LEADER'S NOTES

These notes are designed to assist the group leader in facilitating the discussion resulting from the various exercises in the lesson material. Most questions in these lessons are rather open-ended. There are often a variety of potential "right" answers. The purpose of this guide, therefore, is to give further insight to the writer's intent surrounding the exercises themselves, in order to stimulate meaningful and relevant discussion.

As you begin *Mobilized for Mission*, may you go forward in confidence knowing that the battle is already won and the victory is secure in Christ. May the material which follows serve to strengthen your faith and equip you for your mission as a soldier of God's Army.

Unit A: Lesson 1
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Pages 11-12: This exercise is designed to assist the participant in examining some basic principles at work in his/her life. These may include simple things, such as being kind or not stealing. The discussion should conclude that not all people in our society are functioning from the same point of reference. It should end by considering the influences that are beneficial to society, and those that are not.

FIELD MANUAL

Page 13: Participants are encouraged to see God at work in various ways. This simple exercise is not meant to take a great deal of time, but to reflect on ways in which God can be seen at work in our world. Participants may only fill out the first column at first, and then fill out the second column as the discussion unfolds. For example: A person might observe God's involvement in nature during the spring as the trees are budding. In this case, this might reveal something of God's continual involvement in his creation as it replenishes itself.

Page 15: This exercise has two parts. Each participant should look up a verse in the first column and attempt to identify something that reveals an aspect of God's nature. It is hoped that the participants will identify how God is gradually revealed in Scripture. Not only is God revealed, but his expectations of his people are also revealed in a similar manner. For example: In Genesis 1:1, God is revealed as Creator. In Genesis 2:15-17, the requirement would be one of simple obedience. Therefore, as with any relationship, knowing both the person and the expectations involved is of vital importance to the quality of that relationship.

Page 18: This exercise can best be accomplished if each member of the group spends a moment or two looking at one specific passage. The key to this discussion centres on the issue of relevance. Participants are encouraged to link the situation represented in the passage to a similar situation that may exist today. By this, it is hoped that each will discover that the Word of God is living and applicable to every generation of reader.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Page 18: As a final activity, participants are encouraged to evaluate their personal devotional life. After having discussed, through the lesson material, how important and relevant God's Word is, it is hoped that participants will be encouraged to make the regular reading of God's Word an important element of their lives.

Unit A: Lesson 2
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Page 23: Many of the attributes identified in this first exercise will serve as a review of what was discussed in the previous lesson. In addition, it will set the stage for the lesson to follow. In discussing the answers, opportunity will be given to help discover the many attributes (character traits) of God. It may also serve to reveal some misconceptions, which may need to be addressed further on in the lesson.

FIELD MANUAL

Pages 24-25: The key to this exercise is to allow participants to recognize they are each God's creation and not vice versa. Our tendency to create our own gods has resulted in disaster at every bend. Opportunity is therefore given to discuss the importance of recognizing God for who he is. It should also further enforce the authority of the Word of God as the primary source of divine self-revelation.

Pages 25-26: In this short exercise, participants are encouraged to reflect on the power of God's spoken Word. The key phrase, in this case, is: "and God said...." The Word of God, therefore, is all powerful.

Pages 26-27: This exercise is designed to enforce that nothing happens in this world without God's infinite knowledge. Because of this, we can be confident that God is in control. Whether this brings a level of comfort, or fear, may indicate something of the relationship one has with God.

Pages 27-28: This short exercise will reinforce the truth concerning the nature of God's relationship with his children. Participants should be brought to realize that God has their best interests in mind at all times because of his perfect holiness and love, two attributes that are often less than pure in the human context.

Pages 29-30: This short exercise is meant to give participants a basic understanding of the distinct nature and role of each person in the Trinity. It is hoped this will help establish an understanding of how each, being God, has a specific personality and function within the Godhead.

