



COVENANT SUNDAY 2022

These Cell Outlines are written by Youth and Children's Ministries. They are available every month from our website. For more information and other Cell resources, visit salvationarmy.org.uk/children-and-youth-resources

INTRODUCTION

As part of Covenant Sunday we are exploring the idea of being together – living in God's covenant. Centred around the words of Jesus in Matthew 22:34-40, we will be exploring what it means to love God and love others. We will start a journey through the book of Acts, learning more about the way the early Church lived out their purpose as a community. Throughout the sessions we will discover more about holy listening, holy learning and holy living. In the final session there will be an opportunity to discuss the new identity, mission and vision of The Salvation Army United Kingdom and Ireland Territory.

As part of these sessions there is an opportunity for the group to read through the book of Acts.

SESSION ONE: LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS

In Session One we will look at Jesus' command to love God and love others. We will discover how this was lived out in the early Church, how their best intentions sometimes went off track, and how we can learn from their experiences in our churches today.

SESSION TWO: HOLY LISTENING

Session Two gives us the opportunity to explore examples of the Jesus' disciples listening to God's voice. We'll dip into the stories of Philip, Saul and Ananias as we reflect on the importance of listening to God and listening to others.

SESSION THREE: HOLY LEARNING

We continue our journey through Acts in Session Three as we meet the diverse characters that started the Philippian church. We'll learn from Paul's words of wisdom, written to the Philippians years later, and explore the idea of holy learning.

SESSION FOUR: HOLY LIVING

In our final session we'll bring all the sessions together and consider what holy living looks like. In this session there will be a chance to introduce and discuss The Salvation Army's identity, vision and mission priorities. As we look over the four sessions we will discuss what it looks like to love God and love others as Christians and across our church community.

Any text *italics* represents notes for the leader. It gives more context around the Scripture/activity. You may choose to share verbatim, summarise or not share at all.

If you decide to run a physical (socially distanced) meeting, you will need to complete a risk assessment form. We also recommend you read the guidance document provided by Safe Mission. Please consult your corps officer or DHQ for further info.

LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS

In this session we look at Jesus' command to love God and love others. We discover how this was lived out in the early Church, how their best intentions sometimes went off track, and how we can learn from their experiences in our churches today.

WELCOME

Our theme for today is 'Love God, Love Others'. Words have power and we can show we love God by the words we use to others.

Watch the clip and choose three things you will try and say more often this week.

- ▶ Kid President's 20 Things We Should Say More Often
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5yCOSHeYn4>

NB: For those who are interested, a corn dog (spelled corndog) is a sausage (usually a hot dog) on a stick that has been coated in a thick layer of cornmeal batter and deep fried.

Feel free to have a discussion about whether anyone has tried a corndog or would like to receive one as a gift!

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

- 👉 Which of Kid President's suggestions would you like to hear people say to you more often? Explain your answer.

WORD

In the Old Testament God gave the people Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17).

Ask the group to see how many they can remember. Don't spend ages on this activity and whizz through the answers once they've had a go.

1. You shall have no other gods before me. (v3)
2. You shall not make for yourselves an idol. (v4)
3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. (v7)
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. (v8)
5. Honour your father and your mother. (v12)
6. You shall not murder. (v13)
7. You shall not commit adultery. (v14)
8. You shall not steal. (v15)
9. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour. (v16)
10. You shall not covet. (v17)

When Jesus was teaching the people, the religious leaders would often try to catch him out and test his understanding of the Torah (Jewish Scriptures).

Read Matthew 22:34-40:

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ‘Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?’ Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.’

— MATTHEW 22:34-40

-  How do the two commandments – love God and love others – directly link to the original Ten Commandments?
-  The Pharisees were obsessed with keeping the Ten Commandments religiously. Where was Jesus trying to focus their attention?

The religious leaders were not willing to listen to the message of Jesus, contributing to his death and denying his resurrection. Luke picked up the story of Jesus and his disciples in the book of Acts. Throughout these four sessions we will discover how the early believers continued to love God and love others. Before Jesus ascended to Heaven he had an important message for his disciples.

Read Acts 1:6-8.

