



The Salvation Army Mission Bridge Senior Soldier Preparatory Class Curriculum

(Instructor's Key)



Mission Bridge

Soldiership Class

*A Complete Study of Doctrines One through Eleven,
the Soldier's Covenant Review and the Sacraments*



Introduction –

The MissionBridge (MB) Senior Soldiership curriculum is an updated version of the Manual of Salvationism, (1985 edition), and contains all eleven Salvation Army doctrines in easy to follow lesson plans. The lessons are for ages fourteen on

up, as per the Orders and Regulations for Soldiers of The Salvation Army.

Each of the lessons can be completed during a typical Corps Sunday School class time. At the end of each class, the course instructor signs off on a recruit's completed lesson. This verifies that all the lessons have been completed prior to the recruit being enrolled as a Soldier. The curriculum also has three optional lessons covering the Sacraments, a personal testimony tract exercise and a planned evangelistic walk around the neighborhood.

While it is a part of the Western Social Services MissionBridge Soldier Training (MBST) curriculum, designed to bridge social services and corps, the target population for the MB Soldiership class includes members from the community, families from our social services programs as well as individuals from our addiction recovery units.

Just as our Lord Jesus Christ has called us out of the depths of misery and discouragement, may we lift others out of the miry clay and enable them to stand as soldiers of Christ in the ranks of The Salvation Army.

“He helps us in all our troubles, so that we are able to help others who have all kinds of troubles.” 2 Corinthians 1:4.

The Salvation Army Western Social Services Department

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Note: All lessons are to be completed prior to enrollment. Consistent class attendance is expected.

Suggested Class format:

- a. Attendance Sign in*
- b. Prayer Chorus & Opening Prayer*
- c. Doctrine Recitation*
- d. Lesson Review & Questions*
- e. Closing Prayer*
- f. Instructor Sign off on Completed Lessons*

Senior Soldier Class Application Form

Corps: _____

Corps Officers:

Email:

Phone:

Instructor:

Email:

Phone:

Assistant Instructor:

Email:

Phone:

Senior Soldier Class Session: ___ Spring ___ Fall From: _____ to _____.

Class Time: Sunday _____am/pm _____am/pm Enrollment Sunday Date: _____.

Required Class Texts: The Holy Bible (bring your own Bible), Senior Soldier Class Lessons (supplied)

Print Full Name: _____ Phone No: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Email: _____

Date Accepted Jesus Christ as Savior: _____ Birthday: (Month: _____ Day: _____)

Denomination in which you or your family were raised: _____

Came to the Corps through (check one): Social Services: ___ ARC: ___ Family/Friend: ___ Other: ___

If ARC graduate, give date of graduation: _____ (Note: Applicants must have graduated from program prior to start of soldiership class).

For applicants in recovery: At the start of soldiership class:

I have been Clean and Sober for the minimum six months: Yes ___ No ___

I have been living Tobacco Free for the minimum six months: Yes ___ No ___

Briefly, but thoughtfully explain briefly why you want to become a Soldier in The Salvation Army:

There will be weekly lessons and all recruits will be expected to complete them prior to the Soldiership Enrollment Ceremony. Attendance at all scheduled classes are expected. Please contact the instructor in advance (email or phone) if you will be unable to make a class.

Each recruit will need to confirm personal uniform size with the Corps Officer four weeks prior to the enrollment. Recruit's portion of the cost of The Salvation Army soldier's uniform: \$_____.

I agree to all of the above as a prerequisite for my soldiership enrollment.

Signature

Date

Reviewed and recommended approval:

Corps Officer

ARC or Social Services Officer (If applicable)

Lesson 1: God's Great Message to Man

Recruit: Key _____.

Required Text: The Holy Bible

“We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God and that they only constitute the divine rule of Christian faith and practice.” Doctrine 1

If someone were to ask you, “Why do we have the Bible?” How would you respond? Can you bake a cake without following a recipe? Can you drive a car without a written test? Can you graduate from high school without reading books? God knew man needed a permanent, reliable record of facts regarding Himself, and His plan for people. This record is known as the Bible, or the Scriptures. Why is the first doctrine of The Salvation Army about the Scriptures? Because the Bible is the source from which all of the other doctrines are derived.

Scripture means writing, and always refers to the Bible. It is often with the word “Holy.” Bible means “book.” Jesus said in Matthew 21:42 “Have you never read in the Scriptures: The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. . .” What writings was Jesus referring to? The Old Testament. Turn to Psalms 118:22. Was this the passage Jesus was referring to? Yes.

What was Paul referring to in Romans 1:1-2, when he said “which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures?” The Old Testament. A “testament” is a covenant or an agreement. In the Old Testament, God covenants to provide a redeemer, and in the New Testament, the redeemer is shown to be who? Jesus Christ.

In John 4:25-26, what did Jesus reveal to the Samaritan woman about Himself? He was the Messiah. Turn to John 2:23-25. Why did Jesus not entrust others at the Passover Feast? He knew what was in a man.

Turn to Job 19:25. Who does Job say shall “stand at last on the earth?” The Redeemer.

