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# Introduction

## Covenant Renewal & Founders’ Day

The first Sunday in July is traditionally Founders’ Day and Covenant Renewal – a day to remember our history, commit to the future, and encourage people to consider their covenant. At the same time, we want to provide covenant renewal resources each year to promote soldiership and offer everyone (soldier or not) the chance to re-affirm their commitment to God.

This year, leadership felt this Sunday was a great opportunity to have this as a special service – a time to ‘rally the troops’, call us to action and spur us on going forward – especially after an unsettling time throughout the first half of 2020.

In light of this, the territory has produced a pre-recorded service for corps/centre to utilise in your setting. Similar to previous New Zeal broadcasts, you are welcome to use the service in the following way:

* Play the service in its entirety
* Use parts of the service via video and local live elements, and then the pre-recorded sermon
* Only use the pre-recorded sermon, and do all other elements live locally.

Unlike previous New Zeal events, the entire service is pre-recorded (not livestreamed). This is to avoid any technical difficulties for you locally, as well as to make it simple for you to use parts of the service as you see fit.

The theme for the service is ‘The World Needs You!’. Commissioner Mark Campbell will be speaking on the Matthew 5:13-16 around being the salt and light of the world. A full runsheet of the service is available on the next page.

This pack contains a theme, introduction, children’s content and meeting lead ideas, plus renewal cards are being sent to you. It is complementary to the pre-recorded material and will help you adapt the service to your local needs.

You are welcome to adapt everything in the pack to suit your local context, e.g. use what you like here, use all local content and just play the sermon. You will know best!

The full service, as well as each individual element, will be available on your Media Machine or via the Google Drive link below by Wednesday 1 July.

[**https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d\_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing**](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing)

## Pre-recorded Service Runsheet

The pre-recorded service will follow this format:

* Service opener video (creative piece looking at who we are – our history and today)
* Welcome from hosts – Commissioners Julie and Mark Campbell
* Worship – music team *(Great Things, King of Kings, How Great is Our God)*
* Testimony segment – videos from Salvationists from across the territory (each division/region is represented)
* Prayer segment – multi-lingual prayer time
* Worship – music team *(All that I am)*
* Bible reading – Matthew 5:13-16
* Sermon – Commissioner Mark Campbell
* Response time – music team *(Christ is Enough)*
* Outro/benediction from hosts – Commissioners Julie and Mark Campbell
* Final/Send out song – music team *(Send Me Lord)*

You are welcome to adapt this runsheet as you see fit – using any video elements you like or doing the majority live locally.

## Resources Available

With this booklet, you should expect to receive a set of *Covenant Renewal Cards* for use on the day.

The Territorial website contains the electronic resources to support this day. Head to <https://www.salvationarmy.org.nz/church-community/resources>. Resources available include:

* Social media image
* Pre-recorded service, as well as individual elements from this (on Google Drive / Media Machines – available 1 July)
* Kids material pack

[**https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d\_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing**](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing)

## Meeting Outline

To assist with your meeting planning, we are suggesting a meeting in sections, interspersed with songs, prayer, offering, etc. as you choose.

Ideas for each section follow.

| Section | Suggested Content |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Introduction | Potential script below |
| 1. Song Ideas | List of song ideas you can do live, if you don’t use the pre-recorded worship time. |
| 1. Children’s story / kids church lesson | All kids Covenant Renewal material can be found in the Kids Covenant Renewal pack. |
| 1. Video elements or live versions | All elements of the pre-recorded service are available to use as you see fit in your service. These are available on Media Machines or downloadable from Google Drive. You are welcome to use these, or do your own thing live.  Elements: Prayer segment, testimonies, intro and outro to service, worship, scripture reading, response time, service opener video.  [**https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d\_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing**](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing) |
| 1. Founders’ Day | We have included potential stories and video clips to celebrate Founders’ Day below. |
| 1. Bible reading | The scripture reading for the service. You could do this live or use the pre-recorded version. |
| 1. Sermon | Pre-recorded video from Comm. Mark Campbell available on Media Machines or downloadable from Google Drive.  For those unable to play video locally, we have included a sermon outline.  [**https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d\_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing**](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing) |
| 1. Response | Potential script below. Follow with appropriate response music (suggestions in song list or can use pre-recorded response time). |
| 1. Benediction | Idea below |

## Preparation

1. Read through this document – select what video elements alongside the pre-recorded sermon you will use and what you will do live.
2. Check out the Kids pack and see how you can adapt this locally.
3. Gather your response cards and provide pens.
4. Promote the service.

