



Love Others!



THE MISSION AIM

God calls us to love others. In fact, He commands it.



KEY VERSE

Luke 10:27b: "...and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- Be prepared to follow up on your Field Mission Project from last week
- Props and script for Good Samaritan story in Mission Assignment #1 if you desire to practice during this time or if you wish to video tape it for later
- Pieces of paper (about a quarter of an 8 ½ x 11 page) used to create encouragement words
- Colouring utensils i.e. markers, crayons

Directions

SAY: Welcome everyone. We're so glad that you've come out today. Wasn't that a great week last week remembering what it is to show our love for God with heart, soul, strength and mind?

DO: Follow up on any planning required for the field mission project from last week or if your group completed last week's mission take a few minutes to share what went well and what the recruits learned from showing their love for God.

DO: Choose one of the following or both if you have time.

SAY: This week we are going to be looking at loving our neighbours with a dramatic presentation. We thought we might take a few minutes now with some of you to choose some parts and have some of you begin to practice for our potential mission.

DO: See Mission Assignment #1 for props and parts.

OR

SAY: This week we are going to be looking at loving our neighbours who of course include our family and friends. Choose a friend or family member who you would like to encourage this week. If you could choose just one word to encourage them with what would it be? (LOVE, HOPE, JOY, PEACE, REST, HAPPINESS, FREEDOM). Using the paper provided, take a moment to

write down that word and then decorate your paper as an encouragement to them. If you have time when you're finished, choose another person to encourage.

DO: Give recruits a chance to write their notes of encouragement.

SAY: Well my friends, it's time to get started and find out what our missions will look like this week... to the Recon Team.



Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 2 – Heart to God, Hand to Man Episode 2: Love Others!"

Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 2 (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 HTG-Episode_2-Love_Others.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

- Good Samaritan template for acting out story (attachment pages 8)
- Props: clothes, Bible, Christian book, tensor bandage, coins
- Bibles



You may wish to videotape the dramatization of the Good Samaritan during pre-mission or through the week with some of the recruits or leaders OR have a group practice the drama during the pre-mission time OR ad lib during the lesson which works well too.



Mission Assignment

SAY: I'm with Isabella. Loving God is wonderful but loving people, especially when they're driving you crazy and not easy to love, well that's another story. I guess we all need to hear what the Bible has to say about loving others eh? Michael got us thinking a bit but let's find out what our mission is and get started on this new adventure. Let's have a drum roll for mission number 1, (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Take a look at the story of the Good Samaritan and discover what it is to love your neighbour."

SAY: Well, we heard what Luke 10:27b says didn't we? "Love your neighbour as yourself." Mmmm! So I guess the question is, "Who is our neighbour?" Take a minute to think about who you would say your neighbour is? You don't need to use names, for example, you could say, your teacher.

DO: Give the recruits a moment to think for themselves. (Prompts: teacher, physical neighbour, brother, sister, person who sits beside you in class, bully at school, new person at school)

SAY: Now talk to someone beside you and tell them who you thought of.



DO: Give the recruits a chance to share.

SAY: Okay, so now that we have some ideas of who we are to love, let's take a few minutes to see what the Bible has to say. We're going to have some famous people dramatize this incredible story as we listen.

DO: Show video or have actors act out The Good Samaritan using the template and props provided.

SAY: So, verse 37 tells us that the one who had mercy was the neighbour. What does that mean? Any ideas?

DO: Give the recruits a moment to think.

SAY: Mercy is to show compassion for someone even if they don't deserve it or even if you don't like that person. Wow! Jesus told the man in the story that he was to "go and do likewise". Seems to me that Jesus is telling us to go and love, go and show mercy and compassion for people even if we don't want to. This isn't a choice. I think we should also look up 1 John 4:20.

DO: Have the recruits look up 1 John 4:20 and read it together.



Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 1 (2/4)". 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

- A rock, for each recruit, that can be written on (can find these in a Dollar Store or a backyard)
- Permanent markers place together with rocks in a bowl
- Sample Prayer Huddle Template (attachment page 9) printed in large print and posted on the wall to be read during prayer huddle
- Quiet music and player
- Love Prayer template (attachment page 10)

Directions

SAY: Oh boy! If we say we love God and yet don't love others then can we really say we love God? That's a tough one to hear. So tough in fact, that I think before we even move on in our time together that we'd better spend some time in our prayer huddles praying that we would love even those who are hard to love. We heard about Isabella who is finding it hard



to love Charity who's in the bunk across from hers at camp. I think if we are truly honest with ourselves, we can think of one or two people who are tough to love or who we really haven't even tried to love even though we should. You know, the girl or boy at school that no one seems to like, the teacher who gets on everyone's nerves, your brother or sister, or the bully who always teases us. We're going to play some quiet music right now and as we do I want you to think about those people in your life who are hard to love or who seem unlovable. When you have someone in mind, come and take a small stone from the bowl up here as a reminder of how your heart is hard and unloving toward this person. While you are waiting, write the word LOVE on your rock and say your own prayer or the prayer that is posted on the wall asking God to forgive you for not always loving well and that the Holy Spirit will help you to be loving.

