



As A Family We Encourage Each Other



THE MISSION AIM

To become involved in encouraging and building each other up.



KEY VERSE

Hebrews 3:13: "But encourage one another daily as long as it is called today."



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- Option 1: Paper
- Option 2: Paper and pencils
- Option 3: Ball

Directions

DO: Choose one of the following options:

1) SAY: Last week we were challenged to look around us to find out how we can pray for others. How did it go?"

DO: Have an informal discussion about what went well and what was a bit of a challenge.

2) SAY: Today we are going to be focusing on how we can encourage one another in telling others about Jesus. Life can be very challenging when it comes to sharing our faith and we all need a little help. Let's start with encouraging each other. Please put your name at the top of the sheet of paper that is coming to you. Now, pass the paper with just your name on it to the person closest to you. That person will write a note of encouragement to you.

DO: Keep passing the papers around until everyone has had a chance to write a note of encouragement on each person's sheet of paper or until our time is up.

3) SAY: Today we are going to be focusing on how we can encourage one another in telling others about Jesus. Life can be very challenging when it comes to sharing our faith and we all need a little help. Let's start with encouraging each other. Stand in a circle. Take the time right now to think of two or three people in our circle and what words of encouragement you might give to them. For example, 'you are really brave about telling others about Jesus', 'your smile is always very encouraging to me', 'you are an amazing example of God's love'. I have a ball and I'm going to say the name of a person in our circle and a word of encouragement, then I'll pass the ball to that person.

DO: Once they have received the ball, they will choose a person and say a word or two of encouragement. Continue until everyone has been encouraged at least once.



Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 1 – Partners In Mission Episode 4: As A Family We Encourage Each Other"

Play "Partners In Mission (S1) Episode 4 (1/4)". Episode begins with the *Ready to Serve* theme song, followed automatically by the MISSION # 1 VIDEO. Pause the video when the MISSION # 1 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 1.

If using PPT for video, have PIM-Episode_4-Encourage_Each_Other.pptx ready and play slide one. Pause on the MISSION # 1 CARD so you and your recruits can complete Mission # 1.



Mission #1



Supplies Needed

- Individual letters of the word ENCOURAGEMENT written out on separate pieces of paper; for each letter write the following on the back of the page:

E – Hebrews 3:13 "But encourage one another daily as long as it is called today..." This is our key verse for today.

N – 1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." Mmm...another verse about encouragement. Any guesses as to our topic for the day?

C – Romans 15:5-6 "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." It's amazing, we not only encourage each other as members of the world-wide church but God encourages us too.

O – It is clear from the verses above that we are to encourage others just as God encourages us. Do you know anyone who is really good at encouraging?

U – What are some things that that person does to bring encouragement?

R – Briefly share some things that we can do to encourage others. You don't need to get too detailed as we will talk about this more later on during our lessons.

A – There was a man in the Bible whose name was Barnabas. His name means "son of encouragement". What a great name!

G – Let's read Acts 11:19 – 26. Can someone look that up for us and read it aloud?

E – What did Barnabas do for the people in Antioch? Reread verse 23. (He encouraged the Christians to remain true to the Lord with all of their hearts.)



M – Have someone reread verses 25-26. Does anyone know who Saul is? (He was a man who had made it his life mission to hurt and kill Christians until Jesus saved him and God turned his life around. That's when he changed his name to Paul.) Barnabas took him under his wing and encouraged him, showing him how to encourage others.

E – In Acts 13 -14 we find out that Barnabas and Saul (Whose name was changed to Paul) went to various churches encouraging them in their faith.

N – Why do you think people who serve God need to be encouraged? (It's hard, tiring, scary, not popular)

T – Let's repeat Hebrews 3:13 together - "But encourage one another daily as long as it is called today..." This is our key verse for today; think about how you use your life, your words. Is it to encourage others daily?



Mission Assignment

SAY: We have an exciting lesson for you today and as usual we're on a pretty tight timeline so let's find out what our mission is. Drum roll please... (Reading mission card from satellite uplink), "Recruits, take some time to find out what the Bible has to say about encouragement, and find out a little more about Barnabas and Paul and their mission of encouragement."

DO: Scramble up the letters for ENCOURAGEMENT, when you say "go", have the recruits run over to them, unscramble them and create the word encouragement. (To make it more interesting, don't tell them what the word is...by now they should have guessed it.) Once the word is unscrambled, choose various recruits to read and follow the directions on the back of the pages.

SAY: I hope you have figured it out by now, but our aim today is to realize that we need to build each other up as a world-wide church family by encouraging each other. That doesn't mean just encouraging the people we like or that we even know personally but learning about those who are serving Jesus around the world and encouraging them. Let's use our words and our actions to build people up and not put them down. Shenade sure became a great squad leader because of the encouragement she received from her recruits. Just watching them learn and grow has been an encouragement to her. You see, even your own learning and enthusiasm can be an encouragement to others. Well enough from me, let's get back to the Recon Team.