# Meeting Content

Scripture: Matthew 5:13-16

Subject: The World Needs You!

Aim: To have the congregation choose to (re)commit to being who the world needs.

## 1. Meeting Introduction

Today is a special day in The Salvation Army calendar year – it’s our Founders’ Day and Covenant Renewal Day. Founders’ Day is a day to acknowledge and honour the Salvation Army founders, Catherine and William Booth. What great examples of living in covenant with God and going after all he has called and asked of them.

Founders’ Day is a great day for us to consider our own covenants, so today we also celebrate Covenant Renewal day. We each have the chance today to consider the various commitments we’ve made to God. For some of us, this is in the form of a covenant that we signed when we became a soldier, adherent or officer in The Salvation Army. For others, it may be a commitment you’ve made in another church to follow Christ, or when you were in a desperate situation and you cried out to God promising that you’d change the world if He saved you. And for some of you, you’re simply here today because you’re wondering what this Christian thing is all about.

Today we’re exploring what it means to be the salt and light of the world. There is a lot going on in our world currently, and the world needs you! The world needs sold-out, passionate Christians – willing to love and serve a broken world.

There’s a famous quote from Catherine Booth, one of the founders of The Salvation Army, ***“If we are to better the future we must disturb the present.”*** We live in a desperate, broken world, God calls us to partner with him in bringing life, light and love to all people. There is hope for our world but we must do something now!

Catherine and William Booth’s lives are an incredible testimony to how God uses ordinary people to change the world. What a great encouragement for us today as we each consider our own covenant or commitments we have made and what God is asking of us today.

No matter your situation, we pray that you will feel very welcome and that you will encounter God during this service, as we look at why and how the world needs you.

## 2. Ideas for Songs

There is pre-recorded music available for this service, or you are welcome to do your own worship time. If you are doing your own, here are some song suggestions to fit the service theme.

**Songs/Congregational**

* + Great Things - Phil Wickham
  + King of Kings – Hillsong Worship
  + How Great is Our God – Chris Tomlin
  + Yet Not I but Christ in Me - CityAlight
  + God Is For Us - CityAlight
  + Seek First – Housefires
  + There’s Nothing That I God Can’t Do - Passion
  + God so Loved – We the Kingdom
  + Who You Say I Am - Hillsong Worship
  + This I Believe (The Creed) – Hillsong Worship
  + SASB 687/SASB 960 (new ed.) I’ll Stand for Christ
  + SASB 696/SASB 980 (new ed.) Storm the Forts of Darkness (Soldiers of Our God Arise)
  + SASB 707/SASB 992 (new ed.) Who is on the Lord’s Side?

**Response / Reflection**

* + Let It Be Jesus - Christy Nockles
  + Send Me Lord – Matt Redman
  + Christ Is Enough - Hillsong Worship
  + Yes and Amen - Chris Tomlin
  + More Like Jesus - Passion
  + Way Maker - Leeland
  + Do It Again - Elevation Worship
  + Surrender – Lincoln Brewster
  + We Fall Down - Chris Tomlin
  + I Surrender – Hillsong
  + Here I am, Wholly Available – Modern Hymn
  + I Surrender All - Hymn
  + SASB C53 / SASB 312 (new ed.) Spirit of the living God
  + SASB 474/ SASB 636 (new ed.) All to Jesus, I surrender
  + SASB 487/ SASB 705 (new ed.) Have thine own way Lord
  + SASB 525/ SASB 623 (new ed.) Take my life and let it be
  + SASB 568 (new ed.) All that I am

## 3. Children’s Material

The Territorial Children’s Department has produced some resources for children and families.