Then they gathered round him and asked him, ‘Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He said to them: ‘It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’

— ACTS 1:6-8

-  What promise and purpose does Jesus give his disciples?
-  Does this promise and purpose still apply to us today? If so, how?
-  **Bible Project – Pentecost: Acts 1 to 7 (6 min 21 sec)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQhkWmFJKnA>
-  Think about the historical and social context of the time. In what ways was loving God and loving others a radical idea?
-  Is it still a radical idea today? If so, how?
-  In the clip the followers of Jesus are described as ‘little mobile temples where God now dwells’. What do you think that looked like on a day-to-day basis?
-  Do modern-day Christians live their lives as ‘little mobile temples where God now dwells’? If so, how?

The new temple God created through Jesus lives in each of his followers. In the book of Acts, there is a description of the way the Church lived out loving God and loving others.

Read Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

— ACTS 2:42-47

-  What did love God, love others look like in the early Church?
-  Is this how things are in the Church today?
-  How do you think things would be different if every Christian focused on loving God and loving others?
-  It can be tempting to focus on where others are falling short rather than on our own actions. How is God asking you to step up when it comes to loving him and loving others?

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

Give each member of the group a reading plan for the book of Acts.

Introduce the plan that will take the group through this Scripture in 28 days. Each week there will be daily readings and an opportunity to jot down thoughts and Scriptures linked to each of the four session themes. If you decide to use the reading plan as a group, then the 'additional activity' in the WORD section will give you an opportunity to share what has been discovered in the weekly reading.

The four themes are as follows:

LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS

HOLY LISTENING

HOLY LEARNING

HOLY LIVING

Over the following week we will be reading Acts chapters 1 to 7.

WORSHIP

In *The Song Book of The Salvation Army* there's a old song written by Brindley Boon. Although its vocabulary is a little outdated, it still has a lot to say about how we can live our lives as 'little mobile temples where God now dwells'. Read through the lyrics and discuss any words or phrases that stand out for you.

SASB 591 'I would be thy holy temple'

1. I would be thy holy temple,
Sacred and indwelt by thee;
Naught then could stain my commission,
'Tis thy divine charge to me.

Take thou my life, Lord,
In deep submission I pray,
My all to thee dedicating,
Accept my offering today.

2. Seeking to mirror thy glory,
Living to answer thy call,

— BRINDLEY BOON

Each faithful vow now renewing,
Gladly I yield thee my all.

3. Time, health and talents presenting,
All that I have shall be thine;
Heart, mind and will consecrating,
No longer shall they be mine.

4. O for a heart of compassion,
Moved at the impulse of love,
Lost ones to bring to thy footstool,
Thy gracious riches to prove!

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

The words of Brindley Boon's song are quite old-fashioned. Choose a verse and translate it into modern-day language while trying to keep the original meaning.

WITNESS

We can be in danger of idealising the early Church, especially when we read Acts 2:42-47. It paints a picture of a church community fully devoted to loving God and loving others. However, once we start to read Paul's letters to the churches, we discover that they found unity just as difficult as we do.

Watch the clip.

► What do we discover about loving God and loving others in this clip?

► Rick Warren – Why do people hurt each other? Ask Pastor Rick
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttDls5LVCCI>

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

► What do you think the evangelist Billy Graham meant when he said these words?

‘When you find the perfect church: don’t join it: You’d spoil it.’
— BILLY GRAHAM

► How does it link to today’s theme?

HOLY LISTENING

This session gives us the opportunity to explore examples of Jesus' disciples listening to God's voice. We'll dip into the stories of Philip, Saul and Ananias as we reflect on the importance of listening to God and listening to others.

WELCOME

You have two options for this starter depending on the size of your group. Both options are based around the following three questions:

1. If you had a time machine that would only work once, what point in the future or in history would you visit?
2. What's your favourite thing to do in the summer?
3. What is the hardest thing you have ever done?

Option 1 – Divide the group into pairs and ask them to discuss the given questions. Bring the group back together and ask them about their partner's responses.

eg Dan, what is Aleesha's favourite thing to do in the summer?

Option 2 – Ask each member of the group to share the answers to the three questions. Everyone else needs to listen carefully and remember what they said. Then randomly ask members of the group questions about each other's responses to see if they have listened carefully.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

- 👉 What do you find challenging about listening carefully to others?
- 👉 Do you think we are good at listening as a society? Explain your answer.

WORD

This week we're continuing our journey through the book of Acts.

- ▶ **Bible Project – The Apostle Paul: Acts 8 to 12 (5 min 59 sec)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiVAbkINtRU>

In the early Church, people from all different backgrounds and cultures started listening to the message of Jesus. The message was for everyone.

- 👉 In what way do we limit the message of Jesus by deciding who should/shouldn't hear it?
- 👉 What barriers do you face when you try and share your faith with others? Why do you think that is?

