the teaching of his religion. A godly upbringing is something for which to thank God. The fact that you are reading GOD AND TOAST tells you that you have a godly influence in your life. Thank God for it.

#### Live It:

Remember The Salvation Army modus operandi (which means 'the way we do things'): CAPTURE, TRAIN, DEPLOY. That means we want to get people saved, teach them how to get others saved, and then send them out to do it.

# Do It:

This week we are going to need you to be bold and courageous. Choose a pair of shoes that you can decorate the bottom (the soles) of. Find some coloured markers or pens. Ask mom or dad if you can draw on the soles of your shoe this week.



# in it:

'Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones belong to Him. They are weak but He is strong.' (From the Songbook: Song 843)

# Eat It:

'If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.' (1 John 1:9)

# **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read Jeremiah 48-49, Psalm 67, & 1 John 1

In hard times, I will remember that You are my rock, and that You save me again and again. (Psalm 78:35)

### See It:

'I myself thought that I should do everything I could to go against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. That's just what I was doing in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests, I put many of God's people in prison. I agreed that they should die. I often went from one synagogue to another to have them punished. I tried to force them to speak evil things against Jesus. I hated them so much that I even went to cities in other lands to hurt them.' (Acts 26:9-11)

# On It:

When Paul said in yesterday's verse that he was committed to his religion, he wasn't joking. He thought that following his religion meant that he had to persecute the followers of Jesus. He got them killed and beaten and excluded from religious groups. He was so angry and offended by them that he chased them to different cities. His religion was supposed to be good, but it drove him to do some terrible things. It is still that way. Some people follow religion that does not accept Jesus as God (which the Bible says that He is). They insult Him, and claim He is only a teacher or a prophet or a leader. There are still people like Paul today who try to hurt followers of Jesus in the name of their religion. You might know some, but don't fight them. You see, Paul changed – he got saved by Jesus. So, your friends and your enemies can get saved, too, if you love them and show them how.

# Live It:

'Doing God's work is a great thing. Doing His will is a greater.' (Miriam Booth) She is teaching us a very important lesson here. Just because you

are doing something for The Army doesn't mean you are doing what HE wants you to be doing. So, don't just do good work, do God's will.

## Do It:

On a piece of paper, trace the outline of your shoe. Then design a pattern or picture that you are going to draw. In between the pictures you need to think of some evangelistic things to write like 'Jesus saves', 'I love God', 'I'm going to Heaven' or you could draw a cross. Try to fill the entire space of the sole.



# in it:

'Jesus loves me, He who died. Heaven's gate to open wide. He will wash away my sin. Let His little child come in.' (From the Songbook: Song 843)

#### Eat It: 1 John 1:9

'IF we confess our sins.' IF - It is your choice. You must decide. God doesn't make you. But you have to if you want to have your sins forgiven.

# **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read Jeremiah 21, 24, 27, Psalm 118, & 1 John 2

Thank You for saving me! Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, Thank You! (Psalm 106:47)

### See It:

'On one of these journeys I was on my way to Damascus. I had the authority and commission of the chief priests. About noon, King Agrippa, I was on the road. I saw a light coming from Heaven. It was brighter than the sun. It was shining around me and my companions. We all fell to the ground. I heard a voice speak to me in the Aramaic language. "Saul! Saul!" it said. "Why are you opposing me? It is hard for you to go against what you know is right." Then I asked, "Who are you, Lord?" "I am Jesus," the Lord replied. "I am the one you are opposing."" (Acts 26:12-15)

### On It:

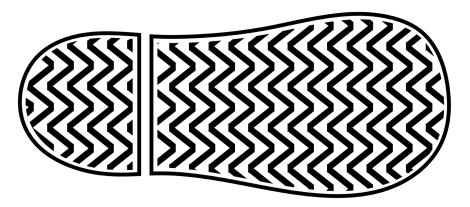
So, Paul tells this story of when he was headed to Damascus to punish Jesus followers and Jesus showed up! Now, remember, Jesus has already died, risen again, appeared to more than five hundred people, and ascended to Heaven! He's in Heaven. But a light brighter than the sun fires down on his traveling party, blinds them and knocks them off their horses to the ground. Then Paul hears the voice from Heaven – Jesus' voice! Wow! Just to recap to this point in time, Paul has been telling people how he was a committed religious guy who was out to get the followers of Jesus. Then he has a wild encounter with Jesus! Paul asked, 'who are You, Lord?' And Jesus introduced Himself!

# Live It:

The Salvationist's commission is to, 'overcome, conquer, subdue. Not merely teach, but persuade, compel nations to become disciples of the Son of God.' (General William Booth) And this means that we are active in the battle to get people from not believing in God, over to our side where they not only believe in God but follow God radically like you!