Please download these and use the material that best suits your context.

[**https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d\_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing**](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing)

## 4. Video elements or live versions

There are pre-recorded service elements you are welcome to us, or you are welcome to do your own. These include intro and outro to service, testimony time, prayer time scripture reading etc. We have included a service intro, benediction and the scripture reading further into the pack.

This is the question we used to frame the testimony time:

*‘In this season with all that’s going on around our world, your nation and local community, who is God calling you to be? What is God asking you to do? Why does the world need you and The Salvation Army?’*

Here is the prayer that is used in the recorded service:

*Almighty God, maker of heaven and earth, we look to You today for hope and light. The world is suffering under the groans of many things, so we seek Your assurance and strength in the renewal of our faith. We praise You for your greatness and Your power. Come to us again Holy Spirit on this day of renewal.*

*Today we give thanks for the mission and ministry of The Salvation Army. We are humbled by Your call to be agents of grace and mercy, and bringers of salvation to the world. Use us more and more, we pray. We need Your Spirit’s power if we are to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.*

*As we remember the zeal and vigour of Salvationists who have gone before us, renew our zeal and vigour for our day. In this generation we commit to being people who boldly proclaim the gospel, and willingly serve our communities. We know the fields are ripe for harvest, and we are the labourers you are calling into greater action.*

*Today we pray especially for people who are facing dire circumstances because of job loss, health challenges or relationship difficulties. As we look at our world we see great disparity between those who have much and those who do not have enough. We know that this breaks Your heart. O God, show us how we can serve these needs and restore your justice on the earth.*

*There are times when we feel unable to respond to the needs that confront us. But today we claim again the promise of your all-sufficiency. Your arm is now short, and You are omnipotent. Train us for the current battle; give us strength for everything we face as we go out in Jesus’ name.*

*Our prayer is that you would count us faithful in serving our current times. May we see peace on the earth – not as the world gives, but peace that comes from You. Infuse us in Your love – that we will love You with all our hearts and love our neighbours as ourselves. Purify our hearts in this time of renewal of our covenant with you. AMEN*

## 5. Ideas for Founders’ Day

Here are some ideas for creative elements to include in your service to highlight Founders’ Day. You could include one of the stories below as part of your service; you could share about it during a segment in your service/play one of the videos or you could have one of your corps members research one of the stories and share about it.

**Video about different creative Army endeavours:**

Various short stories around creative Salvation Army endeavours over the years, created by our Creative Ministries Department.

* <https://youtu.be/jlLInPi5TMg>

**Making matches safe:**

The Salvation Army encouraged the change from dangerous phosphorous matches to safety matches by opening their own factory, employing people in a safe environment and for a fair wage.

* <https://glynnharrison.wordpress.com/2013/07/25/when-william-booth-took-on-the-big-manufacturers-of-safety-matches-and-won/>

**Raising the age of consent:**

The Salvation was pivotal in raising the age of consent for girls from 13 to 16.

* <https://www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/1C9CE9592331AC2F802575CA004EF0A2>

**Opening Men’s homes:**

A story around William and Bramwell’s response to the large number of homeless men in London.

* <https://www.gospeltruth.net/booth/boothbiovol2/boothbiovol2ch7.htm>
* <https://goo.gl/KSAvqy>

**Lowering the cost of bread:**

In 1914, in Britain there was a grain shortage because many of the ships were being sunk by German U-boats. In one town, the bakers raised the price of bread so high that poor people could not afford it. Twice General Bramwell Booth asked the bakers to reduce their prices and they refused.

Booth wrote to the bakers saying that if the prices did not come down and the poor could eat, the Salvation Army would establish bakeries in the town and undercut the prices. The prices came down.

## 6. Bible Reading: Matthew 5:13-16

There is a pre-recorded scripture reading if you would like to utilise this, otherwise have someone read this live in your service.

**Salt and Light**

13 “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

## 7. Sermon

Commissioner Mark Campbell has prepared a sermon for this service and this is available on Media Machines and on Google Drive.

