

# Junior Soldiers

UNIT 15 : LESSON 9



## War Time Work

**PURPOSE:** For the children to explore and understand the role of The Salvation Army in times of war - both historical and current.

Do as God does. After all, you are his dear children. Let love be your guide. Christ loved us and offered his life for us as a sacrifice that pleases God.

Ephesians 5:1-2

## Consider & Prepare

Members of The Salvation Army have always aimed to share the love of Jesus by caring for people with compassion and respect. Together we work towards bringing about justice in the world.

### Read

Romans 12:9-21

- What stands out to you in this passage?
- How do you think these verses relate to the work of The Salvation Army?
- What might you do differently as a result of what you have read?

Individuals within our organisation will have different personal beliefs about war. The reality is that we are identified as an Army. We are soldiers. We fight for Jesus. We fight for justice. We fight for compassion. We fight for those who cannot fight for themselves. We fight for the wounded. We fight for the defenceless. We fight for equality. We choose to serve those who serve us within the defence forces of our own nation and those around the world.

As we explore this subject with our children our aim is not to glorify or condone war.

It is to allow our children to see how we choose to serve those in need, wherever they may be, because of our love for Christ.

Be aware that some children within your group may have experienced war or have close family members who have been involved in war. It may be helpful to advise the parents or Big Buds of these children that you will be discussing this topic.

In the 'Home and Beyond' activity this week the children will be asked to do some additional research. It would be helpful to make space in your next lesson for the children to share what they have learnt. You might like to make a collage of the pictures and facts that they present.

## **You will need**

### **For 'Connecting In'**

- Print, cut and shuffle at least two sets of the Timeline cards (page 7). Prepare additional sets if you have a large group.
- Chalk or masking tape to mark out a line at each end of your space.
- Two boxes or buckets large enough to hold one each of the following items (if you are unable to supply any of these items, print images to represent them or write the name of the items on separate cards).
- Two mugs or thermoses
- Two packets of biscuits
- Two cups or bottles of water
- Print two copies of the 'praying hands' image included in this document (page 8).
- Two toothbrushes
- Two Bibles
- Two pairs of socks
- Print two copies of the 'ear image' included in this document (page 8).
- Print two copies of the 'ambulance image' included in this document (page 8).

### **For 'The Main Thing'**

- Printed copies of 'The Salvation Army in Wartime' stories (page 9-12).
- Large sheets of paper
- Pencils and markers
- Video recording devices
- Modelling clay
- A few Bibles so that each child can follow along.

### **For 'Tying In'**

- Bibles

### **For 'Memory Verse Activity'**

- Whiteboard or large sheet of paper
- Marker
- Whiteboard eraser

### **For 'Home and Beyond'**

- Print enough copies of the Home and Beyond cards for each child.

# Connecting In

Since as far back as 1899, members of The Salvation Army have been working alongside the military during wars around the world. They have also been involved in helping to restore countries that have been torn apart by war. Today we are going to explore the role of The Salvation Army during times of war and think about why our members might get involved in such dangerous and challenging work.

Let's begin by looking at when and where we have been involved.

*Divide the children into two teams.*

*If you have a large group then divide the children into three or four groups.*

I'm going to give each team a set of cards. Each card represents a war in which The Salvation Army has been involved. When I say 'go' you must work with your team to place the cards in order from oldest to most recent. When all the cards are in order the whole team must sit down.

1899 – 1902 The Boer War

1914 – 1918 WWI

1939 – 1945 WWII

1948 – 1960 Malayan Emergency

1950 – 1953 Korean War

1962 – 1966 Indonesian Confrontation

1962 – 1972 Vietnam War

1990 – 1991 Gulf War

1992 – 1994 Somalia

1999 – 2002 East Timor

2003 – 2011 War in Iraq

2011 – Emergency relief team in Iraq at the end of the war

2015 – 2016 RSDS sent an officer to Camp Baird – Middle East

*Allow the children to race to complete the task then announce a winner.*

*Ask the children to all sit down where they can see their cards.*

According to the information on the cards:

- How many different wars and conflicts have The Salvation Army been involved in?
- How many years has it been since the Boer War began?

