



Give Freely!



THE MISSION AIM

God calls us to freely give. We are to give to those in need.



KEY VERSE

Deuteronomy 15:10-11: "Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and everything you put your hand to. There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded towards your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land."



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- Coloured paper representing the colour of leaves
- Pencils
- Scissors
- Newspapers, magazines with pictures showing "the poor"
- Tree outline as per Mission Assignment # 1

Directions

SAY: Welcome recruits. We're so glad you've come today. Last week was quite a challenge, wasn't it? Thinking of who our neighbours are and how God has called us to love them was a big challenge.

DO: Choose one of the following activities:

1. SAY: This week we will need some leaves for a tree, so we're going to use hand prints to create them.

DO: Have the recruits trace their hands and cut them out for later in the lesson (see Mission # 1). As they are working ask them how it went in loving their neighbours this past week and/or follow up on last week's Field Mission Project.

2. SAY: This week we are exploring how God challenges us to give freely, particularly to the poor. To start out we're going to decorate the tree that is posted on the wall by adding some pictures of some of the people that we see as poor.

DO: Using newspapers and magazines have the recruits cut out pictures that represent "the poor" to them. (As long as they can prove why they have chosen a certain picture, then allow them to

use it). After they have cut out the pictures get them begin to glue them on the branches and trunk (around the key verse) of the tree that has been prepared for Mission # 1.

SAY: Well folks, it's time to get started. We should find out what the team has in store for us today.



Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 2 – Heart to God, Hand to Man Episode 3: Give Freely!"

Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 3 (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_3-Give_Freely.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

- Paper tree trunk posted on the wall with some limbs to add leaves throughout the session. If possible print Deuteronomy 15:10-11 on the trunk – "Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and everything you put your hand to. There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded towards your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land."
- 15 – 20 hand prints made in a variety of fall colours or in green (try to get the kids to make them during pre-mission activity time). These will represent leaves on a tree.
- The following references printed out on pieces of paper to give each group to research (you may need to copy some of the references more than once so that the recruits can work in partners or alone): Deuteronomy 15:7-11, Ephesians 4:28, Acts 9:36–39, Acts 4:32–37, ***Ruth 2-3 (give this reference to a group who is eager and who might know the story of Ruth and Boaz or make sure there is a leader in the group who can summarize the story well)
- Copies of "God's Heart for the Poor Cheat Sheet" for each leader (see attachment page 7)
- Pencils
- Masking tape or sticky tack



Mission Assignment

SAY: Michael hasn't pulled any punches on this one. He's got us right in the thick of things. Loving the poor and having a heart for God go hand in hand, don't they? Let's find out what our first mission is and get started. Drum roll please, (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Mission # 1: Take some time to dig into the Bible and find out how God feels about the poor and what He expects us to do about it."



SAY: Let's get digging. Speaking of digging, we're going to create a tree to show the life that God wants to give to the poor and to us as we learn this incredible lesson of loving and caring. We're going to work in partners today to read the Bible and find out what it says about the poor. We'll give you a reference and when you have read it, you can use these hand prints, in other words, leaves for our tree to write down where the verse is found and what it says about the poor and how you can help to take care of them. Be as specific as you can. We'll all be around to help out as necessary. Since we'll be taping the leaves onto the wall, please just write on one side of the leaf.

DO: Pair up recruits so that there is an older helper in each group. Make sure that your leaders have their "cheat sheets" so that they are prepared to help out as necessary.

SAY: Now that you've done your research, let's take a few minutes to share what you've discovered.

DO: Give each group a chance to share and to tape their hand print on the branches of the tree posted on the wall. (Use masking tape or sticky tack so that the hands can be taken down to take home later.)

SAY: Wow! God is pretty clear that we should give to the poor around us and that we should use our own hands and gifts to help the poor. Not only should we be giving but we should be giving with a cheerful heart.

SAY: Well, our tree is starting to look like it's getting some life to it. Let's take a photo of it and send it off to the team. I sure hope what we've learned will help Teva with her heart challenge. Speaking of the team and heart challenges, I wonder what's up with Simon today.



Squad Leader if you have a small group and if they are able, give the recruits their own reference to look up. If you have a large group, divide them into partners when giving out the references.



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 3 (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

- Using Faith and Friends, The Salvationist, www.salvationarmy.ca, your corps officer and your family services co-ordinator find out information about what The Salvation Army is doing in your neighbourhood to help (i.e. running a food bank, offering computer courses, going into low income schools to volunteer, offering after school programs, offering backpacks in the Fall, income tax clinics, etc.). After gathering this information, write, draw or even cut and paste these helping ministries onto some more coloured hand print leaves (as per Mission #1) and put them in a bag (try to get at least 10 different ideas).
- A bag





Mission Assignment

SAY: Wow! Poor Simon, helping at the Food Bank has been a major challenge for him. The poor guy, I really hope he starts to get it. Well, what do you think? Should we get on with our mission? Drum roll please... (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Mission # 2 – What does The Salvation Army in your community do to give to others?" This is great! It's sometimes easy for us to focus on going to church on Sunday and doing our thing but we forget that our church is doing so much behind the scenes in our community. Let's get in a circle to play a game.