[**https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d\_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing**](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NkZX-9f4d_x75fhlwWVBZSd7rZoFvk6b?usp=sharing)

If you are unable to play video locally, please find an outline of Commissioner Mark’s sermon below.

**INTRODUCTION**

On this Founders’ Day and Covenant Renewal Day the theme is ‘The World Needs you! When I first heard of this, it reminded me of the campaign in the first world war when Uncle Sam said, ‘We want you for the US Army!’ There was a sense of urgency, a need, a purpose to call men and women to be united to a cause.

Today I want to say to you,

Salvation Army of Aotearoa New Zealand, the world needs you.

Salvation Army of Fiji, the world needs you

Salvation Army of Tonga, the world needs you

Salvation Army of Samoa, the world needs you

The world needs your being, your presence, who you are in Christ Jesus in community.

The world needs your mind, your faith, your prayers, your determination, your courage, your energy, your love, your voice for those that can’t speak for themselves, your service, your hands, your belief in others that can’t believe in themselves.

The world needs you!

William Booth was compelled to reach in the east end of London with the love of Jesus as salt and light knowing that the world needed him at that point. The classic picture of Booths lighthouse gives a compelling image of this.

Catherine Booth said, ‘You are not here in the world for yourself. You have been sent here for others. The world is waiting for you!

Matthew 5:13-16 is a segment of scripture within the fuller passage known as the Sermon on the mount. It was a time when Jesus sat with his disciples to teach them the aspects of the Kingdom.

**QUESTION: WHY DOES THE WORLD NEED YOU AND I?**

1. **Answer One:** The short answer is because Jesus said so.

Throughout the scriptures it depicts Jesus followers as a sent people into the world.

John 17:18b … I have sent them into the world.

Matthew 28 …Great Commission to go into the world

Matthew 5:13-16 …you are salt and light

Note that in this section Jesus shifts from "those" ("blessed are those… ") to "you". He shifts from character to the influence of this character in the world. Jesus did not ask or urge the disciples to be salt and light, he simply said they were.

Verse 13, You are the salt of the earth

Verse 16, You are the light of the world

Furthermore, the [present tense](https://www.preceptaustin.org/greek_quick_reference_guide#present) of the wording expresses a constant condition and indicates that being salt and light is to continually be the lifestyle of every citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven every day of their life on earth.

**QUESTION: WHY DOES THE WORLD NEED YOU AND I**

1. **Answer two:** The longer answer is because we are his influencers, making an impact in the world by being salt and light.

Matthew 5:13-16

**13**“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

**14**“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. **15**Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. **16**In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

**CONTEXT OF SALT**

The value of salt, especially in the ancient world was critical. Roman soldiers received their wages in salt. The Greeks considered salt to be divine. The Mosaic Law required that all offerings presented by the Israelites contain salt. (Lev. 2:13)

When Jesus told his disciples that they were "the salt of the earth" they understood the metaphor.

* **Purity**

Salt was connected with purity. No doubt its glistening whiteness made the connection easy. The Romans said that salt was the purest of all things, because it came from the purest of all things, the sun and the sea.

* **Preservative**

In the ancient world salt was the commonest of all preservatives. It was used to keep things from going bad.

There are some shifts taking place spiritually in our world.

**Illustration**

In the 2018 NZ Census, 2,264,601 people in the census usually resident population count reported they had no religion. The 2018 Census results showed almost half the population (48.2 percent) had no religion, compared with 41.9 percent in the 2013 Census, 34.6 percent in the 2006 Census, and 29.6 in the 2001 Census.

**Illustration**

I was recently in an online meeting with key people from the Correctional Services team in the Government and key people within The Salvation Army. There was a Maori representative in the group who shared a few compelling and confronting slides on some statistics.

53% of male inmates are Maori with a higher percentage of women in goal compared to the total population incarcerated.

There is something seriously wrong with that!!!

* **Lends flavour**

But the greatest and the most obvious quality of salt is that salt lends flavour to things. Christianity is to life what salt is to food. Christianity lends flavour to life.