Turn to Galatians 3:13. Who is our Redeemer? Jesus Christ.

The Old and New Testaments mean the Old and New covenants which God made with man. The old covenant promised a Redeemer; the new covenant presented Him. The Old Testament was written in Hebrew, the new in Greek. Inspiration speaks of God working, both through the writers and through the contents of the Bible, to assure the inerrancy and reliability of the Scriptures. The Bible tells us what to believe. The Bible tells us how to live and we call this a “divine rule of Christian faith and practice.” Add up the number of Books in the Old Testament and in the New Testament from the diagram below:



The Old Testament has 39 Books

The New Testament has 27 Books

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments have a total of 66 Books.

And so we believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God and that they only constitute the divine rule of Christian faith and practice.

Lesson 2: In the Beginning - God

Recruit: Key _____.

Video clip: "Laminin"

Required Text: The Holy Bible

"We believe that there is only one God who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver and Governor of all things and who is the only proper object of religious worship." Doctrine 2



What would be four reasons for believing that there is a God?

1. **Nature.** Just as we know that a computer and a watch had to have a maker, so the universe must have had a great and wonderful Maker. We call Him God. Nature can point us towards the existence of God. This is called General Revelation. Read Psalms 8:1-9. How can one see God in nature?

2. **Intuition.** Our instincts tell us there is a superior Being. Our conscience tells us that there is One greater than we. We call Him God. Read Romans 1:20-23.

3. **The Bible.** From the first verse Genesis 1:1 (read) to the last verse in the Bible, Revelations 22:21 (read), God is revealed. The Bible gives us Special Revelation, because it reveals that God is Jesus Christ.

4. **Experience of God's People.** Christianity is an experiential religion. Followers of Christ not only know about Him, but have personally accepted Jesus into their hearts. Just as the testimony of an eye witness to an event in a court of law is accepted as evidence, so the personal testimony of a believer is proof of God's existence.

God is infinitely perfect. Some of the perfect attributes of God includes:

- ❖ Perfect love and holiness.
- ❖ Eternal: Forever, infinite, unchanging
- ❖ Omnipresent: Present everywhere.
- ❖ Omniscient: Knows all things.
- ❖ Omnipotent: All powerful.

God is the Creator, Preserver and Governor of all things. Read Colossians 1:15-17.

Scientists believe there is a hidden force which "holds together" all things. The Bible proclaims it to be God. Read John 1:1-5. (Show video clip: "Laminin" with Louie Giglio)

God is the only proper object of religious worship. Luke 24:52 reads, "And they worshiped Him (Christ)." Only God is accepting of our worship. In Matthew 4:9 Satan tempted Jesus to "Fall down and worship me." Jesus responded in Matthew 4:10, "Worship the Lord your God and serve only Him."

And so we believe that there is only one God who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver and Governor of all things and who is the only proper object of religious worship.

Lesson 3: The Trinity - The Divine Partnership

Recruit: Key
Required Text: The Holy Bible

“We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory.” Doctrine 3



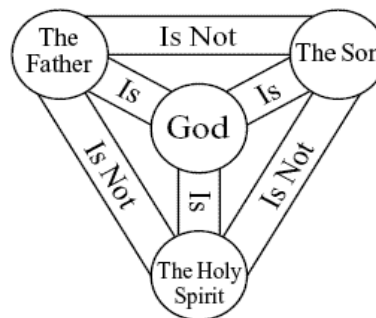
Create in Me a Clean Heart (Psalm 51:10-12) (Guitar Capo II)

1. (C) Create in (G) me a (F) clean heart, (C) O God, and renew a right (G) spirit within (C) me. (rpt 1).
2. (F) Cast me not (G) away from thy (C) presence, O Lord, (C7) and (F) take not thy (G) Holy Spirit from (C) me. (F) Restore unto (G) me the (C) joy of thy (Am) salvation, (F) and renew a (G) right spirit within (C) me. (rpt 2).

What do these three verses below have in common? They speak to the Trinity:

- a. 2 Corinthians 13:14 - “Now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”
- b. 1 John 5:7 - “There are three that bear witness in Heaven, the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit. These three are one.”
- c. Isaiah 48:16 - “And now the Lord God and His Spirit have sent Me.” (Redeemer v.17).

The Godhead is made of three distinct persons: God the Father. God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. This means that the Godhead is undivided in essence. This is their one common nature of being GOD. The Godhead is co-equal in power and glory. None is less important or subordinate to another.



What are imperfect illustrations of the Trinity?

- Egg: yolk, white, shell. Separate but whole. Why imperfect illustration? The yolk cannot be the white at the same time. The shell cannot be the yolk at the same time.
- Water: liquid, ice and steam. Separate but still H2O. Why imperfect illustration? Water cannot exist as liquid, ice and steam at the same time.