Page 31: This exercise is best accomplished by each member of the group reading a specific passage, and the others deciding in which column it belongs. Participants should begin to grasp how, in Christ, we see a perfect blending of the divine and human nature.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Page 32: Through this exercise, participants will reflect on how our limited knowledge of God is an issue of faith. God is greater than our scope of understanding and yet he is worthy of our continual worship. Participants are given an opportunity to take "worship" out of its Sunday morning box and see it as a daily activity.

Unit A: Lesson 3
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Page 36: This exercise is designed to assist participants to see sin as God sees it. Sin affects God in many of the same ways it affects us as believers. It may be helpful to allow the participants to scan through news events of the past day or so, as they enter into this discussion.

FIELD MANUAL

Pages 38-39: Adam and Eve were given cause to question God's motive in commanding them not to eat of the forbidden fruit. This exercise is designed to focus on the concept of mistrust and its effect on any relationship. Participants are encouraged to make a choice to trust more freely and not be on a constant lookout for hidden motives.

Pages 39-40: Many people can relate, in one way or another, to feelings of loss or anger that are often caused by separation. It is hoped that this short exercise will bring participants closer to an understanding of the effect of sin on one's relationship with God.

Pages 40-41: As the group looks at the story of the lost son, the key element for this discussion should centre on the father's posture and response. Here is found a perfect contrast between what we deserve as sinners and the forgiveness that is offered through Christ.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Pages 42-43: This exercise gives an opportunity for each participant to reflect upon his/her relationship with Christ, and to place themselves in the context of the promises of Scripture. This should help each to craft and validate his/her testimony against God's Word. It is hoped that by doing so, each will have more confidence in sharing his/her faith with others.

Unit A: Lesson 4
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Page 46: Carrying on from where the discussion ended in the previous lesson, this exercise is designed to reinforce the fact that not only is God willing to save, but that he does save, and has indeed saved us as believers. It will also serve to discover, from within the group, what this means for each individual.

FIELD MANUAL

Page 48: One important element to the process of salvation has to do with the difference between "regret" (or worldly sorrow) and "repentance." This exercise is designed to highlight the key difference between the two. Feeling badly about being caught, and developing a "hatred" for sin, are two very different things.

Page 49: This exercise is designed to allow the participant to see how Scripture interacts with one's life. When looking at the "implications," participants are encouraged to determine what the passage means for them. In determining "impact" they are establishing how it affects them personally.

Page 50: "Regeneration" is a term that is often difficult to understand. Each passage describes this process in a different way. By examining these passages, participants will gain a greater understanding of this term and its implications for their lives.

Pages 51-52: This short study is designed to assist the participant in understanding the concept of "justification." The key to this discussion will be the discovery that there is nothing a person can do to bring this about. It is God's gift.

Pages 52-53: In this exercise, a shift has been made from the cognitive to the experiential. It is one thing to know the facts; it is another to know the witness of the Spirit within. Participants are encouraged to share openly about how they are aware of the

presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives, and how this awareness further provides them with the assurance of salvation.

Page 54: This exercise gives a brief opportunity to share ways in which believers can enjoy an open and honest relationship with God. Participants are also encouraged to discuss the consequences of not being honest with God.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Pages 54-55: The group has discussed the richness of the salvation they have in Christ. They are now given an opportunity to identify those whom they would like to see receive this gift as well. It is hoped that this will encourage them to be more diligent in the sharing of their faith with others and know the true blessing of being a "transformational influence" in their world.

Unit A: Lesson 5
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Page 59: As the group begins a study on personal holiness, this exercise will help them focus on the ability they have to make choices. This will lay the groundwork for what is to come in this lesson, as holiness is seen as an ability to consistently make the right choices or decisions, through the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.

FIELD MANUAL

Pages 61-62: In this exercise it is important that participants understand that being perfect and the constant striving toward perfection are two very different things. We are unable to be perfect in our own strength, but we do have the capacity to consistently strive toward perfection (holiness). This is what God requires from us.

Page 63: The passages in this exercise will assist the participant in discovering how God is at work in the sanctifying process. It is designed to take the focus off of human effort and focus on God's work within the life of the believer.