#### Do It:

Start working on your left shoe and then see how it looks.



# in it:

'Jesus loves me, He will stay close beside me all the way. If I love Him, when I die, He will take me home on high.' (From the Songbook: Song 843)

### Eat It: 1 John 1:9

'Confess our sins'. You have to 'fess up. An old preacher once said that the Blood only covers what you uncover. You uncover your sins by confessing them to God, asking Him to forgive you, and then determining, with His help, to stop doing them. Now, memorize the whole verse from Day 1.

### **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read Jeremiah, 28-30, & 1 John 3

*I am going to go everywhere and praise You. I thank You and praise Your name.* (Psalm 100:4)

### See It:

'Now get up. Stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you to serve Me and be My witness. You will tell others that you have seen Me today. You will also tell them that I will show myself to you again.' 'I will save you from your own people and from those who aren't Jews.' (Acts 26: 16-17a)

# On it:

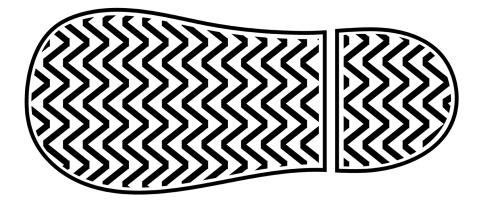
After introductions between Jesus and Paul, Jesus gets down to the mission. He tells Paul to get up and go. And you know what? He does the same with us! So, get up and go! Jesus has a purpose for each of us, not only Paul. After introductions, get on with it. And Jesus will protect you. He will deliver you, just like He did with Paul. Now, remember that Paul is telling his life story. He was a full-on religious guy who was attacking Jesus' followers. Then he had an encounter with Jesus that totally changed everything for him. Now Jesus has a new plan for him. Stay tuned for the next stage in the last three days of the week.

# Live It:

'Some say The Salvation Army is a welfare agency. That is a mistake. The Salvation Army is a vital spiritual force with an acute social conscience.' (Canadian Prime Minister A. Meighen, 1921, 1926) Doing good work in the community is so important. Our world is filled with people who are hungry, homeless, hurting and helpless. We must help! BUT we are not just going to help them with food and shelter, or even a shoulder to cry on. We are going to offer them Jesus, who will radically transform their life now, and forevermore in eternity. That's better than any welfare agency I know!

#### Do It:

Ask someone to help you design or draw for the right shoe.



#### In It:

Thank You for giving us the Bible!

### Eat It: 1 John 1:9

'He is faithful and just'. Isn't that amazing. Now, He is faithful and just whether or not you confess. God is always faithful and always just. That means you can always depend on Him to do the right and fair thing. Yahoo! Now, memorize the whole verse written back in Day 1.

### **Read it:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read Jeremiah 31-32, & 1 John 4

Praise You! You are awesome! I thank You! You are great! You are so good Your love will be with me all day, every day for the rest of my life! (Psalm 106:1)

#### See It:

'I will save you from your own people and from those who aren't Jews. I am sending you to them to open their eyes. I want you to turn them from darkness to light. I want you to turn them from Satan's power to God. I want their sins to be forgiven. They will be forgiven when they believe in me. They will have their place among God's people.' (Acts 26: 17b-18)

# On It:

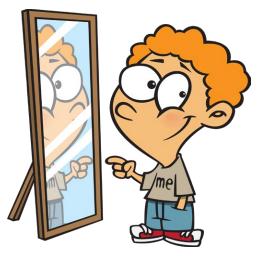
I have to admit, these are life verses for me. They are key to my life. Jesus says to Paul and you, 'I am sending you to open their eyes;' – people who don't love and follow Jesus are blind to the truth. 'To turn them from darkness to light;' - people who don't love Jesus are stuck in darkness. 'From the power of satan to God;' – people who don't love Jesus are bound by satan. We need to get rid of the demons who are hurting them. 'So that they can receive the forgiveness of sins;' – we all need forgiveness of our sins from Jesus. 'And a place among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.' We are supposed to try and get everyone holy! We need to be holy to make that happen. So, get holy! Thanks, Paul. That was a good couple of verses for us.

# Live It:

The Salvation Army produces all kinds of magazines. One is called ALL THE WORLD and it covers exciting stories of what The Salvation Army is doing overseas. Ask your Corps Officer to subscribe to this magazine.

# Do It:

Put your shoes on and look at them in the mirror. Pray that God will use the shoes to bring others closer to God.



