



CANADA & BERMUDA TERRITORY
PARTNERS IN MISSION

SELF-DENIAL 2022

Children Activities

**HIGHLIGHT TERRITORIES: CONGO
(BRAZZAVILLE), INDIA, BRAZIL,
ZAMBIA, BURKINA FASO**

Sunday school activities help keep children interested as they learn and grow spiritually. Here are ways you can engage with children both at home and in the corps.

For additional resources, visit:
[Salvationist.ca/PIM](https://salvationist.ca/PIM)



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Introduction to the 2022 Partners in Mission Campaign

Partners in Mission is an annual campaign where Salvationists across Canada and Bermuda come together to raise funds to support the international work of The Salvation Army. This year, the Canada and Bermuda Territory aims to raise \$2.3 million. These funds ensure that the Army continues to be a beacon of hope in countries devastated by poverty, illness and natural disaster.

Activity: Make a list of everything that you ate / drank yesterday. With the help of an adult, determine the total cost of everything you ate. Is it more expensive or less expensive than you thought it would be? Many people throughout the world live on just \$2 a day. What would you be able to eat or drink for just \$2? Do you think this would be enough to eat?



Application: *Following Jesus means caring for others.* Throughout the Bible, it is mentioned many times that we should care for others. In Luke 4, Jesus quotes the prophet Isaiah, specifically mentioning the poor. General William Booth began the Self-Denial (also known as "Partners in Mission") appeal in 1886. He challenged all Salvationists to deny themselves and give what they could to the international work of The Salvation Army. This money was then given to Salvation Army locations that had very little.

Challenge: What are some things that you can deny yourself of in order to give to Partners in Mission? Think about the things that you have, but really don't need. Think about those people who live on \$2 a day and what they have in comparison to you. Find ways this week to give to Partners in Missions from what you have.

Scripture: Read Luke 4:14-20



Prayer: God, we thank you that we are blessed, and we thank you for everything that we have. We recognize that it is all a gift from you. We also recognize that there are many people in the world who have far less than us. Help us find a way to care for others and give from our own abundance. Thank you for loving us and caring for us. Amen.



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Everyone Matters

There are many people who feel lonely in this world. The Salvation Army is working hard to ensure that everyone feels valued and important. In many parts of the world, women are not seen as important as men. But in Congo (Brazzaville), women are being empowered to provide for their families by receiving vocational training through The Salvation Army. They are receiving training in tailoring, beauty and haircare, so that they can find employment. These women are valued and are given the opportunity to be successful in life.

Activity: Have everyone stand together. One person is designated to say specific statements such as “if you are wearing red,” “if you have brown hair,” etc. If the statement applies to an individual, then they have to stand to the side. Keep making statements until there is just one person left. This can be done multiple times with everyone joining back into one large group and choosing new statements.



Scripture: Read John 4:1-15



Application: *Show others that they matter.* How does it feel when you are alone or left out of a group or activity? It is said that we can be in the midst of a large group of people and still feel lonely. Do you know why the women came to the well in the middle of the day when it was the hottest? It was because she knew other people didn't want to associate with her or be around her. They often talked about her amongst themselves. But Jesus shows us that everyone is important.

Challenge: Do you know of someone who might be lonely or feel left out? Is there someone at school that may spend a lot of time by themselves or has very few friends? Can you think of some ways that you can show them that they matter?



Prayer: Dear God, thank you for always being with us.
Help us to be good friends to others. In Jesus' name.
Amen.



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Use What God has Given You

When we give to Partners in Mission, our money is used to help others, such as women in Congo (Brazzaville), children in India or communities in Brazil. The money we give in Canada and Bermuda is distributed all around the world so you never know who may benefit from what you give.

Activity: In advance, prepare snack bags for the children (bags of goldfish crackers would be best). However, without them seeing the bags, stand in front of the children and eat one of the snack bags. While eating, continue to be quiet and wait to see if the children will make any comments or ask questions. After a few minutes, say: "I'm so sorry. Are you hungry? Would you also like a snack? How rude of me. Let's see how many crackers I have left." Count how many you have and talk about how you will divide them between the children (i.e. There's enough for everyone to have one or half of one). Make it seem like the children may only get a few each, but at the last minute show them that you actually have enough snack bags prepared for everyone to have one bag.



Application: *Use what you have to help others.* The boy could have easily kept his little lunch all to himself and never told anyone that he had it. However, even though it was small, he thought it might help. What if there had also been other people there who had small lunches but kept it to themselves? Because the boy was willing to give what he had, Jesus performed a great miracle, multiplied the food and was able to feed everyone, with extra leftover! Can you think of a time that someone shared with you? How did it make you feel?

Challenge: What do you have that you could use or give to help others? Maybe you have a lot of clothes that you don't wear that you could donate to a Thrift Store. Maybe you are really good at sports and could help teach some younger children how to play. Never think that what you have may be too small or not enough.