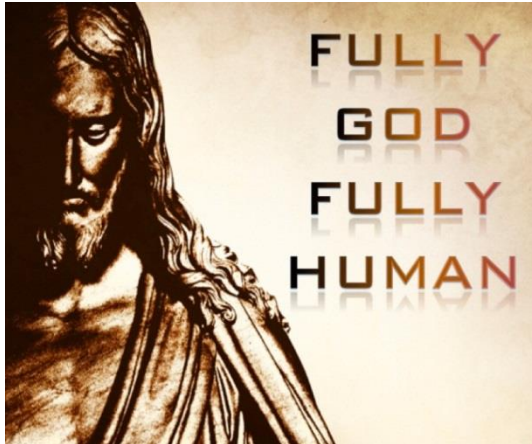
The Holy Spirit is the third person in the Trinity and:

- Inspired the writers of the Old Testament: (2 Peter 1:21).
- Will teach you all things. (John 14:26).
- Convicts the world of sin. (John 16:8)
- Brings about new spiritual birth. John 3:5-8)
- Assures us of our salvation. (Romans 8:16).
- Can be saddened or grieved by our actions. (Eph.4: 25-32)
- Can be taken from us. (Psalm 51:11).
-

And so we believe that there are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory.

Lesson 4: Jesus Our Lord

Recruit: Key
Required Text: The Holy Bible



"We believe that in the person of Jesus Christ, the divine and human natures are united so that he is truly and properly God and truly and properly man." Doctrine 4

What is the Incarnation? The incarnation is the union of God with man, the clothing of the divine person with human nature. Dictionary defines it as "the union of divinity with humanity in Christ."

C.S. Lewis wrote, "Man must be a composite being – a natural organism in a state of symbiosis with, a supernatural spirit." (*Miracles*, 204)

Why was it necessary for Jesus Christ to be both God and man?

To be our Redeemer, our Savior. As God He atoned for our sins and procured our salvation. As man He suffered on man's behalf, and fully understands our temptations and sorrows. 1 Peter 5:7 says, "Casting all your cares on Him because He careth for you."

What Scriptures show us that Jesus is truly and properly man?

- 1 Timothy 2:5: "There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus
- Hebrews 4:15-16: "We do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weakness, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. So let us come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."
- Hebrews 2:18: "Because he himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted."

What Scriptures show us that Jesus is truly and properly God?

- John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."
- 2 Peter 1:1 "Our God and Savior Jesus Christ."
- Titus 2:13 "Our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ."
- Christ was worshiped: Luke 24:52 "Then they worshiped Him" (Only God is to be worshiped).

What Attributes of God does Christ possess?

- Jesus is Eternal. John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God.
- Jesus is Omnipotent: Matt. 28:18. Jesus said "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me."
- Jesus is Omnipresent: "Matt. 18:20 For where two or three come together in My name, I am there with them."
- Jesus is Omniscient: Colossians 2:2-3. "Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."
- Jesus *forgives* our sins: Mark 2:5, Jesus said to the paralytic, "Your sins are forgiven you."
Mark 2:10. Jesus said, "The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."

And so we believe that in the person of Jesus Christ, the divine and human natures are united so that he is truly and properly God and truly and properly man.

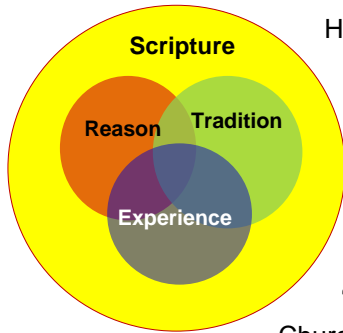
Lesson 5: Man's Sin – God's Remedy

(PowerPoint: *He Reached Down* by Iris Dement)

Recruit: Key.

Required Text: The Holy Bible

"We believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocence, but by their disobedience, they lost their purity and happiness, and that in consequence of their fall, all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God." Doctrine 5



Here is a circular visualization (by Laurie Haller) of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral, a theological construct by John Wesley in the late 18th Century. It is comprised of four elements: Scripture, Reason, Tradition and Experience, with Scripture being the overarching element. "Sola Scriptura" was one of the rallying points of the Protestant Reformation which was started by Martin Luther in 1617 in Germany.

"Scripture Only," refuted the view of the Catholic Church of Tradition having precedence. Whenever Scripture is not the primary authority in a church or a person's life, there is a falling away from God's commandments. Tradition had precedence over Scripture, and consequently there were abuses in the Catholic Church. One was the sale of indulgences, where in exchange for a monetary contribution, the donor would be granted an "indulgence" or a pass, that after death would free a soul from purgatory.



Sin, or disobedience to God, can be of two general categories, the sin of omission and sin of commission. The sin of omission is intentionally ignoring an obvious need instead of responding to it. James 4:17 reads "Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin. The Parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:30-37 is a vivid example of the sin of omission (show Iris Dement ppt.). How have you responded to the needs of your family, your corps, your community?"

The sin of commission is disobedience to a clear command from God. Read the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20: 1-17. These are Scriptural warnings not to engage in acts we are not supposed to do. Our first parents were created in a state of innocency. (Genesis 1:26-27). But by their disobedience, they lost their purity and happiness. Read: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1--7. Satan created doubt, encouraged disbelief, and stirred up desire for what was forbidden.