DO: Give recruits a moment or two to think, reflect and pray.

SAY: Now that you have prayed we are going to pray together for the love that God calls us to in the Bible. As I read some verses from 1 Corinthians 13 I will pause and get you to repeat what I've said except instead of saying "LOVE" you fill in your name. For example, when I say, LOVE IS PATIENT you will respond with JASMINE IS PATIENT.

DO: Read the prayer that is supplied in the templates based on 1 Corinthians 13.

SAY: This week, as you take your rock home, I want you to find a place where you will see or feel it often as a reminder that God wants you to love your neighbour. You might put it in a coat pocket, on your dresser or in your desk at school. Place it, wherever it will best remind you to pray for your neighbour, anyone you come in contact with, whether they are easy or hard to love.

SAY: Well recruits, we've really focused our hearts in this first segment. Now that we've looked at our own challenges to love, let's send our Intel back to the team and find out what's next. Let's raise our rocks in the air and yell "LOVE" so that the team can zero in on what we've learned.



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 1 (3/4)". 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

- Small box(es) with the title "Telegrams" written on it (them) for the telegram game cards to be placed in
- Template of telegram game (enough copies so that each recruit should be able to have one telegram word to use in the game) (see attachment pages 11-12)
- Rocks from Prayer Huddle and permanent markers





Mission Assignment

SAY: What a statement from William Booth. Go and do something! We have such a great beginning in The Salvation Army. What was it Christie wanted us to do again? Let's take a look at mission #2. Drum roll please. (Reading mission card from satellite uplink), "Mission 2: Find out about the history of The Salvation Army and how its mission was and is to serve and love others."

SAY: The story goes that one year in the early 1900s at Christmas time William Booth wanted to encourage his Salvation Army officers but there was no internet to send a message to everyone and it wasn't practical to send a letter. There was one thing he could do and that was to send a telegram, a short message sent by electricity or radio which was then printed and delivered to someone's home or office (Reference: www.collinsdictionary.com). This was way before texting and the internet. However, telegrams cost a certain amount per word so... (leader to burst in right at this point)

SAY: (leader bursting in) ...OTHERS...Hey everyone I just got a text and all it says is OTHERS but you'll never guess who it's from. William Booth! Can you believe it? What do you think it means?

SAY: Hey, you've just interrupted us. I was trying to tell the recruits a little bit about William Booth's extremely important message to his officers in the early 1900s.

SAY: (leader who burst in) ...but I just got a message from the man himself!

SAY: Oh okay! (with a look of confusion) Are you sure? Well go on!

SAY: (leader who burst in) So, what do you think it means? Why would William Booth send a text that says OTHERS?

DO: Give the recruits a moment to respond (The Salvation Army should take care of others; it's not about ourselves; we should help others).

SAY: Do you know what I think? I think William is reminding us of the telegram he sent so many years ago. I was just about to tell the recruits when you burst in that the one word he sent to his officers one Christmas was OTHERS. Telegrams cost so much per word and there was so little money so that one word had to encourage them and challenge them all at once, it was that one word! OTHERS! OTHERS became the focus and the reason that The Salvation Army existed. (Story reference: <http://www.salvationarmysouthernnevada.org/#!about1/ch7r>)

SAY: I say we find out more about what that looked like in the very early days of The Salvation Army. Let's work together to see how quickly we can get some important messages to our team to discover what else was happening in the early days of The Salvation Army that showed The Salvation Army was all about loving its neighbours. Let's deliver some telegrams!

DO: Make sure that there are enough letters in the telegram box or boxes so that each recruit can run and get a telegram (you may need to have more than one word OTHERS in the boxes or if you have a small group you may need to have recruits get more than one telegram each). Line the recruits up in two or more lines so that they can individually run to the telegram box or boxes, grab a telegram and run back to the rest of the group delivering the telegram. This should run like a relay race.



SAY: Now that we have our telegrams, let's line them up to see what word they spell. **OTHERS?** Wow! That's just what William Booth would want us to hear. Let's take a moment to read what is written on the back of each telegram.

DO: Have various recruits read aloud each letter and what it represents.

SAY: Wow! Homeless, hungry, hurting, unloved people were cared for by The Salvation Army. How amazing that we have such a heritage of loving. Let's remember that as we live out each day in trying to love our neighbours, particularly those who are hard to love or perhaps those whom no one else seems to love.