Pages 63-64: This brief exercise reminds participants that we are only on earth for a short time. Paul contrasts a tent (temporary dwelling) and a building (permanent dwelling) to illustrate this point.

Pagse 64-65: This exercise helps to illustrate how our deeds are related to our faith. Although it is not our deeds which save us, they do become a living and tangible example of the genuineness of our faith.

Page 66: This exercise will give the participants opportunity to explore some of what Scripture reveals about heaven. Although this study is in no way exhaustive, it is important that each participant becomes aware that the most important element of heaven is being in God's presence.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Pages 67-68: To summarize the lesson, participants will answer questions to demonstrate that they have gained something of the "big picture" (an eternal perspective) of God's plan for their lives.

Unit B: Lesson 1
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Page 73: This exercise gives an opportunity to contrast Christian values and the values of the world. This will serve as an introduction to the lesson to follow which will discuss the implications of these two value systems functioning side by side.

FIELD MANUAL

Pages 74-75: This exercise will assist participants to apply scriptural principles to the areas of their lives that may not be specifically addressed in the context of biblical times.

Page 76: The ability to maintain a high level of Christian values is a result of the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. Understanding the connection between the Holy Spirit and the Word of God is important to one's ability to discern his voice and leading.

Page 77: This exercise gives an opportunity for each participant to identify the way in which the Holy Spirit has had an effect on his/her life. In addition, participants will be encouraged to affirm these attributes in each other.

Page 78: In a similar way to the previous exercise, participants will have an opportunity to explore the different gifts of the Holy Spirit and identify them in themselves and each other.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Page 79: As a final act of reflection, participants are encouraged to evaluate the level at which the Holy Spirit has control in his/her life, and then to commit to his control the areas that have yet to be surrendered.

Unit B: Lesson 2
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Pages 82-83: The way Salvationists are to view human relationships is the focus of this lesson. Participants will be encouraged to think of the ways in which society views such relationships. Elements that influence our view on relationships could be things such as the media or societal shifts and norms reflected in the lives of our peers. When assessing "value," one might consider elements that reflect how relationships seem to be somewhat "disposable" in our culture.

FIELD MANUAL

Page 85: This text study should help participants to see how earthly marriage can become a living sacrament, reflecting the relationship between Christ and his church. Those who are not married will be challenged to recognize how important it is to keep all their relationships pure in God's sight. This will also serve to add validity to the sacred union of marriage within the body of Christ.

Page 86: Relationships within the context of the family unit can all bear witness to one's relationship with Christ. Each participant is encouraged to identify how Christ can be reflected in the context of their varying family relationships.

Page 88: Christlikeness is also reflected in one's relationships with those outside the immediate family. Certainly this should be true of the family of God. Participants will identify how this dynamic can be demonstrated in his/her own life and in the local context.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Page 89: This final exercise is designed to highlight the concept of sacrificial love—a love which is not self-seeking but self-giving. To love in this way is to love as Christ loved.

Unit B: Lesson 3
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Page 93: Participants are encouraged to think broadly about stewardship and the issues in this story that reflect elements of Christian stewardship. One's ability to identify these issues will assist in determining the participant's understanding of the subject.

FIELD MANUAL

Page 95: The contrast between the amount of time spent on something, against the priority it has been given will generate much discussion. It should be noted that time and priority will not always line up. However, much time spent on meaningless activity (such as watching too much TV) may be a worthy point for discussion.

Pages 97-98: This exercise will highlight some of the ways in which the participants can see each other making wise use of their individual gifts and abilities. This will encourage them to evaluate their gifts and how these can be best used for God.

Pages 99-100: This exercise seeks to place the stewardship of giving into the broader context of Christian stewardship. There is some danger in making this a group activity, as people can often become defensive in this area. Group leaders should be sensitive to this dynamic and encourage participants to reflect on and apply what God lays on their hearts in this area of their lives, even if this means they will not necessarily share these openly with the group.