Sin entered the human race when Adam and Eve yielded to the devil's temptation and disobeyed God's command. This is called The Fall. Because of their disobedience, the entire human race became sinners. Romans 5:12 reads, "Just as through one man sin entered the world, death spread through all men, because all sinned." Christians sin because we are all born of a sinful race and we have a tendency to sin. What is this called? Depravity. What is the consequence of sin? Death. Romans 6:23 reads, "The wages (or sting) of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (PowerPoint: *He Reached Down*)

And so we believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocency, but by their disobedience, they lost their purity and happiness, and that in consequence of their fall, all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God.

Lesson 6: What Has God Done About it All?

Recruit: Key_____.

Required Text: The Holy Bible

“We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has, by his suffering and death made an atonement for the whole world so that whosoever will may be saved.” Doctrine & Covenants 14:6



Lamb of God

Twila Paris

(Capo IV)

G Bm C G C D
1. Your only Son, no sin to hide. But you have sent Him from your side.

Em G C D G
To walk upon, this guilty sod. And to become, the Lamb of God.

Em Bm C D
Chorus: O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God I love the holy Lamb of God.

Em G C D G
O wash me in, His precious blood. Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Bm C G C D
2. Your gift of love. They crucified. They laughed and scorned Him as He died.

Em G C D G
The humble King, they named a fraud. And sacrificed the Lamb of God. (Chorus)

What was the Purpose of the Cross? To be the instrument that God used to sacrifice His only Son, through

which the whole world might be saved. Romans 3:23 reads, “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” Since all men have become sinners and are justly exposed to the wrath of God, what has God done about this situation?

What is the Atonement? The atonement is the redeeming effect of Christ’s crucifixion on the cross. His death atones for the sin of all mankind, for the whole world, God excludes none. 1 John 2:2 states, “He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for the sins of the whole world.” We encounter God one on one. We come to God’s door of mercy, one by one. We worship God as a congregation but we are saved through Christ only as individuals.

What is the Threefold Purpose of the Atonement?

1. To Show God’s Love.

“For God so loved the world, He gave. . .” (John 3:16).

“But God demonstrated his love for us.” (Romans 5:8)

“To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins.” (Rev. 1:5)

2. To Forgive us of Our Sins.

Why was Christ’s blood shed? For the forgiveness of sins (Matt. 26:28). Hebrews 9:22 “Without the shedding of blood there is no remission.” Read John 8:1 – 12 God’s forgiveness (woman in adultery)

3. To Be an Act of Substitution. On the cross, Christ took the penalty of our sins. He was our substitute and His death became the atoning sacrifice. In the Old Testament, the Hebrews sacrificed a lamb for the sins of the people. “Where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” (Genesis 22:7)

And so we believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has, by his suffering and death made an atonement for the whole world so that whosoever will may be saved.

Lesson 7: What Can We Do About Sin?

(Video Clip: General Booth "Misery" Speech)

Recruit: Key.

Required Text: The Holy Bible

"We believe that repentance towards God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation." Doctrine 7



Can God forgive our sins if we do not want to be forgiven? God did His part of Calvary, but there is something we must do. What is our part? Man's part is to will to be saved. You cannot be saved against your will.

Three Conditions Are Necessary to Salvation:

1. Repentance towards God. Repentance is a change of mind, a change of purpose, a change of action which originates from a conviction of sin. One recognizes he is guilty and deserving of punishment. The brothers of Joseph in Genesis 42:21 cried out in distress over their cruel treatment of him, "We are truly guilty concerning our brother. . ." Is it true that not everybody have sinned? No. Romans 3:23 reads, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

God requires repentance for salvation for there are no unrepentant persons in heaven. Turn to Luke 15:7, "There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance." Read Mark 2:17, Jesus said, "I did not come to call the righteous but sinners, to repentance."

2. Faith in our Lord Jesus Christ: What must you do to be saved? Turn to John 3:36, "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life." God requires belief in Christ for salvation, for there are no unbelievers in heaven. Jesus said in John 5:24, "Whoever hears my words and believes has crossed over from death to life. Turn to John 1:12, "But as many as received Him, to them gave He the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name." Acts 16:31 says, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." The Greek word for "believe" means to entrust. When you believe in Christ as your Lord and Savior, you surrender or commit your life over to Him.

Third: Regeneration by the Holy Spirit: What does regeneration mean? Regeneration is God's part of our being saved. Titus 3:5 states that "He saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit." "Regeneration means a new start, a spiritual rebirth. John 3:3 reads, "Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Jesus said to Nicodemus in John 3:6, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. God requires regeneration by the Holy Spirit for salvation, for there are no unregenerated persons in heaven.

And so we believe that repentance towards God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation. (video clip)

Lesson 8: Saved – and Certain

Recruit: Key.
Required Text: The Holy Bible

“We believe that we are justified by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and that he that believeth hath the witness in himself.” Doctrine 8



Chorus: Change My Heart Oh God (Eddie Espinosa)
(C) Change my heart oh (Dmaj7) God (G) Make it ever
(C) true (Am). Change my heart oh (Dmaj7) God
(G) May I be like You (C) *(repeat)*
(E) You are the (Am) potter, (F) I am the clay (C)
(E) Mold me and (Am) make me, (F) this is what I
pray (G).