The Salvation Army has been involved in many wars. Some of our members have been soldiers during the war. In fact, the 2/22nd Battalion was made up almost entirely of members of the Brunswick Salvation Army band. But in most cases, we haven't been there to fight. What do you think our members have been doing during these wars?

During times of war, The Salvation Army has supplied soldiers with a wide range of items and services over the years. These have included everything from repairing boots, to writing letters home and entertaining the soldiers to keep their spirits up.

The Salvos have also provided (*hold each item up as you explain it*):

- Tea, coffee and hot chocolate (*hold up the mug*)
- Food such as doughnuts, biscuits and soup (*hold up the packet of biscuits*)

- Fresh water (*hold up the cup or bottle of water*)
- Prayer (*hold up the picture of the praying hands*)
- Soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste (*hold up the toothbrush*)
- Spiritual guidance (*hold up the Bible*)
- Extra clothing like dry socks and warm coats (*hold up the socks*)
- A listening ear (*hold up the picture of the ear*)
- Ambulances and stretchers (*hold up the picture of the ambulance*)

*Use masking tape or chalk to mark out a line across each end of your space. Divide the children into two teams and ask each team to spread out between the two marked lines. Place the two buckets/boxes containing the items on one line.*

Each of you must work with your team to deliver the items in your bucket/box to the 'front line' – that's the place where the fighting is usually fiercest. The person on each team who is closest to the bucket/box must pick up an item and pass it to the next person on their team. They pass it on to the next person and so on. The last person must place the item on the other side of the 'front line'. The second item cannot be removed from the bucket/box until the first item has been delivered across the line. When the last item has been delivered the whole team must sit down.

*Run the relay.*

*Continue after both teams have delivered all of their items.*

Those are some of the things that The Salvation Army might do to help during a war.

Back home, or after the conflict has finished, The Salvation Army also helps with:

- Repairing schools, universities, hospitals and housing.
- Providing food, fuel, healthcare, employment and sanitation.
- Assisting with visits to war cemeteries.
- Helping relatives and friends to trace missing service men and women.
- Assisting soldiers who are recovering from injuries.
- Supporting the families of defence personnel.

## The Main Thing

We are going to look in some more detail at the involvement of The Salvation Army in various wars.

*Allow the children to choose to work by themselves, in pairs or small groups for this activity.*

*Spread the stories out on a table or on the floor.*

*Explain to the children that they will need to choose one story per group. If the children are having trouble choosing then assign the stories to each group.*

*Each group will then choose one of the following options:*

- *Make a poster about their story.*
- *Make up a 30 second television advertisement or news story.*
- *Use modelling clay to depict their story.*

- Helping to rebuild in Iraq
- 'Hop In' centres
- Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels
- The Sallyman
- On the Home Front
- William McKenzie
- Doughnut Girls
- Arthur 'Fighting Mac' McIlveen
- The Red Shield
- Salvationists in prisoner of war camps

*Allow about 20 minutes for this activity then ask each group to briefly share what they have produced.*

## Tying In

Working with the defence force in the midst of wars is obviously a dangerous and difficult thing to do.

- Why do you think people from The Salvation Army might choose to serve in this way?

Let's look at the Bible for some clues about what their motivation might be.

*Ask the children to look up Romans 12:10-11. Ask a volunteer to read out these verses.*

*Love each other as brothers and sisters and honor others more than you do yourself. Never give up. Eagerly follow the Holy Spirit and serve the Lord. Romans 12:10-11*

What clue do these verses give us about why a Christian might want to serve others? *(Because we love God and love others.)*

*Ask the children to look up 1 Peter 4:10. Ask a volunteer to read out this verse.*

*Each of you has been blessed with one of God's many wonderful gifts to be used in the service of others. So use your gift well. 1 Peter 4:10*

What clue does this verse give us about why a Christian might want to serve others? *(Because we want to use the gifts God has given us.)*

*Ask the children to look up Ephesians 5:1-2. Ask a volunteer to read out the verses.*