**CONTEXT OF LIGHT**

In Philippians 2:15, the apostle Paul says, "Believers, you are to shine as light in the world".

The Greek word used here is very similar to the word for the beacon that a lighthouse emits. That beacon is bright and unmistakable in its purpose. It warns of danger. It directs to safe harbor. It provides hope for those who have lost hope.

Observe that the verb ‘are’ is in the [present tense](https://www.preceptaustin.org/greek_quick_reference_guide#present) signifying that citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven are continually lights in this spiritually dark world.

Light illuminates, exposes, guides, and directs. Light gives life.

It is true that there is something about the image of a light.

**Illustration**

We have all been impacted of late by the reaction to the death of George Floyd. There was one scene I saw on the media of a group of people in the streets holding up their mobile phones with the light on, shedding light into a dark scenario. It gave the message that there is hope and a new reformed world can be achieved.

Our mission statement is caring for people, transforming lives and reforming society by Gods power.

**Quote:**

“We do not draw people to Christ by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it”. Madeleine L’Engle

And that source is Jesus Christ – ‘The Light of the World’.

**APPLICATION**

Today gives us the opportunity to reflect, remember, reaffirm and reimagine God’s call to us to bring hope to the world by being salt and light.

Our Covenant Renewal card 2020 says,

“The world needs you! Today I renew my commitment and covenant with God. I desire to build his kingdom through The Salvation Army – the Army that brings life.

I choose to let my light shine and participate in our mission to care for people, transform lives an reform society by Gods power, by… (there is a place in the box provided for your response)”

Please also enter into our call to prayer over the remaining days in the month that continues with our theme of ‘The World Needs You!’

## 8. Response

You are welcome to use the pre-recorded response time, or you can lead through your own after Commissioner Mark’s message.

The pre-recorded service includes Christ is Enough as the response song. You may also like to use this live locally or find another song with a similar theme.

Here are some thoughts you could share and use to call people to action. Remember to have the response cards out and ready for people to sign.

As we’ve reflected on the passage in Matthew 5, maybe it’s challenged you about your own life.

The world needs each of us – God calls each of us to partner with him in his work in our world. So what would that look like if you lived in this way?

* Perhaps you’ve never said yes to God and chosen to partner with him. Maybe today you’re ready to make a bold stand, and say ‘yes’ to God and being who he needs you to be in this world.
* Maybe you felt called to become a soldier or adherent years ago and want to re-affirm your covenant today. Maybe there are specific parts of the covenant that you’ve been neglecting or want to do better in.
* Maybe you have made a commitment or covenant with Christ but have slipped into apathy or let others take the lead. Maybe you’ve been living in a way that is easy, comfortable or doesn’t spark questions from people. Are you a light on a hill or a light hidden away? Maybe you want to commit to living in a way that brings life and light to those around you.
* Or maybe today you want to thank and praise Jesus again for the work he has done in your life and commit again to leaving the grave behind and continue to live to bring glory to God.

Today, we have some covenant renewal cards available. The card The World Needs You and includes the words ‘I choose to let my light shine and participate in our mission to care for people, transform lives and reform society by God’s power by;’ with space for you to reflect and write ways that you might do this.

If you would like to respond and make a commitment today, we invite you to come forward, and sign the card. Maybe you want to make this commitment for the first time today, or you want to reaffirm this covenant again – we invite you to come forward.

If you’d like prayer, please come forward and someone would love to pray for you.

## 9. Benediction

You are welcome to use Commissioner Julie and Mark’s pre-recorded outro/benediction or do your own locally. Here is an idea that you could use.

***2 Corinthians 13:11***

*“11Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.”*

## 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 …

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 will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the non-medical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult and all else that could enslave the body or spirit.

I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged.

I will be actively involved, as I am able, in the life, work, worship and witness of the corps, giving as large a proportion of my income as possible to support its ministries and the worldwide work of the Army.

I will be true to the principles and practices of The Salvation Army, loyal to its leaders, and I will show the spirit of salvationism whether in times of popularity or persecution.

I now call upon all present to witness that I enter into this covenant and sign these articles of war 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.