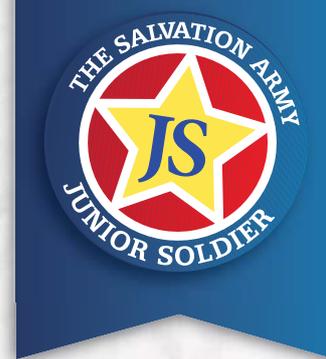


# Junior Soldiers

Unit 9 : Lesson 6

## Working in the Salvation Army



**PURPOSE :** For the children to explore and understand the variety of ways that people serve within The Salvation Army.

*‘Our people should learn to spend their time doing something useful and worthwhile.’*

1 Titus 3:14 (CEV)

## Consider & Prepare

**Read:**

Titus 3

James 2:14–26

Because The Salvation Army includes churches and also a wide range of social service programs, it means there are many avenues of service for members of The Salvation Army to work in, either in paid employment or as a volunteer. It’s important that we explain to children early in their Christian journey that it’s not just ministers (corps officers) who ‘work’ for the church—there are many, many ways someone can serve God and, simultaneously, The Salvation Army.

In this lesson the children will be asked to consider how old they will be in 10 year’s time and then to set a 10-year ministry goal. Do not be alarmed if the goals are unrealistic. Allow the children to dream and explore their ideas about how they would like to serve Jesus in the future.

As they plan the steps they will need to take in order to achieve these goals, they may begin to gain a sense of whether their goals are achievable in a 10-year time frame.

Take a copy of the plans that are made in this week’s ‘Home and Beyond’. Return these to the children after six months. At this time it may be appropriate to gently help them reassess their goals and modify them if necessary.



## What you will need:

### For 'Connecting In'

- Several CEV Bibles.
- Write out the list of roles/jobs onto slips of paper
- Container for the slips of paper
- Glue stick
- Butchers paper

### For 'The Main Thing'

- Plan and invite three or four guests who serve within The Salvation Army. It would be good to choose people who cover a range of roles such as someone with morning tea responsibilities, Family Store manager, welcome person, officer, street ministry worker, chaplain, welfare worker etc.
- Video camera and person to make a video

### For 'Home & Beyond'

- Print off the 'Home & Beyond' cards for each child.
- Photocopy plans after they have made and put in a sealed envelope with the date and the child's name. Return it to the child after six months so they can be reminded of their goal and assess their progress towards it.



# Connecting In

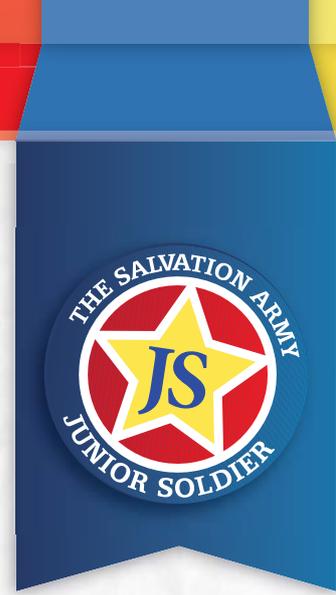
## 20 questions...

For this activity you will need to write the following roles onto a slip of paper and place them into a tub, hat, container etc.

- Corps officer
- Prison chaplain
- Youth worker
- Missionary
- Street ministry team
- Donations collector
- Emergency services worker
- Welcomer
- Person who does announcements
- Aged care chaplain
- Singer
- Hotel ministry collector
- Manager of shelter for homeless people
- Rural chaplain
- Outback flying service pilot
- Salvos Stores manager
- Morning tea organiser
- Social worker
- Crèche leader
- Employment Plus consultant
- Musician
- School chaplain/ counsellor

- Offering collector
- Junior Soldier leader
- Newsletter or magazine editor
- Cleaner
- Hospital chaplain

'I wonder if you have thought about what you would like to be when you grow up. (Allow a short amount of time for the children to share some thoughts/ideas that they have had.) There are lots of jobs that we can do and sometimes it is difficult just to pick one, some people get to do a couple at a time or even combine a few together, e.g. a teacher helping in an area of poverty overseas is both a teacher and an aid worker.



For some jobs that you think would be cool to do, you might find that you can do them within The Salvation Army. Today we have a number of jobs or roles that you could do within The Salvation Army written down on slips of paper in this container. We are going to have a game of 20 questions, each person choosing a role from the container and seeing if the rest of the group can ask questions that will help them to guess what role or job it might be. The questions that the group can ask can only be answered with a 'yes' or 'no'.

Have one of the children to keep a tally on a white board or butchers paper as to how many questions have been asked. The group must guess the role within 20 questions. If there is only one child, the leader and the child can take turns at guessing. After each role/job has been used, stick it onto a sheet of butchers paper.

When your allocated time for this activity is finished ask the children to help glue the leftover cards onto the butchers paper.

**Link...** 'The Salvation Army is well known in our community for being an organisation that helps other people. There are so many different ways that people can help and serve others within our churches and local community. It doesn't matter who you are, how old you are, how much time you have, what you are interested in or what you are good at, there is a job or opportunity for you to serve. I wonder what you might like to do for others.'