*Do as God does. After all, you are his dear children. Let love be your guide. Christ loved us and offered his life for us as a sacrifice that pleases God. Ephesians 5:1-2*

What clue do these verses give us about why a Christian might want to serve others? *(Because we are following the example of God and loving others like Christ.)*

*Ask the children to look up Matthew 28:19-20. Ask a volunteer to read out these verses.*

*Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have told you. I will be with you always, even until the end of the world.*

What clue do these verses give us about why a Christian might want to serve others? *(Because we want to tell everyone about Jesus.)*

Serving during a war or conflict gives members of The Salvation Army opportunities to care for people who are serving our country. It allows us to be friends to those who are far from home. It puts us in a place where we can share the message of hope and freedom in Jesus.

## Memory Verse

Do as God does. After all, you are his dear children. Let love be your guide. Christ loved us and offered his life for us as a sacrifice that pleases God. Ephesians 5:1-2

*Write the verse on a whiteboard or large sheet of paper. Ask the children to read the verse together. Erase/black out a few words. Ask the children to read the verse again. Repeat this process until all of the words have been erased and the children are able to say the verse from memory.*

## Prayer Time

Find a pair (someone who wasn't in the same group as you for the activity). Share with them about the story you looked at.

Spend some time praying together. Thank God for the men and women who showed the love of Jesus to others by the way they put others first and served them in a difficult time.

## Home & Beyond

Ask a family member or your Big Bud to help you research one of these topics to find out more about the work of The Salvation Army in times of war. Draw a picture or write a couple of key facts on a card and share them during your next Junior Soldier lesson.

- Helping to rebuild in Iraq
- 'Hop In' centres
- Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels
- The Sallyman
- On the Home Front
- William McKenzie
- Doughnut Girls
- Arthur McIlveen
- The Red Shield
- Salvationists in prisoner of war camps

# RESOURCES / HAND OUT

Timeline Cards

1899 – 1902  
The Boer War

1914 – 1918  
WWI

1939 – 1945  
WWII

1948 – 1960  
Malayan Emergency

1950 – 1953  
Korean War

1962 – 1966  
Indonesian Confrontation

1962 – 1972  
Vietnam War

1990 – 1991  
Gulf War

1992 – 1994  
Somalia

1999 – 2002  
East Timor

2003 – 2011  
War in Iraq

2011  
Emergency relief team in Iraq at the end of the war

2015 – 2016  
RSDS sent an officer to Camp Baird – Middle East



SALVATION CHAUFFEURS—'SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE.'  
In the background is the motor lorry attached to our 'Alexandra' Unit of Motor Ambulances.



## 'The Salvation Army in Wartime'

### Helping to rebuild in Iraq

Members of the international Salvation Army emergency relief team were available to help after the war in Iraq. They worked alongside the Iraqi people and did jobs like checking food stocks, introducing procedures to keep food fresh, fixing toilets and the electricity system to keep people safe.

The team was responsible for monitoring the safe storage and fair distribution of thousands of tonnes of rice, sugar, cooking oil, tea, soap, flour, soya beans and chickpeas for the whole of Southern Iraq. These food stocks fed millions of people.

*Information summarised from an article by Major Nigel Bovey Editor  
The War Cry (UKT)*

<http://www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/OA1CEC3040FE164B80256D50004D9794>



## 'The Salvation Army in Wartime'

### William "Fighting Mac" McKenzie

Chaplain-Major William McKenzie was a Salvation Army chaplain. He was the only TSA chaplain to serve at Gallipoli where the war was happening. He was posted with the men of the 4th Battalion and the 1st Australian Division. McKenzie went ashore with the troops at Gallipoli. In three days he conducted 647 funerals! After one of these funerals he found three bullet-holes in his hat. McKenzie served the men in a horrible and scary environment. He talked to the soldiers about Jesus, he comforted and encouraged them. He also followed the men into battle and helped with the wounded and the dead.

He was awarded the Order of the British Empire and was the first Australian to be awarded the highest honour in the Salvation Army – The Order of the Founder.