SAY: Let's make sure we tuck our notes back into the telegram box so that we can send our research back to the team.

DO: Have recruits return their notes to the box(es).

SAY: Now, just before we head back to the team, let's take out our rocks which remind us to love even when it's hard and write the word **OTHERS** on the other side of them. That will help us remember William Booth's mission as well.

SAY: Let's head back to the team and find out what has been going on at camp. It sounds like it could be a pretty hectic place.



Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 1 (4/4)". Pause the video when the **FIELD MISSION CARD** 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 **FIELD MISSION CARD** appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.



Field Mission Project



Supplies Needed

- Have some ideas in mind ahead of time for service projects so that you can bring them up as well (i.e. contact local food banks or soup kitchens to see if you can help out; make contact with nursing homes to see if you could visit, etc.)



Mission Project

SAY: Well recruits, I think that Michael has pretty much given away Mission # 3 so let's take a look at it right away...drum roll please... (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "What can we do as a squad that will help us to share the love of Jesus with the people in our community?" Well, what do you think? Let's brainstorm some ideas. (clean the house of a shut in or elderly member of your community; bake cookies and take them to a nursing home to share; do a chapel service at a local nursing home or hospital; make lunches for those on the street and go out one day to deliver them; help at a local food bank).

DO: Be prepared to implement one or two of the recruits' ideas and begin the planning processes.

SAY: Well recruits, we've sure learned a lot today. Our neighbour can be anyone, even those whom we find difficult to love. God has called us to love even them and William Booth has set a great example for loving as well. Let's take our rocks with us this week and remember to put them somewhere where we will be reminded to love OTHERS well. Let's pray together.

DO: Close in prayer.

NOTES



Dramatization of The Good Samaritan

Props:

Clothes, Bible, Christian book, tensor bandage, coins/credit card

Actors/Actresses: (adjust to the number of recruits available to act out the roles – add robbers, double up on characters, use leaders, leave out characters i.e. donkey, robbers etc.)

Narrator – Leader or solid reader

Jewish Man -

Robbers (two to three) –

Priest –

Levite –

Samaritan –

Donkey –

Inn Keeper -

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37 (NIV)

Narrator to read the entire text. Actors/actresses begin at verse 30

²⁵On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

²⁷He answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

²⁸"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

²⁹But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. **(clothes to throw about)** ³¹A priest (**reading Bible**) happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³²So too, a Levite (**Reading a Christian book**), when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan ("a likely enemy of the Jews"), as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds (**Tensor Bandage**), pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii (**Coins**) and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

³⁶"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

³⁷The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Prayer for Prayer Huddle

Dear Lord,

Thank you for loving me. Thank you that when I sin, you forgive me. Please forgive me for not loving _____ well. Please help me to love them as you do. I know that I can't do this on my own. Holy Spirit, please come and fill me with your love.

Amen

Dear Lord,

Thank you for loving me. Thank you that when I sin, you forgive me. Please forgive me for not loving _____ well. Please help me to love them as you do. I know that I can't do this on my own. Holy Spirit, please come and fill me with your love.

Amen

Love Prayer

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

As you read this prayer, pause after each phrase so the recruits can repeat it by filling in their names when it says LOVE.

⁴Love is patient,

love is kind.

Love does not envy, wanting what others have,

love does not boast about how special (he/she) is,

love is not proud about his/her accomplishments.

⁵Love does not dishonor others,

love is not self-seeking,

love is not easily angered,

love keeps no record of wrongs.

⁶Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

⁷Love always protects,

love always trusts,

love always hopes,

love always perseveres and keeps going even when it's hard.

Telegram Game

Photocopy these cards front and back and cut out each one so that there is at least one card for each recruit even if you need to double up on cards or have some recruits take more than one card during the game.

O – ut

T – reatment

H – elp

E – at

R – efused

S – oup and Salvation

Out on the streets where the poor, homeless and hungry were.
That is where William Booth was. Love!

Treatment in hospitals. The Salvation Army opened its first
mission hospitals in the early 1900s. Love!

Help when needed – during the Great War of 1914-1918 chaplains and
motor ambulances were sent overseas from Canada to help as needed
in the war efforts. Love!

Eat! William Booth wanted to be sure that the hungry were fed and
so some of the first food depots were opened in the early 1900s to provide
much needed nourishment. Love!

Refused! The shabby, messy and unwashed were refused in the regular
churches throughout London, England but William Booth would have none
of that so he invited all people to come and to worship God. Love!

Soup and Salvation! William Booth's philosophy was that you couldn't tell
people about Jesus and have them listen if they were sitting around hungry.
So his plan was to feed people and then tell them about Jesus love. Love!