Throughout the book of Acts we see examples of Jesus' disciples listening to God and listening to others. Here are three snapshots for you to explore.

- 📘 **Philip and the Ethiopian – Read Acts 8:26-40**
 - 👉 What example do you see of Philip listening to God and listening to others?
 - 👉 What is the outcome?
- 📘 **Saul's conversion – Read Acts 9:1-9**
 - 👉 Why do you think Saul was so opposed to the Christian movement?
 - 👉 Saul's behaviour was destructive and cruel, but what was his motivation?



After his conversion experience Saul spent three days in darkness, refusing to eat or drink.

- ❑ We will never know what God said to Saul during that time, but what do you think he heard from God during those three days?

Ananias's Obedience – Read Acts 9:10-18

The last information Ananias had about Saul was that he was 'still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples' (Acts 9:1). Ananias is a disciple of the Lord.

- ❑ How do you think he felt when God asked him to go and visit Saul?
- ❑ If God gave you this task, what would your concerns be?
- ❑ What do we discover about listening to God and listening to others from the story of Saul and Ananias?

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

- ❑ What examples of the four themes did you discover in the first seven chapters of Acts?

LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS

HOLY LISTENING

HOLY LEARNING

HOLY LIVING

This week we are reading Acts chapters 8 to 12.

WORSHIP

This beautiful song opens our mind to the many ways we can hear God.

Listen carefully to the lyrics and then discuss the following question:

- ❑ Where and how do you hear from God?
- 'Let Me Hear Your Voice' – Francesca Larosa
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GG0tG8KTF0Y>

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

- ❑ Do you find it easy to sit in silence and listen to God?

- ❑ In what ways do you find it challenging?

‘God speaks in the silence of the heart.
Listening is the beginning of prayer.’

— MOTHER TERESA

- ❑ Do you agree/disagree with Mother Teresa's words? If so, why?

During this week, find a moment to spend time in silence with God.

WITNESS

- * How good a listener are you? Give yourself a rating on a scale of 1 (absolutely rubbish) to 10 (the perfect listener) and share your reasons with the group.

We are going to watch a clip called 'Being a good listener'. It was created for a secular audience (it even mentions Socrates) and isn't grounded in Christian teaching. However, it gives us some ideas to talk about when it comes to listening and how we can love those around us by listening carefully.

Watch the clip and then discuss the key points below.

- ▶ **Being a Good Listener – The School of Life (4 min 57 sec)**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-BdbiZcNBXg>

DISCUSS

1. They egg us on.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:11 we are asked to 'encourage one another and build each other up'.

- 💬 In what ways can we do this when we are listening to other people?

2. They urge clarification.

One tweet can trigger a whole string of responses as people decide what was intended and the motivation behind it. The same can happen in everyday conversations.

- 💬 How can we make an effort to clarify what others are trying to say or help them think through their perspective?

3. They don't moralise.

- 💬 As Christians, how do we sometimes fall into the trap of moralising rather than listening and understanding where people are at?

4. They separate disagreement from criticism.

- 💬 In what ways does our society struggle to separate disagreement from criticism?

- 💬 How can we change the way we listen so that we hear a range of perspective and avoid becoming defensive?

The end of the clip describes the feeling we have inside when we have been truly listened to.

- 💬 Have you ever experienced this kind of listening? What did it feel like?

- 💬 How is listening carefully a way that we can love others?

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

Throughout this session we have discovered that listening to God and listening to others plays an essential part in our growth as disciples.

- * What one thing could you change this week to ensure that you listen to God and listen to others more effectively?

HOLY LEARNING

We continue our journey through Acts in Session Three as we meet the diverse characters that started the Philippian church. We'll learn from Paul's words of wisdom, written to the Philippians years later, and explore the idea of holy learning.

WELCOME

- Famous Quotes Trivia Quiz – Guess the Famous People from the 10 Powerful Famous Quotes
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08YJzlG1EBc>

ANSWERS

1. 'I failed my way to success.' – Thomas Edison
2. 'The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.' – Walt Disney
3. 'Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma – which is living with the results of other people's thinking.' – Steve Jobs
4. 'Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world.' – Albert Einstein
5. 'An unexamined life is not worth living.' – Socrates
6. 'Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.' – Benjamin Franklin
7. 'I've learned that I still have a lot to learn.' – Maya Angelou
8. 'History is written by the victors.' – Winston Churchill
9. 'The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.' – Nelson Mandela
10. 'Never do to others what you would not like them to do to you.' – Confucius

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

Maya Angelou said, 'I've learned that I still have a lot to learn.'