Page 101: Each passage represents a different area of Christian stewardship, especially as it relates to the care of the mind and body. Many different applications may come out of this, depending on the nature of the group. It is hoped, however, that by reading these passages, participants will be encouraged to apply the principles unearthed.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Pages 101-102: As the lesson concludes, opportunity is given for a time of personal reflection and determination. Four areas of Christian stewardship have been discussed in this unit. Participants should not be forced to disclose what they have written, but encouraged to be held accountable for it. Those who are willing to share should be encouraged to do so.

Unit C: Lesson 1
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Page 106: This exercise will help participants recognize that many choices are based on wisdom from the past. Not only is this principle true at the individual level, but at the corporate level as well. Salvationists, at times, need to look to the past to determine what is good for the present. The lesson that unfolds will highlight the importance of this principle.

FIELD MANUAL

Page 109: This exercise has two parts. The first section is designed to assist participants to identify why the Army has been successful in its proclamation of the gospel. Participants should be encouraged to share their answers with other members of the group. Secondly, participants are encouraged to assess the effectiveness of their local corps in the proclamation of the gospel. Are there principles that can be drawn from the past for added effectiveness in this area?

Pages 110-111: As the proclamation of the gospel is central to the mission of the Army, this exercise will help participants identify ways they can be effective in this area.

Pages 112-113: This exercise will highlight the kinds of people to which Christ ministered, many of whom remain "untouched" in our society. This exercise is designed to create an awareness of the need for the Army's historical mission in the present.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Page 114: As prospective Salvationists, participants are encouraged to think of ways they can make a meaningful contribution toward the mission of the Army in their local corps.

Unit C: Lesson 2
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Page 118: The key to this exercise is to demonstrate the importance of thinking about others, in the context of mission. By recalling situations where others have been blessed by their efforts, participants will be encouraged to continue to engage in ministry from this selfless perspective.

FIELD MANUAL

Pages 120-121: This exercise will encourage the participant to reach beyond his/her comfort zone for the sake of ministry.

Page 122: This exercise will establish a biblical basis for loyalty within the church. Participants will recognize that their leaders have been placed over them by the Lord, and that they, too, are accountable to Christ. How people function with respect to those in authority is a good measuring rod to how they respond to Christ's leading in their lives.

Pages 123-124: This exercise is designed to establish how the Salvation Army uniform is an important symbol of faith and witness. As participants identify symbols worn by others, such as crosses or turbans, they will be encouraged to see how the uniform can be used effectively today.

Pages 125-126: This short exercise should assist the participant to recognize that the Christian is encouraged to function in the context of mission on a daily basis. Because of the Army's ministry to those who have been enslaved by various addictions, it is important to apply this principle to one's life.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Pages 126-127: Participants are given opportunity to reflect on those things which get in the way of effective personal mission and ministry. Further reflection on how one might contribute to the local body is also considered at this point.

Unit C: Lesson 3
LEADER'S NOTES

FOCAL POINT

Pages 130-131: This opening exercise is designed to increase the awareness of the influences of common activities on the life of the believer and the effect these might have on one's witness. As the lesson unfolds, issues surrounding true sacramental living will be discussed.

FIELD MANUAL

Pages 134-135: The purpose of this exercise is to illustrate that water baptism is a symbol of a greater work of grace. The individuals involved had already received the Holy Spirit, without the ceremony.

Pages 136-137: This exercise will provide a biblical context for the Lord's Supper as a common meal and assist participants to recognize the role of this practice today. Suggestions on practical ways to bring about the kind of fellowship enjoyed by the early church are encouraged.

Pages 138-139: This exercise will highlight that for the Apostle John, the events of the Last Supper had a very profound impact on his life, in a different way than for the other Gospel writers. For John, Christ demonstrated the full extent of his love, symbolically as a servant, and ultimately, on the cross. This represents the true essence of the sacramental life.

MOBILIZED FOR MISSION

Page 139: Participants are encouraged to see their lives as living sacraments unto God.