Where in the Scriptures does it say we have a witness in us? 1 John 5:10 “He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself.”

Four of the great principles of the Protestant Reformation which began in 1517 were *sola fide*, faith alone, *sola scriptura*, scripture alone, *solus Christus*, Christ alone, and *sola gratia*, grace alone. This lesson is on justification through grace alone, or *sola gratia*.

“Just as if I had not sinned,” is an easy phrase for remembering the definition of justification. We are justified, or declared “not guilty” by the grace of God and not by our works. What is the grace of God? The undeserved favor of God, or a gift from God. It is God’s mercy outpoured. Romans 5:8 reads, “God demonstrates his love for us, that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” Ephesians 2:8-9 reads, “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, it is the gift of God and not of works.”

“We believe that we are justified by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.” What does this mean? We are forgiven by grace through faith in Jesus. We cannot buy our forgiveness. We cannot buy our way into heaven by our works. Our penalty is paid and our sins forgiven only because of the grace of God.

If you hurt the feelings of someone who loves you very much, what should you do? Ask for forgiveness. God wants to forgive us. To say that we are “justified” means what? It means we are forgiven. Forgiveness is also called pardon or remission and is one of the great blessings of salvation.

Are all sins against God? Yes. When you sin against God, you cannot go to your corps officer for forgiveness, you cannot go to the pope for forgiveness, or your best friend, you go to God. He is the only one who can forgive you, and who can take away your guilt.

Read Psalm 51:2-4, “Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions and my sin is always before me. Against you have I sinned and done this evil in your sight.”

The Greek word for “forgiveness” carries the thought of release and deliverance. When God forgives you, he does not leave you in your sin and guilt, he releases you and delivers you from your sin and guilt. Turn to Psalms 103:12, “As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.”

And so we believe that we are justified by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and he that believeth hath the witness in himself.

Lesson 9: Be Thou Faithful

(Video clip: Thomas Cranmer)

Recruit: Key

Required Text: The Holy Bible

"We believe that continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ." Doctrine?



Chorus: At The Cross (Guitar Capo II)
(C) At the cross, at the cross, Where I (F)
first saw the light, And the (Dm) burdens of
my heart rolled (C) away. It was (F) there
by faith I (C) received my (Am) sight. And
(F) now I am (G) happy all the (C) day.

(C) En la Cruz, en la Cruz yo (F) primero vi
la luz y las (Dm) manchas de mi alma yo
lavé (C) fue (F) allí por fe yo (C) vi a (Am)
Jesús y (F) siempre (G) feliz con El (C)
seré

Is it possible for those who have been truly
converted to fall away and eternally lost?

Yes 1 Corinthians 10:12 reads,

"Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall." What does this mean to you?

Why do Christians sin? 1 Corinthians 10:13 reads, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man. But God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation make a way to escape, that you may be able to bear it."

Turn to 1 Corinthians 1:18 "For the preaching of the cross is meaningless for those far from the Lord, but for those who are being saved, it is the power of God." Salvation is a continuous ongoing process of being saved, and not just a momentary experience in our journey with Christ.

There are promises in the Scripture for those who remain faithful: Revelation 2:10 says, "Be faithful even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life."

What happens to those who prove unfaithful? Ezekiel 18:26 reads, "If a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits sin, he will die for it." Hebrews 10:26, 27: If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth no sacrifice for sins is left."

During the early church there arose a controversy in 411 AD at the Conference in Carthage over the wheat and tares, or the believers and the unbelievers from Matthew 13: 24-30. The orthodox mainline church point of view led by Augustine, interpreted the field as the church, where both the tares and wheat grow, on Judgment Day however, Christ will separate the wheat from the tares. The dissenting church, led by the Donatists, believed the field to be the world where both wheat and tares grow. However in the Church itself, there should only wheat, or believers, not tares or unbelievers.

Where do you think The Salvation Army is on this discussion?

God requires continued obedient faith in Christ and you will not find any disobedient person in heaven. 1 Corinthians 6:9 says, "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Scripture gives us a list of those who will not be in heaven in 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 (read). Some of us were in this category, but we were washed in the name of our Lord Jesus and by the Holy Spirit. (read 1 Corinthians 6:11).

And so we believe that continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ.

(Show video clip on Thomas Cranmer)

Lesson 10: Looking to Jesus

Recruit: Key

Required Text: The Holy Bible

“We believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be wholly sanctified and that their whole spirit and soul and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Doctrine 10



What is holiness? It is to be like Christ, to be Christ-like. Who are the believers? Believers are those who are saved, born again, sins forgiven and are the children of God. Turn to John 1:12, “But as many as received Him, to them gave He the right to become children of God.” Is it mandatory for a believer to be “wholly sanctified?” No, it is a privilege for a believer.

What does it mean to be wholly sanctified? It is to be entirely cleansed and separated from all sin, completely dedicated to God’s will and purpose for our lives.

