



What We Believe



THE MISSION AIM

We believe that our doctrines represent the essentials of The Salvation Army's Christian beliefs.



KEY VERSE

Titus 2:11-13: "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope-the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ."



Pre-Mission Activity



Supplies Needed

- Recruits' copy of the "God's Soldier" page that they took for homework

Directions

DO: Provide recruits with time to share their research from last week- they may do this all together or in small groups. You may wish to put their work on display somewhere around the church.



Squad leader be sure to send a reminder to recruits during the week encouraging them to do bring back their God's Soldier page.



Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 3 – We Are An Army Episode 3: What We Believe"

Play "We Are An Army (S3) 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 WAAA-Episode_3-What_We_Believe.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

- Doctrine Category page (see attachment page 7)
- Copy of "We Believe..." cut apart with enough strips for each recruit to have one. If necessary more than one recruit may have the same doctrine (see attachment page 8)
- Three Hula Hoops
- Optional: A video recording device, if you wish to turn this information into a video to share with the corps.



Mission Assignment

SAY: Let's countdown from three to read our first mission card together, 3 – 2 – 1 (read mission card from satellite uplink). "In order to live what you believe, you need to **KNOW** what you believe. Dig into what the big beliefs of The Salvation Army are, and prepare a creative way to share them with your corps."

SAY: Poor Simon, he's trapped out in the cold! Kate had promised to let him back in, but I have a feeling she wasn't really paying attention to what she was promising. Have you ever promised to do something without realizing just what you'd gotten yourself into? (Be ready to share a personal example, if recruits don't have any to share. For example, a time when you offered to help a friend do something, but later realized it was something you hated to do/was scary/took a lot of time/you just forgot about it, etc.)

SAY: This is exactly what John Eric, the new recruit, is afraid of. He doesn't want to make a promise without knowing what he's getting into.

SAY: In The Salvation Army, we have a group of doctrines that determine what we say and do. A doctrine is just a fancy way of saying what we believe and teach others. Our doctrines or beliefs help make it clear what it is we in The Salvation Army believe.

DO: Spread three hula hoops (or another marker that will signify a zone) out on the floor. Place a Doctrine Category above each of the hula hoops (Who God Is, How God Speaks, How We Should Live).

SAY: I am going to hand each of you one of our doctrines. I want you to read it aloud and decide which hula hoop it belongs in. Since the doctrines can be a lot to remember, this will help us to get a clearer picture of what they mean.

DO: Give recruits one of the doctrines and take turns reading them out loud and placing each one where they think it would belong.

SAY: Now that we have grouped the doctrines, can we think of a few sentences that would summarize them so that we could share with the Recon Team?

DO: Brainstorm a quick summary. It may look something like:



Who God Is:

We believe in one God, who is part of the Trinity.

God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are equal.

Jesus was fully God and fully man.

How He Speaks:

God speaks through his word and the Holy Spirit.

How We Should Live:

We believe that people became sinful and fall short of the Glory of God.

BUT - that we are saved through Jesus dying on the cross.

The only way we can be saved is by asking for forgiveness.

After that, we have to continue to try and do what is right/seek forgiveness when we do wrong.

Doing this will give us the gift of eternal life.

But those who do not will spend eternity in hell.

Optional: If you choose to: work together to plan a creative way to share what you have learned about our doctrines with your church. For example, have the recruits recite the doctrines and then have them each take one part of the summary you wrote together and read it while you record it in a video. This could then be played for the congregation on a Sunday morning. You may ask them to hold up the words of the doctrine that goes with the part they are summarizing (like a sign while they speak).

Another option is to have recruits present it live to your congregation. If doing this, take some time to practise it now.

SAY: Excellent work at wrapping your heads around our doctrines, recruits. Let's share what we have learned with the Recon Team.



Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play "We Are An Army (S3) 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

- Two copies of doctrines from We Believe... (used in Mission Assignment # 1)
- Two copies of Doctrine Bible Verses (see attachment page 9)
- Doctrine Bible Verses – Teacher Copy (see attachment pages 10 and 11)



Mission Assignment

SAY: Well recruits we have our second mission for today. Let's give a loud drumroll and then read it together. (Read mission card from satellite uplink) "Now that we know what we believe, we need to know why we believe it! Dig into God's Word and discover where our doctrines come from."

SAY: Kate was right when saying that knowing just what The Salvation Army believes is important when deciding to make a promise, like the promise some of you made when you became a junior soldier (or you WILL make when you choose to become a junior soldier).

SAY: Naomi mentioned that we need to figure out just where The Salvation Army got the ideas for their doctrines from. Where do YOU think the ideas came from? (*The Bible*) Exactly! We didn't just write our doctrines based on what we guessed might be true or wanted to be true. We went to God's word to see what it had to say.

SAY: To complete your next mission you are going to race to match our doctrines to what the scripture says. I will be placing you on two teams to sort the doctrines with their matching scripture. Here is the trick, though! Some of the Bible verses you have will not match any of the 11 doctrines. The first team to match each doctrine with its scripture first will be the winner!

DO: Pass each team a set of Bible verse strips and set of doctrines. They will begin when you say "Go!" Be sure to take up the answers after the game.

SAY: Way to rise to the challenge, recruits! (Or should I say rise to the mission?) It's a little clearer now that The Salvation Army doctrines are based on scripture truths. However, some of them are less clear than others. For example, we believe in the Trinity, but there is no single verse of scripture that clearly states the Trinity exists. That was discovered after much research and study of many different scriptures within the Bible.

SAY: The Salvation Army thought long and hard, diving into the scriptures, to decide what they believe to be true. It's nice to know that lots of thought and consideration was put into deciding what the Army believes. We can be more confident in our choices, when we have scripture to back it up!

SAY: Let's send these Bible verses to control central.



NOTE Squad leader, if you have a small squad work together to see if you can match up the doctrines with the Bible verses.





Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "We Are An Army (S3) Episode 3 (3/4)". 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

- A copy of the Junior Soldier Promise (see attachment page 12)

Mission Project

SAY: Recruits, are you ready for your final mission of the day? Let's read it together (read mission card from satellite uplink). "Now that you know what we believe, it's your turn to decide if you want live by these beliefs."

SAY: Alex just mentioned the Chapter Psalm 103. Later on in the chapter, the verses say "but the love of the LORD remains forever with those who fear him. His salvation extends to the children's children of those who are faithful to his covenant, of those who obey his commandments." (Psalm 103:17-18)

SAY: How does this relate to our doctrines and promises we make in The Salvation Army? (Our doctrines remind us what we believe God's word tells us, and the promises are how we will live in order to show those beliefs and obedience to God.)

SAY: In The Salvation Army, we have a promise that is based on our doctrines. It is called the Junior Soldier Promise. While the doctrines tell about WHAT we believe, this promise gives us a map on HOW we can live out our beliefs every day.



Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "We Are An Army (S3) Episode 3 (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

- A copy of The Junior Soldier Promise for each recruit (see attachment page 12)
- Pens

Directions

DO: Pass out copies of The Junior Soldier Promise and pens.

SAY: Today for our prayer huddle, we are going to reflect on this promise. Some of you may already be Junior Soldiers and have made this promise before, and that's great! Even if you've already made this promise, it is important to check-in and think about how well you are keeping this promise in your life. If you are not a Junior Soldier yet, this may be the first time you are seeing a promise like this. Whether it's a new promise or an old one, it is important to decide how YOU want to live your beliefs for God.

SAY: I will read through the promise first, while you think and reflect on what it says. Then, we will read it together as you decide whether you wish to make a promise like this one to God or if you would like to renew your Junior Soldier promise today. At the end, I will ask you to sign your name at the bottom if you decide to that you would like to know more about this promise and become a junior soldier – someone who promises to live in a way that is obedient to God. If you wish to renew your promise today, I'll ask you to sign your card as well. If you're not sure you are ready to make this promise, that's okay. Feel free to take this promise home, think about it and talk about it with your family.