- When it comes to being a Christian, what one thing would you like to learn more than anything?

WORD

Today we continue to journey through the books of Acts, focusing on the church at Philippi. From humble beginnings this church grew together learning how to love God and love each other.

- Bible Project – Paul's Missionary Journeys: Acts 13 to 20 (4 min 42 sec)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqlsbcGSr3A&t=55s>

At the time Paul began to spread the word of Jesus, each city was a blend of cultures, beliefs and ethnicities, just like our society today. In this session we're going to focus on one particular church that started with an unusual mix of people.

Read the following Bible passages and describe the main character we meet in each one.

- Read Acts 16:11-15 – Lydia, successful and wealthy fashion designer.
- Read Acts 16:16-18 – Troubled girl, freed from a demonic spirit.
- Read Acts 16:19-32 – A guard in a Roman prison.

In these passages we meet some of the early members of the Philippian church. Despite their different backgrounds and experiences, they gathered together and created a church community that flourished.



Years later, as he continued on his travels, Paul wrote to the church at Philippi.

Read **Philippians 1:3-4.**

 How did Paul feel about the church community at Philippi?

In Paul's letter he shared words of encouragement and wisdom so that the church community could learn and grow together. Use the 'Holy Learning' handout to explore some of Paul's words and jot down the main theme for each one.

To get a full picture of Paul's message to the church at Philippi you could read his whole letter in the New Testament. It's only four chapters long but contains so much wisdom to help us grow in our faith.

 For now, what were the main things Paul wanted the church community to learn?

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

 What examples of the four themes did you discover in Acts 7 to 12?

LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS

HOLY LISTENING

HOLY LEARNING

HOLY LIVING

This week we are reading Acts chapters 13 to 20.

WORSHIP

Review the different Scripture readings on your 'Holy Learning' handout.

Which one in particular stands out for you at the moment?

Share your Scripture with the group and explain why you chose it.

* How could you explore this verse in more depth over the coming week?

Collect ideas from the group and ask them to choose one to focus on.

Examples

- * use an image of the verse as wallpaper on your phone
- * memorise the verse and share it with the group next week
- * display the verse in a place you regular see
- * find a song version and listen to it each day

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

In Philippians 3:10-11 Paul writes these words:

I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

— PHILIPPIANS 3:10-11

As you listen to Casting Crowns 'To Know You', reflect on Philippians 3:10-11 and the following words:

More than my next breath
More than life or death
All reaching for, I live my life to know you more
I leave it all behind, you are all that satisfies
To know you is to want to know you more
— (BERNIE HERMS / JASON INGRAM / JOHN MARK HALL)

 'To Know You' – Casting Crowns
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQUxn0RMoe8>

WITNESS

The church at Philippi brought together a group of diverse people from different backgrounds. I wonder what Lydia, the successful fashion designer, made of the gruff prison guard. I wonder what preconceptions they had as the slave girl gathered with them for worship.

Living a life of holy learning involves learning more about God and more about others.

Watch the clip and discuss ways that we can learn more about the people God places in our lives.

 Don't Put People in Boxes (4 min 24 min)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRwt25M5nGw>

ADDITIONAL

* Is there someone at school, college, work or your church that you could take the time to learn more about? Show God's love by taking the time to discover more about them.

HOLY LEARNING – WORDS OF WISDOM FOR THE PHILIPPIANS

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God.

— PHILIPPIANS 1:9-11

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfil his good purpose.

— PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13

I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.

— PHILIPPIANS 3:10-14

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

— PHILIPPIANS 4:12-13

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

— PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4

Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, ‘children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.’ Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labour in vain.

— PHILIPPIANS 2:14-16

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.

— PHILIPPIANS 4:8

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

— PHILIPPIANS 4:19

To get a full picture of Paul's message to the church at Philippi you could read his whole letter in the New Testament. It's only four chapters long but contains so much wisdom to help us grow in our faith.

* For now, what were the main things Paul wanted the church community to learn?

HOLY LIVING

In our final session we'll bring all the sessions together and consider what holy living looks like. In this session there will be a chance to introduce and discuss The Salvation Army's identity, vision and mission priorities. As we look over the four sessions we will discuss what it looks like to love God and love others as Christians and across our church community.

WELCOME

Give each member of the group a copy of the BSL Fingerspelling chart.