So then, why do Christians still sin after conversion? There remains in the heart of the believer an inherited inclination to evil, a tendency to sin. Romans 7:20 states, “If I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who does it, but sin that dwells in me”

How can a Christian be free of his or her own sinful nature? Turn to Romans 8:2. “The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.”

Holiness is not “sinless perfection.” It is not perfection of performance or character, but it means perfection of love, of devotion, of surrender. Matthew 22:37 supports this, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.”

Scripture states that God’s children can be wholly sanctified. Thessalonians 5:23 reads, “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely . . .”

The gift of sanctification is conditional, as is every other gift of God’s grace. It depends on the wholehearted cooperation of the child of God and there are four necessary conditions:

1. Conviction of the the need of being sanctified.
2. Renunciation of all that is sinful.
3. Consecration of everything to the will of God.
4. Faith that God can and will sanctify wholly.

Scripture supports the fact that God’s children can be kept blameless. 1 Corinthians 1:8 states “That you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Thessalonians 5:23 reads, “. . .may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

And so we believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be wholly sanctified and that their whole spirit and soul and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lesson 11: God's Future Plans

Recruit: Key
Required Text: The Holy Bible

"We believe in the immortality of the soul; in the resurrection of the body; in the general judgment at the end of the world; in the eternal happiness of the righteous; and in the endless punishment of the wicked." Doctrine 11



Chorus (#222): We'll Sing in the Morning

C Em F Dm7
We'll sing in the morning, the songs of salvation.
C G C G
We'll sing in the noontide, the songs of His love.
C Em F Dm7
And when we arrive the end of our journey,
C C/B Am Am/G F G C
We'll sing the songs of Zion in the courts above!

Doctrine 11 speaks to the general judgment end of the world, when Jesus Christ will return. Mark 13:32 says, "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."

Matthew 24:44 says, "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The second coming of Christ will be:

- 1. Personal:** Matthew 24:31, "He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds from one end of heaven to the other."
- 2. Visible:** Revelations 1:7, "Behold, He is coming with clouds and every eye will see Him."
- 3. Glorious:** Titus 2:13, "Looking from the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ."

Scripture points to a final judgement:

- ❖ **After death.** Hebrews 9:27 says, "For it is appointed for men once to die, and after this the judgment." Revelations 20:15 says that, "Anyone not written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."
- ❖ **At the end of the world.** Revelations 20:12 says, "And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the book."
- ❖ **Starting first with the family of God.** Read 1 Peter 4:18, "For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God, and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel?"

And so we believe in the immortality of the soul, in the resurrection of the body, in the general judgment at the end of the world, in the eternal happiness of the righteous and in the endless punishment of the wicked.

Lesson 12: The Soldier's Covenant: A Review

Recruit: Key
Required Text: The Holy Bible

Video Clip: "Others" Read and discuss in class the section which follows "Therefore"

- a. How are you responsive to the Holy Spirit's leading in your life?
- b. How do you make the values of the Kingdom of God your own personal standards?
- c. What would be your strategy to uphold Christian ideals and integrity?
- d. If you are in recovery, share your plan to live a life of abstinence.
- e. Why is the principle of tithing an important part of being a Senior Soldier?

THE SALVATION ARMY

The Soldier's Covenant

Having accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour and Lord, and desiring to fulfil my membership of His Church on earth as a soldier of The Salvation Army, I now by God's grace enter into a sacred covenant.

I believe and will live by the truths of the word of God expressed in The Salvation Army's eleven articles of faith:

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; and that they only constitute the Divine rule of Christian faith and practice.

We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.

We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost—undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory.

We believe that in the person of Jesus Christ the Divine and human natures are united, so that He is truly and properly God and truly and properly man.

We believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocence, but by their disobedience they lost their purity and happiness; and that in consequence of their fall all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God.

Therefore,

I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to His leading in my life, growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible.

I will make the values of the Kingdom of God and not the values of the world the standard for my life.

I will uphold Christian integrity in every area of my life, allowing nothing in thought, word or deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral.

I will maintain Christian ideals in all my relationships with others; my family and neighbours, my colleagues and fellow salvationists, those to whom and for whom I am responsible, and the wider community.

I will uphold the sanctity of marriage and of family life.

I will be a faithful steward of my time and gifts, my money and possessions, my body, my mind and my spirit, knowing that I am accountable to God.

I now call upon all present to witness that I enter into this covenant of my own free will, convinced that the love of Christ, who died and now lives to save me, requires from me this devotion of my life to His service for the salvation of the whole world; and therefore do here declare my full determination, by God's help, to be a true soldier of The Salvation Army.

Signed _____ Date _____

Signature of Corps Officer _____ Corps _____

Witness or Officiating Officer _____



What is a Sacrament? It is a religious ceremony or symbol. The Salvation Army does not observe the sacraments as it believes they are not necessary to salvation or essential to spiritual growth. Jesus shared to the woman at the well in John 4:23-24 that “True worshipers will worship the father in spirit and truth. . . God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” In this lesson, two sacraments will be briefly discussed, holy communion and baptism.