DO: Read through the promise (slowly). Take time to explain or clarify what it means. Then read through it again with the recruits. Have them sign on the line that is appropriate for them.

SAY: Awesome God, I want to pray over all the recruits today, who made the choice to promise to do their best to live for you and what you tell us in the Bible. I pray you will give them the strength to do their best to keep this promise. Those times when they may not keep that promise, I pray that you would remind them that no one is perfect. We are human and all make mistakes. What is most important is that they try their best, and realize when they need to ask for forgiveness and help to get back on track. I'm so proud of these recruits, as I know you are too. Help their lives to be an amazing example of what they believe. Amen.

SAY: Recruits, you made a HUGE decision today, and I couldn't be more excited for you. If you are someone who chose not to sign this promise yet, I encourage you to really think about it. Talk with your family and when you feel ready, come see me and I'll tell you more about becoming a Junior Soldier or junior member of The Salvation Army.



Squad leader, if you have recruits who are interested in knowing more about the Junior Soldier Promise be sure to let your corps officer know, so arrangements can be made to offer the JS Preparation Course "Ready to be God's Soldier". It is available as a FREE download from:

CANBDAYOUTH.COM



Who God Is

**How God
Speaks**

**How We
Should Live**

We Believe...

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and that they only constitute the Divine rule of Christian faith and practice.

We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.

We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory.

We believe that in the person of Jesus Christ the Divine and human natures are united, so that He is truly and properly God and truly and properly man.

We believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocency, but by their disobedience, they lost their purity and happiness, and that in consequence of their fall, all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has by His suffering and death made an atonement for the whole world so that whosoever will may be saved.

We believe that repentance toward God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation.

We believe that we are justified by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and that he that believeth hath the witness in himself.

We believe that continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ.

We believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be wholly sanctified, and that their whole spirit and soul and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe in the immortality of the soul, the resurrection of the body, in the general judgement at the end of the world, in the eternal happiness of the righteous, and in the endless punishment of the wicked.

Doctrine Bible Verses

2 Timothy 3:16 (NLT): All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

1 Corinthians 8:6a (NirV): But we know that there is only one God, the Father, who created everything, and we live for him.

1 John 5:6: And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.
John 14:6-7: Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

Luke 2:52 (NLT): Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and all the people.
AND
1 Timothy 2:5: For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus.

Romans 3:23 (NLT): For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

John 3:16: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 10:9: If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Matthew 7:21: Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Philippians 2:12: Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24: May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

Romans 2:6-8: God "will repay each person according to what they have done." To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.

Doctrine Bible Verses - Teacher Copy

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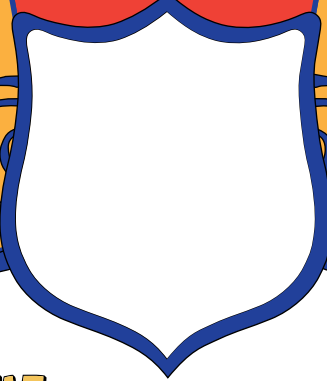
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We believe in the immortality of the soul, the resurrection of the body, in the general judgement at the end of the world, in the eternal happiness of the righteous, and in the endless punishment of the wicked.



THE JUNIOR SOLDIER PROMISE

I know that Jesus is my Saviour from sin.

I have asked him to forgive my sins, and I will trust him to keep me good.

By his help, I will be his loving and obedient child, and will help others to follow him.

I promise to pray, to read my Bible, and to lead a life that is clean in thought, word and deed.

I will not use anything that may injure my body or mind, including harmful drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

I would like to know more about being a Junior Soldier so that I can make this promise.

OR

Today I renew my Junior Soldier Promise and continue to live in obedience to God.

Sign your name here

Sign your name here