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "Partners In Mission (S1) Episode 4 (2/4)". Pause the video when the MISSION # 2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when MISSION #2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.





Mission #2



Supplies Needed

- Letter prepared from current General (attachment page 7) and tucked in an envelope
- Letters from Catherine Bramwell-Booth (attachment pages 8, 9, 10), stained with tea bags (to make them look old) and in envelopes (All letters adapted from "Catherine Bramwell-Booth Letters" - 1921)
- Prize for team winning brainstorm session (something that the team can then share with the other teams)



Mission Assignment

SAY: Well recruits, let's get started on Mission # 2. Drum roll please. (reading mission card from satellite uplink), "Recruits, find out more Intel on Catherine Bramwell-Booth. In particular, how she kept from being discouraged and how she encouraged others."

SAY: This is incredible timing, because just this week, I received a letter for you from General _____ (fill in current general's name) and he/she just so happened to be writing to you about Catherine Bramwell-Booth. Does anyone want to read his/her letter to us?"

DO: Have one of the recruits read the letter.

SAY: After hearing the letter, what are some of the things that you think might have discouraged Catherine? (*officer parents, shyness, fatigue, singleness*) What was something that she did to encourage others? (*wrote letters to her cadets out on the field*). I happen to have some paraphrased letters here that we will read together just to get a gist of her writing. She certainly was a woman who followed through on Hebrews 3:13 "But encourage one another daily as long as it is called today..."

DO: Divide the recruits into 3 groups (or more and just double up on the letters) with a leader (or mature recruit).

DO: Have the recruits read the letters and discuss what would have made the letter encouraging for the officer reading it. Discuss who has encouraged them as individuals and what it is that they have done to be an encourager.

SAY: (After their discussions) "Now your team will have 7 minutes to come up with ideas of ways to encourage others, particularly people at your church or in the world wide church. Your challenge is to come up with ideas that the other 2 teams will not have." (Here are some ideas: write a note to a missionary, leave a note on the windshield of a local leader's car, bake muffins or cookies for a leader from church, make the effort to smile and say "good day" to someone who works at the church, put an encouraging message in a balloon and give it to someone, create a care package for a missionary, use some of your allowance to buy a plant for a local leader, write a song of thanks, draw a picture for someone to encourage them etc.)

DO: Once the teams have brainstormed their lists, start with one team and have them read their ideas aloud. As they share, have each team say if they have the same idea, if so, each team with



the same idea must cross off that idea. After one team has gone, have the next read any responses that are left until you have worked through the third team. At that point, have teams count out the number of ideas that they have left and determine who has the most unique ones. You may want a little prize for the winning team (something that they can share with the other teams as a way to encourage them.)

SAY: You certainly have some amazing ideas here. Keep them in mind because in a few minutes we are going to need them to brainstorm ideas for our field mission projects. But for now, let's check back in with the Recon Team.



Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "Partners In Mission (S1) Episode 4 (3/4)". Pause the video when the RTS SHIELD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when RTS SHIELD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.



Field Mission Project



Supplies Needed

- Paper for brainstorming
- Notepaper, pens
- Chart papers

Mission Project

DO: Divide your recruits among your leaders and have the leaders write a letter of encouragement so that each recruit receives a letter in the near future (this would be nice if the recruits could receive their note by good old fashioned mail).

SAY: Simon just suggested that being an encourager is like paying it forward. That means that when you are encouraged, you can then encourage someone else and it can go on and on and on. Let's take some time to think about how we can be encouragers in our world-wide and local church. Think back to your ideas for encouragement. What we can do to encourage one of our leaders here at our corps (name some of the leaders) or someone serving God overseas. (See below for some ideas.)

DO: Choose an idea similar to these: Write an encouragement note, bake cookies, write a song or poem, or create a care package. Have some nice notepaper available for recruits to take home to write notes or have them write notes during your meeting.



Contact Major Linda McNutt at territorial headquarters for a current listing of International Personnel who are serving away from home in other countries.



DO: If the recruits have chosen individual encouragement activities, provide them with the tools they might need (notepaper, addresses) OR give them a chance to begin their activities. If you have chosen a group project, work out the details for putting this into action. Another idea is to have the recruits prepare small Scripture cards that they could hand out after corporate worship next week OR have them write/create encouragement cards (with words and pictures) to put on car windshields one week at church.



Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "Partners In Mission (S1) Episode 4 (4/4)". Pause the video when the PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.



Supplies Needed

- Bible
- Chart paper
- Marker

Directions

SAY: Letting people know that we are encouraging them is very important but it's also important to encourage people by praying for them. This is true for anyone but this week let's really focus on our church leaders here and around the world. Paul, who we talked about at the beginning, writes this encouraging letter to the church at Philippi.

DO: Have someone read Philippians 1:3-11.