💡 **British Sign Language – Fingerspelling**
<https://www.british-sign.co.uk/fingerspelling-alphabet-charts>

There are a number of ways this activity could be completed, but the main aim is for the group to decode the following words using the BSL Fingerspelling chart.

SHARE

SERVE

NURTURE

CARE

SEEK

The group leader or member of the group could spell out the words for everyone else to guess. Alternatively, the group leader could hand out a word for each person to spell out to the rest of the group.

💬 How do these five words link with our theme for today: Holy Living?

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

The message of Jesus Christ, to love God and love others, is for everyone.

💬 In what ways do you think our churches could be more inclusive so that everyone can access the good news of Jesus?

WORD

Throughout these sessions we have explored the book of Acts and how the early Church grew.

We've looked at what it means to:

- * love God and love others
- * listen to God and listen to those around us
- * learn more about God and learn more about those he created

Today we will tie those themes together and explore what it means to live a holy life. The final part of the book of Acts shares the sacrifices Paul made in order to live his life for Christ.

▶ **Bible Project – Bound for Rome: Acts 21 to 28**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FJsiwOB0Pvg>

💬 As you think about everything we have read in the book of Acts and explored through these sessions, how would you describe holy living?

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

► What examples of the four themes did you discover in Acts chapters 13 to 20?

LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS

HOLY LISTENING

HOLY LEARNING

HOLY LIVING

This week we are reading Acts chapters 21 to 28.

WITNESS

The Witness section today will take the form of a discussion around the identity, vision and mission statements of The Salvation Army. Give the group time to discuss and explore each element and try and describe what it might look like in everyday life.

It's easy to pick apart something rather than see how it could become an integral part of The Salvation Army. Encourage the group to provide solutions to current challenges, rather than focusing on where The Salvation Army is not meeting the five mission priorities.

Explore the identity, vision and mission statements (see handout) for The Salvation Army.

► How do they encourage us towards a life of holy living?

Over the next five months we will explore each mission priority in more detail.

► Which one are you most interested in discovering more about?

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

When we're part of a denomination we can sometimes focus on its weaknesses rather than its strengths.

The vision and mission statements show us what is possible in the future, but here's a reminder of all that our amazing church is doing now to help people experience 'fullness of life for all with Jesus'.

► The Salvation Army in Numbers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otF-2nIs90c>

[NB These figures are for the UK and Ireland Territory only.]

As someone who is part of The Salvation Army, how does this video make you feel?

► Which of the mission priorities do you think needs to be our biggest focus going forward?

WORSHIP

Our final act of worship together brings us right back to where we started in the first session.

Read Matthew 22:37-40 from *The Message* paraphrase.

Jesus said, 'Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence.' This is the most important, the first on any list. But there is a second to set alongside it: 'Love others as well as you love yourself.' These two commands are pegs; everything in God's Law and the Prophets hangs from them.'

— MATTHEW 22:37-40 (*THE MESSAGE PARAPHRASE*)

Loving God and loving others can be challenging at times.



- What source of power are we promised as we live out God's mission to love him and love others? This refers back to the first session, Acts 1:6-8.

Spend some time in prayer. Prompt the group based on the discussion around the identity, mission and vision of The Salvation Army. Thank God for the work he is doing through The Salvation Army and ask for his strength, power and guidance as we continue to be a denomination that loves God and loves others.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

Paul's destiny is left uncertain at the end of the book of Acts. Historians have their theories, but no one knows exactly how Paul died. What we do know is that his love for God and love for others shines through in the legacy he has left behind.

Reflect on the words of Nichole Nordeman's song 'Legacy' as you think about the following question:

- * What kind of legacy would you like to leave?

I want to leave a legacy,
How will they remember me?
Did I choose to love?
Did I point to you enough?
To make a mark on things
I want to leave an offering,
A child of mercy and grace
Who blessed your name unapologetically
And leave that kind of legacy.

- ▶ Nichole Nordeman – 'Legacy' (acoustic)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ah1COE39ARs>

THE BOOK OF ACTS READING PLAN

As you read through the book of Acts, jot down what you discover linked to each theme.

LOVE GOD,
LOVE OTHERS

HOLY
LISTENING

WEEK 4
ACTS
21 TO 28

HOLY
LEARNING

HOLY
LIVING

THE BOOK OF ACTS READING PLAN

As you read through the book of Acts, jot down what you discover linked to each theme.

