

CALLING THE COURAGEOUS...

"I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged."

The Salvation Soldier is one whose faith has an outlawed focus: is actively engaged in their world through sacrificial, compassionate mission. The following words on the actions associated with the feeling should be a challenge to any soldier having made such a declaration:

"Action with and for those who suffer is the concrete expression of the compassionate life and the final write-in of being a Christian. Such acts do not stand beside the moments of prayer and worship but are themselves such moments. Why? Because Jesus Christ, who did not cling to his divinity, but became as we are, can be found where there are hungry, thirsty, alienated, naked, sick, and imprisoned people. Precisely when we live in an ongoing conversation with Christ and allow his Spirit to guide our lives, we will recognize him in the poor, the oppressed, and the downtrodden, and will hear his cry and respond to it wherever he reveals himself. Thus, action and prayer are two aspects of the same discipline... Both require that we be present to the suffering world here and now and that we respond to the specific needs of those who make up our world, a world claimed by Jesus Christ as his own. So worship becomes ministry and ministry becomes worship, and all we say and do, ask for or give, becomes a way to the life in which God's compassion can manifest itself."

*from Nouwen, Henri, Donald P. McNeill, and Douglas A. Morrison. *Compassion: A Reflection on the Christian Life*. New York: Doubleday, 1982.

"MAY WE EVEN MORE DARE FOR YOU"

Canada & Bermuda Territorial Soldiership Campaign



Read:

Matthew 9:35-38
James 1:22-27

Read:

The Salvation Army Soldier's Covenant

Consider:

*What needs do I see in my world?
Am I moved by compassion by these needs?
Do I need to pray to be moved by God's Spirit
to respond in a way that is
motivated by His compassionate love?
What will that look like?
What steps do I need to take to demonstrate
his love through sacrificial,
compassionate mission?*

Pray:

*May we reflect the character
of your Servant, in whom You delight:
Guided by Your Spirit within us,
may we help bring justice to the nations.
May we come alongside those
who are hurting and burned out.
May we faithfully work
to bring about justice in our world,
not faltering or being discouraged
until we see your justice
established in our world
and hope given, in You, to the hopeless.
May it begin with me, in my world.*
(based on Isaiah 42:1-4)

*Except I am moved with
compassion,
How dwelleth Thy Spirit
in me?
In word and in deed
Burning love is my need;
I know I can find this in Thee.*

to be moved with compassion.

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