SAY: Let's take a moment to write our own prayer for the leaders in this great big, world-wide church. We can start with what Paul starts with 'I thank my God every time I remember you...'

DO: Write a prayer on chart paper that can be read at the end. Together, name some of the leaders at your church and in the world wide church and read the prayer that was created.

SAY: Recruits, you have a wonderful mission of encouragement this week. Go out faithfully and encourage others, even those who do not know Jesus. Let your words build others up this week. Make a difference in the lives of your church, your school, your community this week. Encourage each other daily.





**The Salvation Army
International Headquarters**

101 Queen Victoria Street
London
EC4V 4EH
United Kingdom

My Dearest Recruits,

What an honour it is to write to you today to introduce to you one of the finest women of Salvation Army history, Commissioner Catherine Bramwell-Booth.

Catherine was born on July 20, 1883. She was the granddaughter of the Founder, William Booth who was an incredible encouragement to her. Life was very busy for her as a child as her parents, Bramwell and Florence Booth were officers and they involved her in many of the activities of Salvation Army life. It could have been very frustrating being shipped here and there to be involved in her parents' ministry but Catherine quite enjoyed it and actually became quite involved in church activities on her own. Eventually she became involved in her own ministries, sharing her musical gifts by playing in the band and singing trios with her sisters.

In her late teens Catherine felt the call to be an officer but her shyness made her a bit nervous to go into training. In the end though, rather than let her shyness discourage her, she realized that God's power working in her was all that she needed. So in 1903 she entered training college. She worked in various positions in the Army including being a corps officer, working at the training college and being the leader of women's social services to name a few. She also gave a lot of herself during the crisis of the Silvertown explosion, for which she is well remembered. Working so diligently as a single officer during these times could have been very draining but she always remembered that her strength came from the Lord. She was also very well remembered for burning the midnight oil. She would stay up late and get up early to write letters to encourage the cadets she had trained who were now experiencing their own challenges as officers. The letters were eventually put into a published book. She retired in 1948 after 45 years of service.

She kept active in her retirement, writing books and interviewing on the radio. She died on the 3rd of October 1987 at 104 years of age. As you can see in this very short letter, Catherine was a very eager, God-loving woman. I know that today you are talking about encouragement. Catherine was a woman encouraged by her grandfather and an encouragement to many people around her. I hope that you too, can be an encourager for the many people who share the love of Jesus around the world and in your own city.

God bless you in your mission.

Sincerely,
Brian Peddle
General

Securing Fresh People

August 1914

My Dear B_____,

I have found time to read your newsy letter twice and now that I have time to answer it I pray that I will be able to give you advice that will be helpful.

First of all I would like to say that what encourages me most is how you are praying and weeping over your people. I know that there will be victory because of the way that you are so concerned about your people.

I would rather hear of your weeping in secret over your people than I would like to hear of your success which did not include praying and crying for people to know Jesus.

I have been carefully thinking about your corps in as much as I know it. It seems that your greatest need at the moment is to get a hold of new people.

The problem is working out how to reach them. Perhaps you could get 3 or 4 women from the corps to go out and visit people in particular areas of the city. They could take old magazines with them like the Young Soldier. Then with your leadership they could hold a little cottage meeting in each area monthly where they can gather those they have visited together and share a spiritual talk.

Give this a try for a little bit and see if you can get some new folks. Whatever you do, don't give up. To make a new plan and fail is better, I think, than to make no effort.

Yours, full of faith for you

Major Catherine

Prayer
May 1915

My Dear R_____,

I am glad you wrote me to tell me how you are feeling. Even though knowing doesn't change anything it does help me know how I can pray for you specifically. I do wish you weren't so far away because I think that talking with you would probably help us out.

Don't be too hard on yourself. Everything that you are doing is new and you are wanting so much to see results so that you know what you are doing is a success. Don't forget that we do our part and that God then does His part. Sometimes the waiting is tough but God is working.

Don't be discouraged. Keep working hard but don't worry if you don't see the results that you want right away.

Your last word to me in your letter asks me to pray: I will. Let us pray for ourselves and for others more and more; always pray.

Yours sincerely,

Major Catherine

Concerning the Unexpected

July 1916

My Dear M____,

The days do slip by, especially when they are as busy as ours.

The other day I was feeling rather down and I walked into my office only to find a beautiful splash of colour. There, sitting in a little glass mug, was a small party of wild orchids. There were only a few of them and I'm not sure how they got there. I only know I did not expect them, and that finding them had an effect on me that helped me all through the day.

They were truly messengers of the Lord, meeting me in a way and at a time when I was not expecting anything so cheery.

I hope you believe that God understands your needs. He will meet your needs though it might not be in the way that you think. Keep your eyes open for how he might answer your need.

Watch too for the chance to be His messenger to others. I don't know who put the orchids on my table that morning but I am glad that they were put there.

Let the unexpected challenges help you understand more of yourself and God. Receive the challenge.

Yours expecting you to be good and do well.

Major Catherine