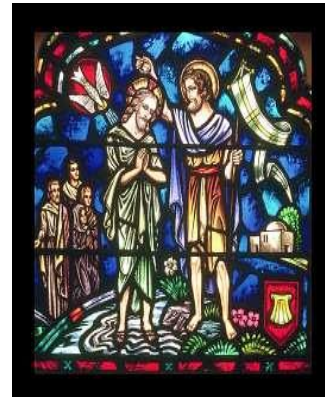
1. The Sacrament of Holy Communion (Eucharist)

This is the sacramental reception of Christ’s body and blood through the partaking of bread and wine during a worship ceremony. This belief in which the body and blood of Christ are present “in, with and under the bread and wine,” is called consubstantiation. The Salvation Army believes in the spiritual presence of Christ in our hearts and so does not observe the Holy Communion or the Eucharist.

2. The Sacrament of Baptism. This is the ceremony in which water is used as a symbol of the washing and regeneration of the Holy Spirit without which “no one can see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3). Scripture references only one baptism in Ephesians 4, which states “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling: one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all” (Ephesians 4:4-6).

True baptism is not with water but that of the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:13 states, “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free – and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.”

The Greek word for baptism is *baptizo* means to “plunge” or fully “immerse.” An example of this is to completely immerse a piece of garment into a container of dye in order to change the color of the material.



Matthew 28:19, often known as the “Great Commission” reads, “Go into all the world and make disciples and baptizing them in (or into) the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). With the emphasis of this verse on the Trinity, baptism can be defined as immersing the disciple into faith in the three Persons of God, in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Is baptism by water required or essential for salvation? No. In Matthew 3:11, John the Baptist said, “I baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me...will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire”. Jesus Himself did not baptize with water (John 4:2). Paul wrote, “Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel. . .” (1 Corinthians 1:17).



The Salvation Army substitutes physical water with a physical uniform as an outward form of an inner deliverance from sin. The uniform signifies that the individual has accepted Christ as Savior and has become a member of The Salvation Army.

However unlike water baptism, the soldier’s uniform can be worn in public as a witness proclaiming to the grace and forgiveness of Jesus Christ in a soldier’s life.

Lesson 14 (optional): The Soldier's Personal Testimony Tract

Recruit: Key_____.

Required Text: The Holy Bible

Video Clip: Testimonies from prior soldiership class recruits

Personal Testimony: Complete the three parts of your brief testimony in 200 words or less. Your testimony will then be edited and formatted into an evangelistic tract.

1. **Pre-Christ**: Child or Adulthood . Your lifestyle before you accepted Christ as your Savior. (1/3 of your testimony) Before I accepted Christ I . . .

2. **Conversion**: Circumstances surrounding your conversion. (1/3 of your testimony) I accepted Jesus Christ in my life when I . . .

3. **Post-Conversion**: Changes in your lifestyle after conversion. (1/3 of your testimony) Since I have accepted Christ in my heart I . . .

Sample 200 Word Testimony:

1. Pre-Christ: I was raised in a Catholic home by loving parents. We went to church on Sundays and holidays. I was often sick from school and fell behind in my work. From that point on in my life I felt like I never fit in with the other kids. I struggled with alcohol and drug addiction, loneliness, sadness, and an empty feeling inside. I had turned away from God.

2. Conversion Experience: I found myself in jail again with no hope. I had lost everything my house my cars and even my family. My life was a total disaster. I had been in jail for two days when I got down on my knees and cried out to the Lord. I said, "God I don't know you but I want to if you save me I will be your servant for the rest of my life".

3. Post-Conversion: Since I accepted Christ in my heart my thoughts have changed and the feelings of loneliness and emptiness have disappeared. I stopped using drugs and alcohol. I read my Bible daily and I am led to help others who suffer from the same affliction that I did. My life has been renewed and I owe it all to God's grace for me.

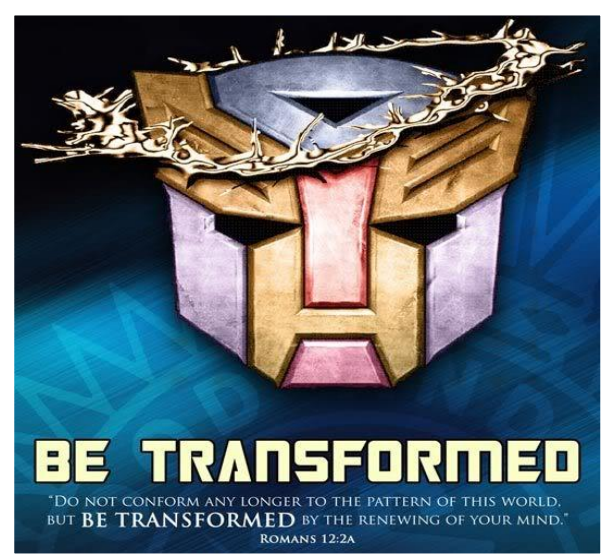
Sample Soldier's Personal Tract:
(4 fold format)

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden." - Matthew 5:14

Before I accepted Christ my life was difficult. I felt empty, like if no one would care about me or just was not worth anything.