*Information summarised from: <http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/en/About-Us/Who-We-Are/History-and-Heritage/Military/>*



## 'The Salvation Army in Wartime'

### Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels

The 'Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels' was the affectionate nick-name that was given to the local people in Papua New Guinea who assisted the Australian Servicemen during WWII.

Often these locals would help to carry supplies over difficult and rough terrain and even helped to transport the sick and wounded back to the field aid stations. They also helped to set up the Hop In centres that TSA had for soldiers.

Many people say that many more lives would have been lost if these locals hadn't helped wounded soldiers to get back to a base where they could receive medical attention. Family members of 'Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels' have been presented with commemorative medals to say 'thanks' and to recognise the service to Australian Servicemen during World War Two.

*Information summarised from: <https://www.army.gov.au/our-history/history-in-focus/fuzzy-wuzzy-angels>*



## 'The Salvation Army in Wartime' - On the Home Front

The Salvation Army set up Red Shield marquees in locations all around Australia to be wherever there were troops. Dedicated men and women from the Salvation Army would help Australian servicemen in whatever way they could. This ranged from helping them have their boots resoled and clothes mended, to finding lost family members, to offering them hot coffee or soup and rolls. Salvationists were supporting troops at home who were training or about to depart, but there were also many corps and members all over the country making comfort packs for troops overseas and collecting supplies to deliver to civilians in war-worn locations.



Salvationists also set up the "Naval and Military League" in England in 1894 which provided facilities for Salvation Army servicemen where they would find fellowship, home-comforts, and religious meetings all around the world.

Information summarised from Lauren Martin's article: <https://salvos.org.au/others/army-archives/war-heroes-on-the-home-front/> and <http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/en/who-we-are/history-and-heritage/100-years-serving-the-armed-forces/>

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## 'The Salvation Army in Wartime' The Red Shield

Did you know that The Salvation Army's 'Red Shield' actually started out as a silver shield? Initially, the shield was silver in colour with the words "Salvation Army" across it in white lettering. It was worn as a badge by many people working within The Salvation Army. During the Boer War, Major George Carpenter, was worried that the silver of the badge, worn by those helping troops, might reflect light and alert enemy troops to where the Australian Servicemen were. As a result the silver was replaced with the red that we now see on The Salvation Army shield and it was renamed the "Red Shield". The pattern of the shield is the same all over the world with only the language being different.



Information summarised from: <https://salvos.org.au/about-us/our-story/salvos-101/our-symbols/>

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## 'The Salvation Army in Wartime' Salvationists in prisoner of war camps

During the Second World War there were quite a number of Salvationists who were interned as prisoners of war in camps. The Japanese interned 187 Salvation Army Officers, 18 of whom died. There were a small group of Salvationists who were part of the 3,000 civilian detainees at Changi camp. Even though the conditions were terrible this small group of Salvationists held meetings, acted as welfare officers and worked in the camp's hospital until they were set free in September 1945.

Major Gunvor Wilberg worked tirelessly to improve life for prisoners in the Philippines. During an attack on Manila she took an old truck and drove out to the front with supplies to the soldiers. She also gave physical and moral comfort to many of the prisoners. Later, she smuggled in food and tobacco to the prisoners of Santo Tomas, and was able to pass on news and encouragement.

Information summarised from: <https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/history-war>

## 'The Salvation Army in Wartime'

### The Sallyman

A member of The Salvation Army who supports defence personnel is often known as 'The Sallyman'. This name has been used as far back as the Boer War in 1889. Their main role is to provide a listening ear, to be a presence for the troops and to improve the mood and well-being of the soldiers. They offer spiritual support and talk with them about their faith journey.

The role of the Sallyman requires hard work to establish good relationships with the troops so that they feel comfortable to share their lives and ask for help if they need it. Often the Sallyman is with the soldiers when they are at the Army base and when they go into war.

The Sallyman often provides support through the brew truck. This is a van from which they serve tea and coffee, cordial, water, biscuits and lollies.

