

# CALLING THE COURAGEOUS...

“What you do for kids will transform the culture of your church.

Something transformational happens in churches when more children and teenagers are around.

Parents become more engaged. Volunteers become more motivated. Staffs become more focused. Everybody becomes more involved. You church will love deeper, think harder, laugh louder, and pray more. I might even make the argument that your pastor’s sermons could become more interesting. (But I don’t want to overpromise.) I do believe a few more kids can change the dynamic and the energy of your entire church.

What you do for kids will keep your church from dying.

The age of the average church member increases by seven years every decade and in the next ten years, the average age of members in many mainline denominations will be over sixty. In most places, the average age of a churchgoer is fifteen years older than the surrounding community members.

Basically, churches are “greying” because members are getting older, and younger families are just not attending. The only way to reverse the trend is to reach more kids.” - from Reggie Joiner. *A New Kind of Leader*. Cumming: Orange, 2016.

Hear the Spirit **CALLING THE COURAGEOUS...** to future generations - to recognize that raising up and discipling the next generation of Salvationists, can not only better the future but can disturb the present - in a positively life-changing, eternity-altering way, in the future and in the present.

“Who can estimate the wealth of worth caged in a child?”

- Evangeline Booth

Read:

*Psalms 33, 78:1-8;*

Read:

*The Salvation Army Soldier’s Covenant*

Consider:

The covenant a soldier enters into is one that is sacred, lasting and consistent. But as a soldier enters new stages and phases on life, how that covenant is expressed changes and adapts to one’s “new now”.

As you read through the *Soldier’s Covenant*, ask yourself: In what new ways do I need to express and live out the commitment I made when I was \_\_\_\_\_?

How does my soldiership look different than it did when I entered the covenant? What remains consistent?

Pray:

O God, you have helped me from my earliest childhood—and I have constantly testified to others of the wonderful things you do. And now that I am old and grey, don’t forsake me.

Give me time to tell this new generation (and their children too) about all your mighty miracles.

- from Psalm 71:16-17 (TLB)

*Plan our life, O gracious Saviour,  
Call upon us in our youth;  
May we be, with high endeavour,  
Bearers of Thy love and truth.*

*With Thy plan before us ever,  
Keep us loyal to our aim;  
Then shall all our life’s endeavour  
Glorify our Father’s name.*

to future generations.

“MAY WE EVEN MORE DARE FOR YOU”

Canada & Bermuda Territorial Soldiership Campaign



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