living the gospel story in a

A new year often brings with it the desire and challenge to resolve, to start fresh. It is a natural starting point for us, but in reality the turn of the calendar is just another day, like any other. But because of what we have experienced through Advent, we can continue to celebrate Emmanuel, God With Us - each and every day. It is His presence, His power that make it possible for us to live holy lives, to "will and to do for His good pleasure." (Philippians 2:13)

Salvation Soldiers have entered and taken on a covenant that is impossible to live up to apart from God's indwelling Spirit, working in and through them to live out their faith in this particular way, as members of a people called by God to practice faith as Salvationists.

In 2017 we are CALLING THE COURAGEOUS... to enter and live with a continual spirit of renewal: Renewal to be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to His leading. Renewal to uphold Christian integrity in every area of life. Renewal to maintain Christian ideals in all relationships. To uphold the sanctity of marriage. To abstain from all that could enslave body or spirit. To be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army. To be actively involved in the life, work, worship and witness of the corps. Renewal to live a faith that is Christ-centred, and others-focused at all times, in all circumstances, for the sake of "MAY WE EVEN MORE DARE FOR YOU"

meaningful way, today.

Read:

Joshua 24:1-28 Colossians 3:1-17

Read:

The Salvation Army Soldier's Covenant

Consider:

What does this new year look like for you? How does living out the Soldier's Covenant take shape for you this year? Is living this kind of faith the desire of your heart? What will it look like for you in 2017?

Pray:

Create a clean heart in me, O God, and renew a faithful spirit within me. Do not force me away from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore the joy of your salvation to me, and provide me with a spirit of willing obedience. Psalm 51:10-12 (GW)

By the love that never ceased to hold me, By the blood which thou didst shed for me, While thy presence and thy power enfold me, I renew my covenant with thee.

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