

TALK ABOUT JESUS.

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF THE GOSPEL

We are a people that love to talk about Jesus, we want people to know that God loves them and that Jesus is the ultimate proof of that love – and that The Salvation Army has responsibility to share the good news of the gospel, that God loves them, that Jesus is the proof, and that welcome is available through him. I would pray that Salvationists all around the world would find it very natural and easy



to speak to others about their personal relationship with Jesus Christ and the transformation that he has made in their lives.

That's a big idea of this movement.

We want people to know the good news that there is life and there is purpose, and there is hope, and there is eternity through faith in Jesus Christ. And if we could get excited about that around the globe, think about the impact of that.

General Lyndon Buckingham, Big Idea #1

This is how we live out this idea:

WE TALK ABOUT JESUS

How can we do that more effectively? We don't want to talk about Him only inside our buildings – the message of Jesus is not a secret! Can we grasp opportunities to talk about him with our families, our neighbours, and in our communities? *See Acts 1:8, 2:46-47*

'WELCOME' IS OUR DEFAULT SETTING

We demonstrate the inclusivity of the Gospel by showing hospitality to our guests and visitors, offering a warm welcome to anybody and everybody. We remove barriers by communicating openly, using modern and simple language. 'Welcome' should be more than just a word! *See Luke 24:45, 47, Romans 15:7*

WE BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF THE WORD

God's Word has power, so we share it in any way we can - verbally, through printed matter and via digital media. We believe that when people have a relationship with Jesus, he has the power to renew and transform every person. We will not be afraid to call people to repentance (2 Corinthians 5:20) or invite them to claim salvation. *See Acts 4:12*

WE GIVE THE INVITATION – TO FAITH IN JESUS AND TO A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

In our corps and institutions, everyone should feel accepted and be able to deepen their relationship with Jesus and other believers. The activities we offer meet the holistic needs of people; our worship meetings should be attractive and focussed. *See John 4:29*



SHOW PEOPLE JESUS.

THROUGH PRACTICAL ACTION AND DEMONSTRATIONS OF GOD'S LOVE

Another big idea of the movement is that we think that practical demonstrations of the values of the kingdom of God are as impactful as talking about them.

And so, the sleeves rolled up, the caring for the needy, the helping the vulnerable, the being the voice for the voiceless, the advocating for justice, the going after things where people are being in some way tortured or separated or rejected. That we as



a movement, we go to those places, we put our sleeves up, and we say, we don't want to just talk about God's love, we want

to show you guys. This is the soup, soap and salvation that has been our history. And I would love it if salvationists would get this idea that actually I can do that.

I can knock on a neighbour's door and say, is there any way I can help you? Is there any way I can serve you?

General Lyndon Buckingham, Big Idea #2

This is how we live out this idea:

WE DEMONSTRATE JESUS THROUGH PRACTICAL ACTIONS

Sharing the Gospel through spoken word, and showing the gospel through compassionate actions work together – like the 2 wings of a bird. Practical action, evangelism, discipleship and pastoral care should all feature in each of our ministry units; whether they are Social Services facilities or corps. How can we do that more effectively? Where multiple ministry units exist in one town, how can we work together effectively, combining resources to maximise our mission impact? *See Matthew 5:14-16*

'HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?' IS OUR DEFAULT QUESTION

Motivated by the example and teaching of Jesus (Matthew 25), we see Jesus in the people we meet, and we offer them our support and assistance - without discrimination. We stand alongside people who need help and find ways to speak up for those with no voice.

WE LOOK BEYOND OUR WALLS AND BORDERS

We see the whole community as our 'parish', and actively look for opportunities to serve, whether inside our own facilities or in the street and public areas. We review existing activities (ministries) and engage with our communities to identify needs and develop responses. *See John 13: 34-35*

WE PREPARE FOR DISASTERS AND DEVELOP CAPACITY TO RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES

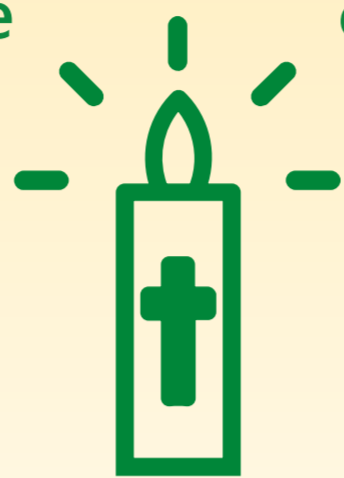
The Salvation Army has responded to emergencies for more than 100 years. As emergency ministry becomes more specialised, we will develop our capacity to play a part; identifying our assets, developing and training volunteers, networking with other actors (statutory organisations, NGOs and other churches) to find our particular niche and best opportunity to serve. Formal territorial emergency structures will be agreed so we are better prepared and ready to respond when disaster strikes.



BECOME LIKE JESUS.

BEING HOLY!

We're a holiness movement. We think there is some value in the world to being salt and being light. We value the indwelling Spirit that makes us clean and free and whole, and joyful.



And I think that when we are walking in the Spirit in such a way that it's the love of God that's bearing fruit in our lives, we underestimate the impact and the value of that in the world.

General Lyndon Buckingham, Big Idea #3



This is how we live out this idea:

WE LEARN FROM JESUS AND SEEK HIM IN PRAYER

Jesus is our model, so we read and delve into the Bible – individually and corporately, we learn to trust God's word and to put it into practice and pray in all matters. *See Ephesians 5:1*

'HOW CAN WE BE MORE LIKE JESUS?' IS OUR DEFAULT ATTITUDE

We live and teach dedication to Jesus, who blesses us in many ways and at the same time challenges us to live simply and give generously. Faith is not only for Sundays! In our personal lives, our everyday lives, our workplaces and in our churches, we want to become more and more like Jesus. We want our relationships with one another to be shaped by love, clarity, openness and a readiness to forgive. Giving financially is an important aspect of personal holiness, so we support our local corps financially and give sacrificially to the international Self Denial Appeal to support our Partners in Mission. *See 2 Corinthians 3:18*

WE MAKE PEOPLE DISCIPLES

We are not afraid to call people to faith, commitment and discipleship. We promote soldiership and call people to embrace holy living and the lifestyle commitments of the Soldier's Covenant. *See Romans 12:1-2*

WE CELEBRATE JESUS

In all corps and institutions, there is space to grow in our faith and celebrate our relationship with Jesus. We recognise that people worship in different ways; singing, music, creative arts, testimony, preaching, prayer and many more! We are open to variety, celebrating the presence of God in relevant ways. *See Psalm 95:6, 150:4*

WE CREATE SAFE SPACES, VALUING EACH INDIVIDUAL

We appreciate those who are vulnerable (children and vulnerable adults) and incorporate protection policies and behaviours into all we do. *See Mark 10:14*

WE ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION

Recognising diversity of gifts and skills, people are encouraged and empowered to serve. We promote participation, encouraging and nurturing suitable people to embrace Local Officership. We promote Officership and other opportunities for spiritual leadership.

WE PROMOTE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING

We value the skills of our officers and employees, and believe that learning and development can enhance performance and personal fulfilment. *See 2 Timothy 2:15*