*Information summarised from:* <https://www.soldieron.militaryshop.com.au/blog/read/n/SALVATION-ARMY-ON-DUTY.html> and <https://salvos.org.au/about-us/latest-news/stories-and-testimonials/ministry-of-presence-on-the-front-line/> and <https://salvos.org.au/about-us/our-story/our-history/local-history/newc/upper-hunter/supporting-our-troops/>



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## 'The Salvation Army in Wartime'

### Doughnut girls

In 1917, two Salvation Army officers, Helen Purviance and Margaret Sheldon, began to make doughnuts for homesick soldiers. They soon became known as the 'Doughnut Girls'. They did not have a nice well-equipped kitchen to work in so they made do with whatever they could find. They used a wine bottle as a rolling pin and cut the dough into strips then twisted them before frying them on a potbellied stove.

The girls worked late into the night and served 150 doughnuts the first day. The next day, that number was doubled. In a short time, they fried from 2500 to 9000 doughnuts daily. In a letter to her family, Ensign Purviance wrote that in one day they cooked 2500 doughnuts, eight dozen cupcakes, fifty pies, 800 pancakes and 225 gallons of hot chocolate.

The doughnut became a symbol of all that the Salvation Army was doing to ease the hardships of troops on the frontlines of the war.

*Information summarised from:* <https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/history-war> and <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/donut-girls-wwi-helped-fill-soldiers-bellies-and-get-women-vote-180962864/#GEATj58gXpGKpzV5.99>



## 'The Salvation Army in Wartime' 'Hop In' centres

The first 'Hop In' centre was set up in France all the way back in WWI. They can still be found operating today. Red Shield Officers, better known as 'Sallymen', established these centres in war zones wherever they could. These centres provided on-the-spot comforts and a home-away-from-home for soldiers. The centres ranged from large marquees to hastily put up small tents. 'Hop in' tents were set up on army bases in Australia, in the deserts of North Africa and in the jungles of New Guinea. Regardless of the size of the centre they all displayed the familiar 'Hop In - You're Welcome' signs.

The 'Hop In' centres offer a cup of tea or a cold drink and someone to chat to for encouragement and advice. Some more established Hop In Centres, like the ones on army bases feature table tennis tables, pool tables, TVs and DVDs, magazines, tea and coffee and even BBQ areas.

Information summarised from: <https://salvos.org.au/about-us/latest-news/stories-and-testimonials/remembering-the-war-time-hop-in-centres/> and <https://salvos.org.au/about-us/our-story/our-history/local-history/newc/upper-hunter/supporting-our-troops/>



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## 'The Salvation Army in Wartime' Arthur 'Fighting Mac' McIlveen

Arthur McIlveen was the second of The Salvation Army's officers to earn the name "Fighting Mac" from Australian troops. As a young Salvation Army officer he applied to go to WWI as a chaplain. His boss, Commissioner Hay, had been afraid to appoint him. Hay knew that McIlveen was willing to go into danger and said that "he would not see the war out for an hour before being shot down". During WWII McIlveen served alongside a group of soldiers who were known as the 'Rats of Tobruk'. He went into very dangerous situations to "be Jesus" to the men he served. The Commanding Officer of the AIF's 29th Battalion wrote to The Salvation Army to commend its work, stating that "your Brigadier McIlveen was probably the most blitzed man in Tobruk; in the Red Shield store or out of doors he did his duty, regardless of danger". McIlveen carried around a phonograph and played music to the soldiers to keep their spirits up. "Rats of Tobruk" remembered Mac's kindness and compassion and, years later, they raised the money to buy a cottage in which Mac lived in retirement. McIlveen died in 1979.



Information summarised from: <http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/en/Who-We-Are/History-and-heritage/Profiles-of-individuals/>

# Home & Beyond

Ask a family member or your Big Bud to help you research one of these topics to find out more about the work of The Salvation Army in times of war. Draw a picture or write a couple of key facts on a card and share them during your next Junior Soldier lesson.

- Doughnut Girls
- Arthur McIlveen
- The Red Shield
- Salvationists in prisoner of war camps
- Helping to rebuild in Iraq
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