Scripture: Read John 6:1-13



Prayer: Dear God, thank you for everything that you have given to us. We are blessed to use what we have to do really big things. Help us to know how we can use what we have to help others. Thank you for loving us. Amen.



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Find the Time

The Salvation Army has been working in Zambia for almost 100 years. In Chikankata, Zambia, The Salvation Army has a nursing college, which is the oldest in the country, dating back to 1947. This college provides the opportunity for individuals to receive training and be equipped to work in the health field throughout the country. The mission is to serve the people and therefore, part of the training is to send the students out to work within the community to help address the needs of those who might otherwise not have access to healthcare.

Activity: Give everyone a pencil and piece of paper. Tell everyone that you are going to say certain items and they will need to draw it on their paper. Do this one time, having the children draw one item. For the second item, give everyone a blindfold or place the paper on top of their head and have them draw another item. Ask them what the difference was between drawing while seeing the paper and not being able to see the paper. Ask how things would be different in life if they could not see what they were doing.



Application: *Make time to help others.* There are many obstacles that someone could face in life that could make everyday tasks more difficult for them. Someone who is blind, like Bartimaeus, would need the assistance of another person or a walking stick to help guide them where they are trying to go and to keep them safe. Someone who has very little money might find it more difficult to have enough food to eat every day or have a safe place to live. It is easy for us to take what we have for granted. But Jesus reminds us that we should not just pass by whenever there is an opportunity to help someone else.

Challenge: Think of a specific thing that you can do this week to help someone else. Maybe you have an elderly neighbour who you could help mow their lawn, shovel their snow, etc. Maybe you could volunteer at a foodbank. Maybe you could prepare some groceries for someone who needs it.

Scripture: Read Mark 10:46-52



Prayer: Jesus, we thank you that you are a good God who cares about other people. Help us to serve You by helping other people in need. Help us to be aware of the people we see and encounter and recognize ways we could help. Amen.



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God Wants Us to Work Together

In Vila Dos Pescadores, Brazil, The Salvation Army is the heart of the community. For more than 30 years, they have been operating a children's program that welcomes more than 200 children. The children are taught about health and safety issues while being provided with a safe place to have fun. There is also a clothing shop and free meals offered. Staff of the children's program work with the parents in order to provide the best supports for the entire family. The staff say that everything they do is through the love of God and that it is their mission to help those in the community.

Activity: Have children make groups of three. Assign a role to each child: reader, builder and supplier. Provide each group with a small lego kit. Give the instruction page to the reader and the blocks to the supplier. Tell each group that it is the job of the reader to go through each of the instructions, one at a time. Once an instruction is read, it is the job of the supplier to find the lego pieces that are needed and then give them to the builder who will put them together. Once each group has finished the activity, have the children change roles. However, this time, take away the child who is the supplier. Have the children start the activity again with the reader giving the instructions. However, the builder is not allowed to touch the legos because it is the job of the supplier to give them the blocks. The children will quickly realize that it is much more difficult - in fact, impossible, to now complete the task.



Application: *God wants us to work together.* As the Israelites were building the temple, everyone worked together to do what they could and offered to help in any way they could. Each of them used their talent for God. The Bible tells us that two are better than one. It is always better when we have someone else to help us complete a task, cheer us on, support us or to work or play with.

Challenge: Think of a project that you can all do together (Cleaning up the garbage around the church, tidy up a classroom at the church, hold a fundraiser for Partners in Mission, etc.) Make a plan of something the group can do together.

Scripture: Read Exodus 25:8-9,
35:21, 39:42-43



Prayer: Thank you God that you have made us each unique with our own special gifts and talents. Help us to find ways to use those talents to work together with others and to contribute to your work. Amen.



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We Can Do It!

In many communities where The Salvation Army works, life can be very difficult. Many of the people do not have the same privileges that we often take for granted – running water, a soft pillow and warm blanket at night, access to education and so much more. In Burkina Faso, The Salvation Army has only been present in the country for 4 years and they have grown from 8 people to more than 200! Despite the challenges they may face, they thank God in all circumstances. Through the growth of The Salvation Army, they have worked together to not only support each other, but also the communities in which they live.

Activity: Divide the children into groups of two. One child must stand and hold something above their head (heavy book, bag of flour, etc.). The other child stands behind them but can only watch. Have the children who are holding the heavy object hold it high above their head until everyone drops and is no longer able to hold it up any longer (or you can give a time limit). Have them start all over again, but this time, tell them that their partner can also help.



Scripture: Read Exodus 25:8-9;
35:21; 39:42-43



Application: *Work together to help someone succeed.* Aaron and Hur helped Moses hold his staff high in the air when Moses didn't have the strength to do it by himself. God has created us so that we work together and help each other. Giving to Partners in Mission is one way that we are able to help other people financially. Our money helps people who have much less than what we do. But you can also help and partner with The Salvation Army around the world through prayer. You may not know everywhere The Salvation Army works or know the people they help, but God does. We become stronger when we partner together.