DO: Introduce the game of 10. Recruits stand in a circle with the bag of ways that The Salvation Army helps people in the centre of the circle. The first person to go will say one or one, two, the next will say two (if it wasn't said by the first person) or two, three or three or three, four moving up consecutively until someone has to say 10 because the person before them said nine. Whoever says 10, will take something from the bag and read it to the group. Then they will stick the leaf on the tree and sit down until the end of this round. The game continues until there are no more leaves in the bag or until everyone in the group is sitting down. If there are still leaves in the bag, have everyone stand up and start the round again.

SAY: Isn't it amazing to see all that The Salvation Army does to help our community and our country. We are so blessed to be involved in such an incredible church.



Prayer Huddle



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

Option 1: A piece of sidewalk chalk for each recruit

Option 2: Large sheets of paper and crayons for them to draw with

Directions

SAY: The Salvation Army is an amazing organization with people, just like you, who reach out into the community to make a difference, to be God's hands reaching out to people and loving them by giving time money, prayers and so on. We do this because God loves us and helps us to love others. In order to show our love, it's really important that we pray for our communities and for what the Army is doing in them. We are going to go on a prayer walk right now to pray for our community.

DO: Choose one of the following options:

1. Take the recruits outside for a short walk around the neighbourhood where you are meeting. Have them pray at local schools, in local parks, over people who live there. They can do this by using sidewalk chalk to draw words or pictures to draw or write their prayers.



2. Take the recruits outside and have them use sidewalk chalk to draw some of the places, situations in their community that they talked about earlier in the game of 10, i.e. the local food bank, shelters, backpacks, dollar signs. Once they have drawn items representing their community, have them walk around the items, buildings, praying that God will bless the ministries, the people that are helped and those who serve in their neighbourhood.

3. The same as option two but have recruits draw on large sheets of paper and stay inside to prayer walk.

SAY: You have prayed well for our community and all that God is doing through us here. Let's have a final prayer together over our neighbourhood before we find out what is going on with the team.

DO: Pray with the recruits.

SAY: Well recruits, I guess we'd better get back to the team and find out how things are going.



Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "Heart to God, Hand to Man (S2) Episode 3 (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

- Copies of Deuteronomy 15:10-11: "Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and everything you put your hand to. There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded towards your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land." printed small so that they can be glued on the back of one of the hand prints from the tree on the wall
- Glue sticks
- Create a list of five or six ideas of what the recruits can do as a service project and write them on a large sheet of chart paper (do a food drive; work at the thrift store for a day; do a fundraiser such as a bake sale, garage sale, etc.) and give the money to a local community project; clean the house of a shut-in or elderly member of your community; bake cookies and share them with the residents of a nursing home; 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; visit a social service centre and do a chapel service or help in the cafeteria)
- Stickers (two per recruit)



Mission Project

SAY: Christie has made it quite clear about what our next mission is so let's just have the drum roll now.... (Reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Plan a giving project and work to change the world one person at a time." That sure reminds me of our key verse, the one about giving generously. Hey, here are some copies of it for each of you. Let's each choose a hand print from our tree to remind us of the fact that God has called us to be cheerful givers. Take a moment to glue the key verse onto the back of one of the prints.

DO: Give the recruits a moment to glue and then read the verse together.

SAY: Did you hear what that says? "Be open-handed towards your brothers and towards the needy in your land." That certainly sounds like an important command. Be open-handed and freely give to the needy in our land. I guess that's what Christie wants us to think about as we decide on a giving project for our community. Last week we were thinking about how we could love our neighbour and decided to _____ (mission for last week). We're kind of on the same track this week as we think of ways to give back to our neighbourhood and community. I have listed some ideas on the chart at the side. Does anyone else have other ideas?

DO: Take a moment to list ideas from the recruits.

SAY: Now, your task is to take two stickers and stick them beside two tasks that you would like to complete as a squad.

DO: Give the recruits a chance to put stickers beside their ideas. Once you see the preferences, go from there and take a moment to discuss how you will go about performing the task together.

SAY: Recruits, I am so impressed by your willingness to serve God and to show His hands to your community by giving of your time, money and prayers. Before we head out, let's pray together and ask that God will keep giving us the strength and courage to stay focused on serving Him.

DO: Pray together and dismiss the recruits.

NOTES



Squad Leader, feel free to use your next RTS meeting time to work on the giving back project you and your recruits choose to complete.



if you have a large squad feel free to divide your recruits and leaders into smaller groups in order to accomplish more than one task. Let them share how it went the next time you meet together.



God's Heart for the Poor

"Cheat Sheet"

Deuteronomy 15:7-11: If there are poor people among you give to them freely whatever they need; give generously with open hands.

Ephesians 4:28: Use your hands to work so that when you work, you can give to the poor.

Acts 9:36 – 39: Tabitha (Dorcas) was known for always doing good and helping the poor. When she died everyone came to show the disciples the clothes that she had made for them. Thankfully God raised her to life through the disciples and she was able to help more people.

Acts 4:32 – 37: In the early church, the believers shared everything they had. ; There were no needy people among them because they were always sharing what they had. People even sold their houses and land and gave money they received to the church leaders to distribute to the needy.

***Ruth 2-3 (give this one to a group who is eager and who might know the story of Ruth and Boaz or make sure there is a leader in the group who can summarize the story well): Ruth and her mother-in-law, Naomi, have returned to Naomi's people but they are very poor. Ruth goes to Boaz' field and he tells those working in the fields to make sure that they leave some of the grain for Ruth. Boaz also chose to marry Ruth so that she would not be poor and then he would be able to take care of her.