Times were rough and I had no one who I think would know how I felt and could solve all my problems. I accepted Christ at The Salvation Army Long Beach Corps, and gave my life to God. Now that Jesus is my Savior, I now feel like I have someone to help me resolve all my problems.

It was a big change since that day forward and now I just feel happier to know Jesus has touched my heart and knowing He is truly in me. How about you, would you like to accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?



*Miguel Carrillo
Long Beach Citadel Corps
Senior Soldier*

I once was lost...

...Now I am found

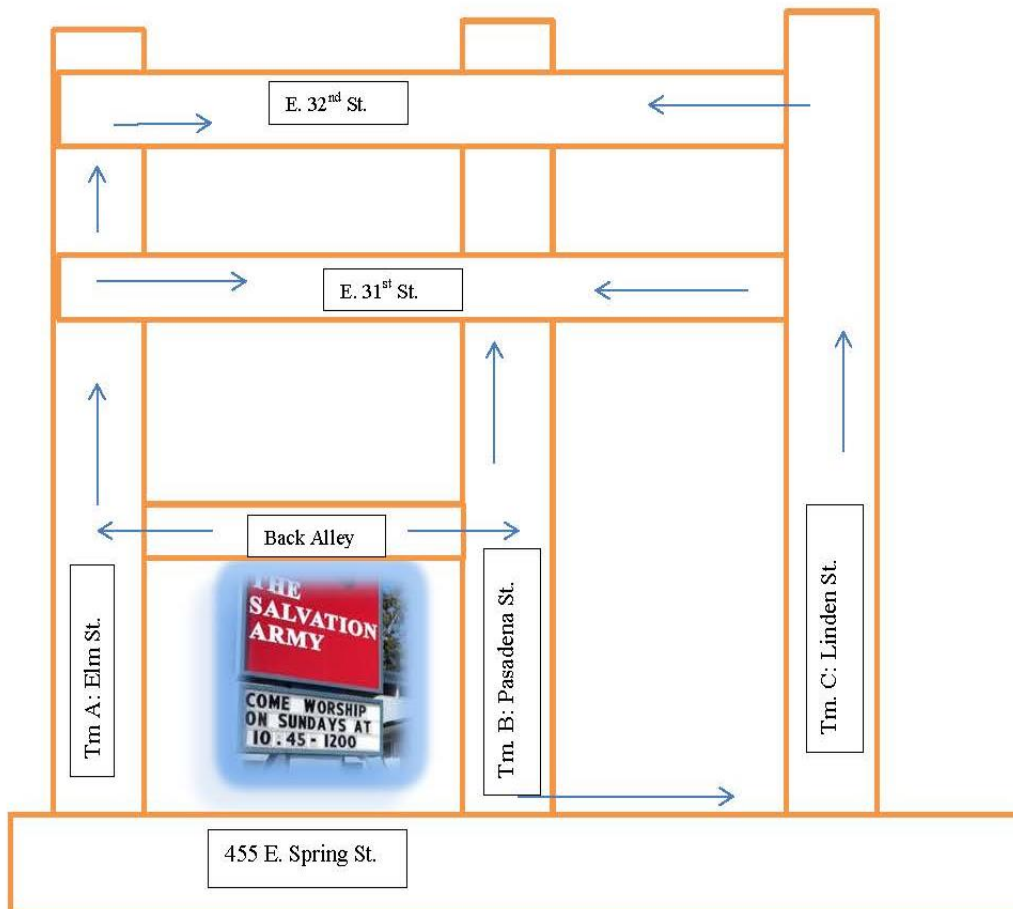
Lesson 15 (optional): Walk Around the Neighborhood

Recruit: Key
Required Text: The Holy Bible

After the recruits have completed their testimony tracts in Lesson 14, the next step is to plan a walk around the neighborhood, giving out copies of their tracts and inviting others to the corps.

Bill Hybels said that, “Jesus once crossed an entire universe to rescue you. . . Take a walk! See what he might do.” (*Just Walk Across the Room*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan. 2006. pages 30, 33)

Walk Around the Neighborhood Map (Sample)



Form teams of 2 persons each to canvas residential areas around the Long Beach Corps. Meet in classroom for prayer and tract preparations on Sunday before departing at 9:30am. Return by 10:30am. Record encounters with persons and be prepared to share these on the following Sunday.

MissionBridge Soldiership 200 Audio & Video Resource List

Download audio, PowerPoint and video files from USB flash drive for the following lessons:

Lesson 2: Video: *Laminim*

Lesson 3: Audio: *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Lesson 5: PowerPoint Song: *He Reached Down* (Iris Dement)

Lesson 6: Audio: *Lamb of God* (Twila Paris)

Lesson 7: Video: General William Booth *Misery* Speech

Lesson 8: Audio: *Change My Heart Oh God* (Eddie Espinosa)

Lesson 9: Audio: *At The Cross*

Lesson 11: Audio: *We'll Sing in the Morning*

Lesson 12: Video: *Others*