# in it:

Hallelujahweh! (which means – praise Yahweh – or, praise the Lord. It is similar to Hallelujah, which means – praise Yah – which is sort of like saying 'Gen' instead of 'Genevieve').

### Eat It: 1 John 1:9

'And will forgive your sins'. Yippee! Isn't that fantastic? He will forgive your sins. Every sin you confess He will forgive. When I was six years old, I asked Jesus to forgive all my sins. And, do you know what? He did. Hallelujah! He forgives, pardons, takes away, forgets your sin. Memorize the verse.

### **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read Jeremiah 33-34, Psalm 74, & 1 John 5

I want to praise You and thank You for all You do in my life. I want to tell everyone I meet what You have done in my life. (Psalm 105:1)

### in it:

Thank You for inspiring all the amazing heroes in the Bible. Help me to be as holy and courageous as them.

#### See It: 'So then, King

'So then, King Agrippa, I obeyed the vision that appeared from Heaven. First, I preached to people in Damascus. Then I preached in Jerusalem and in all Judea. I preached also to people who are not Jews. I told them to turn away from their sins to God. The way they live must prove that they have turned away from their sins. That's why the Jews grabbed me in the temple courtyard and tried to kill me.' (Acts 26:19-21)

# On It:

Paul was hardcore religious guy attacking the followers of Jesus. Then he met Jesus. Jesus changed his life. NOW he is a hardcore Christian trying to get everyone to repent of their sins and JOIN the followers of Jesus! He didn't change speeds, he just changed direction. And that is what repentance is all about. It is a change of direction, like doing a 180-degree turn, going the opposite way. So, he starts calling everyone to turn their lives completely around, from walking away from Jesus, to walking toward Him. And he wasn't thrown off by the fact that they were trying to kill him. He just kept ploughing ahead. And that is our example.

# Live It:

Slum Sisters are the salvationist heroes who go and live in the slums with the poorest people to represent Jesus to them and to help get them saved.

# Do It:

Show some of your friends and then encourage them to do the same.

# Eat It: 1 John 1:9

'And purify you from all unrighteousness.' Wow! Not only does He forgive your sins, but He will PURIFY you from ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS! That means everything UN - RIGHT; everything wrong or bad. He will make you clean all the way through when his Holy Spirit fills you up. Amazing! Hallelujah. Now, memorize the verse.

### **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read Jeremiah 37-39, Psalm 79, & 2 John



Your love seems to keep coming. Every day when I come to You, I know that You love me still! (Psalm 107:1)

### See It:

'But God has helped me to this very day. So, I stand here and give witness to both small and great. I have been saying nothing different from what the prophets and Moses said would happen. They said the Christ would suffer. He would be the first to rise from the dead. He would announce the light of life to his own people and to those who aren't Jews. "While Paul was still speaking up for himself, Festus interrupted. "You are out of your mind, Paul!" he shouted. "Your great learning is driving you crazy!" "I am not crazy, most excellent Festus," Paul replied. "What I am saying is true and reasonable.' (Acts 26:22-25)

# On It:

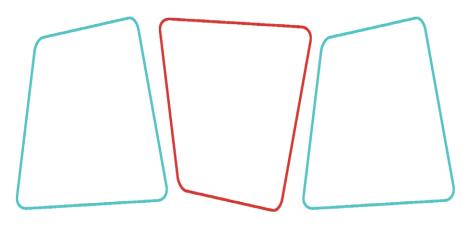
Paul has told a crowd of people in a court room about how Jesus has saved him and changed him. This is a great way for you to tell people how to get saved. You can tell them YOUR story. No one can tell it better than you can. But don't tell them every single detail of every single day. Grab a thread – one thread – and follow it. Paul chose 'religious commitment'. He told them how religiously committed he was. Then he told them how he met Jesus and got changed by Jesus. Then he picked up that 'religious commitment' thread again and showed how Jesus transformed that thread of his life. So, you can pick a thread – then show what your life was like in that thread BEFORE you met Jesus. Then tell about how you met Jesus and got saved. Then tell the people how that thread in your life was changed AFTER you were transformed by Jesus. Then sum it up, and people might get saved!

# Live It:

Have you ever wondered how we get our General? Well, we have a High Council. That is all made up of all the Territorial Commanders and Commissioners from around the world. And they meet together to elect the next general.

#### Do It:

Can you recite the first 25 books of the Old Testament? It's getting harder, isn't it!?



# in it:

Thank You for all the heroes within The Salvation Army today, and those that went before and sent an awesome example.

#### Eat It: 1 John 1:9

Here it is, one more time: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." Now that you have memorized it, share it with ten friends and invite them to follow Jesus.

#### **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read Jeremiah 50-51, & 3 John