



The Salvation Army

Territorial Headquarters
Canada and Bermuda

Office of the Territorial Commander

2 Overlea Blvd.
Toronto, ON M4H 1P4
Tel: 416-425-2111
Fax: 416-422-6201

February 2025

Greetings!

February is designated as Call and Commitment month in the Canada and Bermuda Territory, a time when individuals are encouraged to carefully discern and explore God's call upon their lives to serve in full-time ministry as Salvation Army officers. It is a time to reflect, pray, encourage others and journey together, listening to His voice with open minds.

The candidates department has chosen **Harvest Hands** as the theme for this year's focus, based on Matthew 9:36-38: "When He looked out over the crowds, His heart broke. So confused and aimless they were, like sheep with no shepherd. 'What a huge harvest!' He said to His disciples. 'How few workers! On your knees and pray for harvest hands!'" (*The Message*).

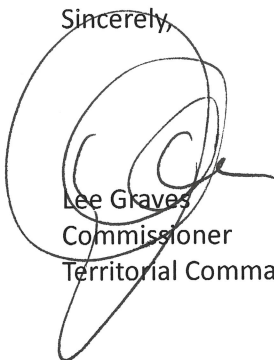
Jesus was not talking about a literal harvest of produce but was using a metaphor that the people to whom He was speaking would find easy to understand and apply. In their agricultural society, they knew harvest time meant many hands were needed to carry the burdens, care for the land, labour together and share in the joy of a process moving towards completion. All hands were useful during harvest because the tasks came in all shapes and sizes. Harvest was an equalizer of sorts, because all hands could participate in some way.

In the context of our mission and ministry, we also see a plentiful harvest. In both corps and social mission ministries, we encounter people who need hope, healing, support and encouragement. But there is a great need for harvest hands and people who are willing to come alongside and share God's message of love. Call and Commitment Sunday provides an opportunity to highlight this need and encourage others to consider how God might be inviting them to partner with Him in this important work.

Jesus gives only one command in Matthew 9:36-38, to pray. I encourage every corps to highlight this special emphasis during a Sunday in February and join us in praying to the Lord of the harvest for harvest hands. And in praying, we believe the Lord will provide harvest workers to obediently respond to His call and work faithfully in His field.

God bless you!

Sincerely,



Lee Graves
Commissioner
Territorial Commander