## The Main Thing

### Some special guests...

For this section of the lesson you will need to invite three or four guests to attend to share with the children the role they play in The Salvation Army. Explain to them that they will have about five minutes to outline the role they play and then a few minutes to answer any questions the children might have. It would be good to choose people who cover a range of roles such as someone with morning tea responsibilities, Family Store manager, welcome person, officer, street ministry worker, chaplain, welfare worker etc.

'Today we are going to learn some more about the different jobs that people do within The Salvation Army. Maybe you will learn about something you would like to be a part of. Perhaps it will give you an idea about something different you would like to do for Jesus within The Salvation Army.'

Introduce the guests you have invited.

'Our guests today all have jobs that they do within The Salvation Army. They have come along today to tell you about what they do to serve others and because they love Jesus. They are going to tell you a little bit about what they do and then they will answer any questions that you might have.'

You might like to ask the following questions if they do not get covered. They could also be given to the interviewees beforehand to serve as a guide for them to prepare:

- What is the main job you do in The Salvation Army?
- How much time do you spend doing this job each week?
- What is the hardest thing about your role?
- What is your favourite thing about your role?
- Do you also do have other roles in The Salvation Army?
- Why did you start doing this job?
- Can you share a story about how someone has come closer to Jesus because of what you do?
- How long have you been doing this job for?
- Do you get paid for this work?
- Is there something else you dream about doing for Jesus?



**NOTE:** It would be great to have one of the children video the interviews. Make sure that you get the permission of those visiting before you arrange this. Depending on your time frame you might like to have the visitors stay for some morning/afternoon tea where they can chat with the children more about what they do and ways they might like to serve in The Salvation Army.

Have a child lined up to thank each of the visitors for their time and willingness to share what they do for God and The Salvation Army.



## Tying In

### Serving Jesus...

'Today we have heard about what some people are doing for God in The Salvation Army. You might have done or still be doing some things for Jesus in your church or community also. *(Give the children an opportunity to share what they have been doing for Jesus.)*

Take a moment to stop and think about the things that you are really good at or the things you love to do. I wonder if any of these things might fit into some of the different jobs or roles that we have already talked about today, or perhaps fit with some of the needs you might see in this church and in our community. *(Again, give the children some time to respond.)*

- How old are you now?
- In 10 years, how old will you be?
- Imagine that! Some of you will officially be adults by then.
- Ask the children to think about the following sentences and how they would fill in the blanks. (You might like to give them some examples like below to help them think about what they might say or like to do in another 10 years.)

'My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old. I \_\_\_\_\_ *(something you are already doing for Jesus)*  
In 10 years I will be \_\_\_\_\_ years old and I think it would be cool to be serving Jesus by \_\_\_\_\_ *(ministry position)*.'

**For example:** 'My name is Isabel and I am eight years old. I help to set out the chairs before church.  
In 10 years I will be 18 and I think it would be cool to be serving Jesus by teaching Junior Soldiers.'

**Video** the children as they each take turns sharing their version of the statement above.

**OR**

**Photograph** the children holding an A4 page with their statement on it.

You could then organise to **play the video** in church in the coming weeks to share how others can support and encourage the children but also how it might encourage the adults to think about how they are serving God. (Make sure you have the permission of the children and their parents first.)

**OR**

Make a **PowerPoint presentation** with the photos to play in church as above.

**OR**

Display the photos on a **noticeboard** within your church building. (Make sure you have the permission of the children and their parents first.)

Ask the children to form pairs or small groups and pray for each other as they work towards their 10-year ministry goal.

Come back together and lead the children in a prayer.

'Dear Jesus, thank you that all your children have a mission to share your love with other people. We can see that you have also made each one of us unique and special. Every single one of us has things that we can do really well. Please help us to use the special gifts that you have given us to do your work. It's exciting to think about what we might be serving others and showing our love for you in the future. Help us to remember that we can be doing your work right now too. At the same time we can be learning and growing so that we can do even more for you and for your people. Keep on reminding us to encourage each other as we grow and learn together. Amen.'



## Home & Beyond

Print off the 'Home & Beyond' cards attached. The children might like to keep these in their journals or notebook where they could write or stick the challenges, reflect, answer questions or complete activities each week.

### Serving Jesus...

- Talk to your Big Bud or someone in your family about your 10-year goal for ministry.
- Ask them to help you to make a plan for how you can meet that goal.
- Who will you need to ask for help?
- What will you need to do?
- Are there other goals you can set along the way?
- Think about what you can do right now to get started.
- When you have made your plan, bring it back to your leader and Big Bud who can help to support and encourage you in your service for Jesus.

# Home & Beyond

## Serving Jesus...

Talk to your Big Bud or someone in your family about your 10-year goal for ministry.

Ask them to help you to make a plan for how you can meet that goal.

Who will you need to ask for help?

What will you need to do?

Who will you need to set along the way?

What will you need to get started?

Are there other goals you can set along the way?

What will you need to do?

Are there other goals you can set along the way?

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**Junior Soldiers**



# Home & Beyond

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Ask them to help you to make a plan for how you can meet that goal.

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**Junior Soldiers**