Challenge: Can you think of someone that could use your support this week? Whether it's helping to carry groceries, taking out the garbage, or just partaking in a friendly conversation. This support may seem small to us, but could make a big difference for someone else. Can you think of some ways you can help the international work of The Salvation Army?



Prayer: Dear God, thank You for the Bible and how we can learn so much from it. Help me to remember to help others – both those who are close and those who live far away. God, please be with the many people around the world who are helped by The Salvation Army. Thank you for the many ways that you have blessed me and my family and help me to always think of others. Amen.



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Working Together to Help Others

While we sleep every night in a warm, comfortable bed in the shelter of our home, there are roughly 100,000 children in Kolkata, India who live in or near railway stations. For the past ten years, The Salvation Army has been running the Veer program which provides support to these children by providing food, shelter, education and Christian teaching. Can you imagine living in the train station with no one to take care of you? The Salvation Army is providing an essential program to these vulnerable children, who in many cases, have no one else to help.

Activity: Have one child lie on a blanket or sheet on the floor. Invite another child to move the child on the floor to the other side of the room without any assistance from the child on the blanket or anyone else. If the child cannot move them, keep inviting one child at a time to come and help until the task is able to be completed.



Application: *Work together to help someone in need.* There may be times when someone needs to do something but is not able to do it themselves. Just like the paralytic in the Bible, he wanted to see Jesus but because he could not walk he needed his friends to help him. There may be many people we know that want to do things but needs the help of someone else in order to do it. It could be buying groceries, raking the leaves, or help with school work. In many places around the world where The Salvation Army works, such as in India, there are many people who simply do not have the resources to be able to provide for the daily needs of themselves or their families. But The Salvation Army seeks to know the needs of the people in the community and do what they can.

Challenge: Get together with your friends or a group of kids at church and think of a few people in your community or in your church that you could help. Maybe your Corps Officer might be able to provide some suggestions. Make a plan to do something this week to help that person.

Scripture: Read Luke 5:17-26



Prayer: Dear God, thank You for the Bible and how we can learn so much from it. Help me to remember to help others – both those who are close and those who live far away. God, please be with the many people around the world who are helped by The Salvation Army. Thank you for the many ways that you have blessed me and my family and help me to always think of others. Amen.

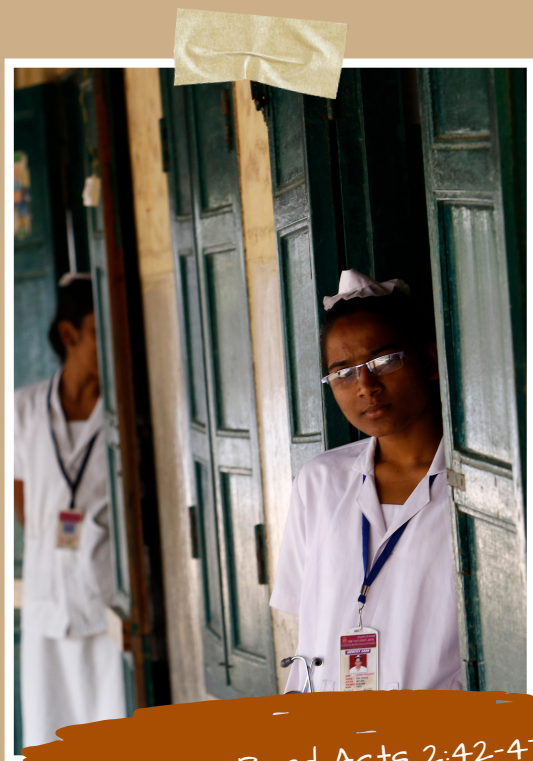


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Let's Make This A Habit

In India, people are coming together in their communities by impacting people at their point of need. The Catherine Booth School of Nursing and Community Development Program has 50 staff and 1,000 volunteers who are working in 350 villages across the region. For more than 125 years, individuals have been working together to bring hope and help to those around them.


Activity: Set up a pin-the-tail on the donkey on the wall (or any variation of this). Blindfold one child, spin them around and have them try and pin the tail in the right place. Most likely, they will miss. Repeat the activity a second time, however, this time allow the other children to give verbal clues as to where the tail should go.



Application: *Make a habit of working together.* Most of us have habits – some good and others not so good. Reading our Bible is a good habit, whereas playing video games all day would be a bad habit. The early Christians had a really good habit. Scripture tells us that they had the habit of meeting together regularly and that they helped each other. They shared everything that they had in order to meet the needs of everyone. The Salvation Army works all around the world and therefore we are all connected– even though we may not know each other. And one way we can work together is by contributing to Partners in Mission, because we know that the money is used to meet the needs of people around the world. And Partners in Missions can become a good habit – something that you do every year.

Challenge: What good habits do you have? Are there new habits that you could start that would help others? A good habit to start: Get involved and support Partners in Mission!

Scripture: Read Acts 2:42-47



Prayer: Dear God, thank you for the example of the early church and how we should work together to help others. Help us to work together to love God and love others. Amen.