



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL 2020

BE BOLD: FROM EQUALITY TO EQUITY FOR GIRLS

RESOURCES FOR WORSHIP



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 IS DAY OF THE GIRL

International Day of the Girl is recognized internationally each year on October 11. First proposed by Canada to the United Nations in 2011, the first Day of the Girl was held in 2012. The observance of this day supports more opportunities for girls and increases awareness of gender inequality faced by girls worldwide. This inequality includes areas such as access to education, nutrition, legal rights, medical care, and protection from discrimination, violence, and forced child marriage.

The celebration of girls recognized that they are part of the solution and seeks to empower girls to make a difference in their communities and around the world.

WORSHIP RESOURCES

We've compiled everything you need to celebrate and promote International Day of the Girl in your ministry unit's worship service.

CALL TO WORSHIP

As we gather for worship we acknowledge that today is International Day of the Girl

We declare that the God of justice, mercy, love, fairness, equality and equity sings his songs of grace over those who live where gender equality is absent; where being female secludes you from education, options, access to healthcare and freedom of speech: where being female excludes you from equal opportunities for employment, and autonomy for your own body has been stolen and basic human rights are non existent;

Where being a girl means you are most likely to be poor, hungry, alone, illiterate, left-alone, homeless and destitute.

We pray against all of this today and recognize that girls rights and the unique challenges girls face are all over the world. We hold high the standard of empowering young girls everywhere and commit ourselves to become aware and advocate for the attainment of basic human rights.

In so doing we are encouraged from Scripture:

“Don’t be afraid.
don’t despair...Your God is present among you, a strong Warrior there to save you...He will calm you
with his love and delight over you with his songs.” (Zephaniah 3:17)

God of justice move us into action.
Fill us up. Send us out.
We will be bold.
We will be the voice of change.

Written by Major Shirley King

DRAMATIC/RESPONSIVE READING

PREPARATION:

Choose three female readers representing the age groups as noted below.

- Young Girl (Age 6-11)
- Teenager (12-16)
- Young Adult (17-25)
- Encouragers are those others who may be present OR if this is online service, pre-recorded reading

READING:

ENCOURAGERS: On this day of the girl We celebrate you today and thank God for the gift of YOU!

(Scripture References based on Psalm 139 The Message)

Young Girl: I am fearfully and wonderfully made! **I AM SPECIAL!**

Teenager: I am an open book to you; even from a distance you know what I am thinking. You know when I leave and when I get back; I’m never out of your sight. **I AM UNIQUE!**

Young adult: You know everything I am going to say before I start the first sentence. I look behind me and you’re there, then up ahead and you’re there too. Your re-assuring presence coming and going. This is too much. **I AM A CHILD OF THE KING**

ENCOURAGERS: We celebrate your strength and pray for your boldness to stand for what is right

Selected Scripture verses from Hebrews 13:6, 1 Corinthians 16:13, Joshua 1:9)

Young girl: The Lord is my helper and I will not be afraid. **WE WILL BE BOLD**

Teenager: Keep standing firm in your faith. Keep on being courageous and strong. **WE WILL BE STRONG**

Young Adult: Be strong and courageous. Don’t be fearful or discouraged, because the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. **WE WILL BE COURAGEOUS**

ENCOURAGERS: We celebrate your spirit of curiosity and pray for courage to use your voice to speak up for justice.

(Scripture references based on 1 Timothy 4 The Message)

Young Girl: Don't let anyone put you down because you are young. Teach believers with your life; by word, by love, by faith. **I WILL SPEAK TRUTH**

Teenager: Stay at your post, reading Scripture, giving counsel, teaching. And that special gift of ministry you have-keep that dusted off and in use. **I WILL SPEAK UP**

Young Adult: Cultivate these things. Immerse yourself in them. Cultivate these things. Keep a firm grasp on both your character and your teaching. Don't be diverted. **I WILL SPEAK WITH CONFIDENCE**

ENCOURAGERS:

And we pray

Move us to action God of equality and justice

We will speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed.

Yes, we will speak up for the poor and helpless, and see that they all get justice. (Proverbs 31: 8-9)

FILL US AND SEND US OUT!

Written by Major Shirley King

PRAYERS

Heavenly Father,

We give you thanks for the girls in our lives, and around the world. We thank you for the joy they bring to our lives, and to their communities.

Today, we pause to think of those girls in our world who experience discrimination. We think of girls who experience oppression because of their gender. We think of girls who experience exclusion from education, healthcare and freedom. We pray for the provision, safety and security of these girls.

We also think of those who believe that they are lesser because they are a girl. For those who are lacking in confidence and a sense of worth, would they be reminded that they are made in your image. We pray that every girl would know their value and worth as your child.

On today, International Day of the Girl, help us to seek justice and be agents of transformation in the lives of girls. Your kingdom come. Amen.

Written by Captain Laura Van Schaick

Cry For Justice

General Brian Peddle has issued a global call to pray for women and girls in 2020. He released a video earlier this year that you may wish to include in your worship service, or share online. It can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/391454215>.



Prayer Squares

We invite you to utilize the Prayer Squares resource, available in English and French at <https://salvationist.ca/women-s-ministries/cry-for-justice-2020/>.

The United Nations and member-countries are working toward the tangible SDG targets to end human need. The United Nation Women's department are tracking how women and girls fare in relation to the SDGs. We have used their resources to create the 'Prayer Squares', to pray effectively and informedly through the issues facing women and girls around the world.



SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Scripture that affirms that girls are equally valuable to God:

- Genesis 1:26-28
- Psalm 139:13-18
- Galatians 3:26-29
- Mark 5:21-43 (Jesus raises a girl from the dead)

Scripture that highlights bold girls and women:

- Miriam in Exodus 2:1-10
- Daughters of Zelophehad in Numbers 27:1-11

- The servant girl who encouraged Namaan to visit the prophet Elisha for healing in 2 Kings 5
- The book of Ruth
- The book of Esther

Scripture that encourages young people and inspire boldness

- 1 Timothy 4:12
- Joshua 1:9
- 2 Corinthians 3:12-18
- Hebrews 4:16
- Psalm 138

SUGGESTED MUSIC

Blessings – by Laura Story

CCLI song Number: 5897818

<https://tinyurl.com/y6j3yx65>

You Say – by Lauren Daigle

CCLI Song Number: 7071357

<https://tinyurl.com/y2o827uv>

God of Justice – by Tim Hughes

CCLI Song Number: 4447128

<https://tinyurl.com/yxo8hmv2>

Hosanna – by Brook Ligertwood

CCLI Song Number: 4785835

<https://tinyurl.com/y4w537ky>

Rescue – by Lauren Daigle

CCLI Song Number: 7117256

<https://tinyurl.com/y6xqq6go>

What a Faithful God we Serve

<https://tinyurl.com/yy4wxkkr>

Be Bold Be Strong

<https://tinyurl.com/y3uz5kfd>

CELEBRATE WITH THE ISJC



From The International Social Justice Commission:

“The United Nations declared October 11th as the International Day of the Girl to raise awareness about all issues concerning gender inequality around the world.

This year’s theme is: BE BOLD: From Equality to Equity.

The ISJC is observing the International Day of the Girl with a virtual event on October 10th featuring the voices of young salvationist girls from around the world. We are providing a platform to showcase their talents, using their words and expressions to spread awareness on equity, and listen as they embrace the power of their voice.

Join us on our Facebook page on October 10th at 1pm (EST) to show your support for our girls.”

We encourage you to promote this international celebration within your ministry units.

The ISJC’s Facebook page can be accessed at <https://www.facebook.com/salvationarmyisjc>.