LOVE GOD,
LOVE OTHERS

HOLY
LISTENING

WEEK 1
ACTS
1 TO 7

HOLY
LEARNING

HOLY
LIVING

THE BOOK OF ACTS READING PLAN

As you read through the book of Acts, jot down what you discover linked to each theme.

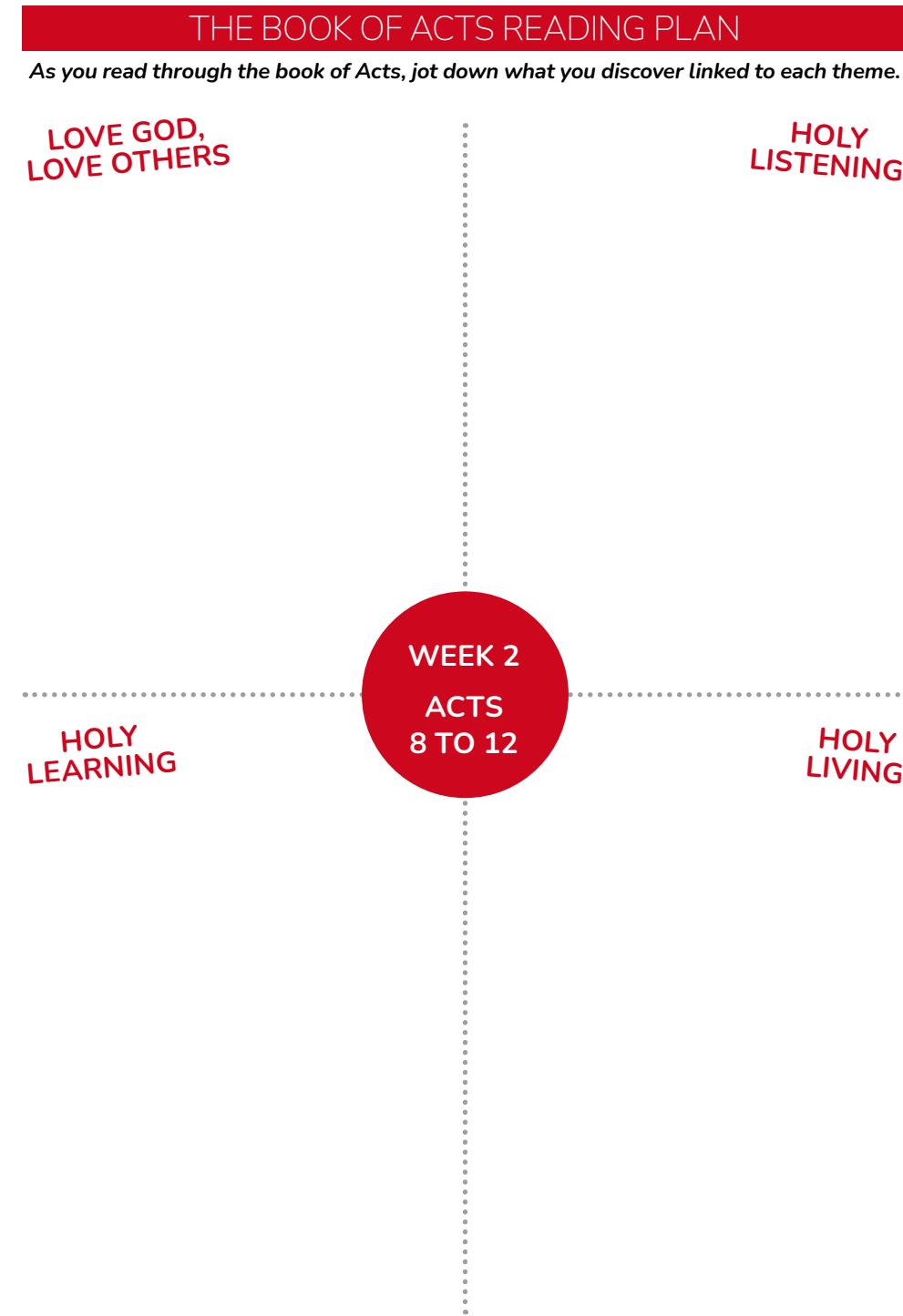
LOVE GOD,
LOVE OTHERS

HOLY
LISTENING

HOLY
LEARNING

HOLY
LIVING

WEEK 2
ACTS
8 TO 12



THE BOOK OF ACTS READING PLAN

As you read through the book of Acts, jot down what you discover linked to each theme.

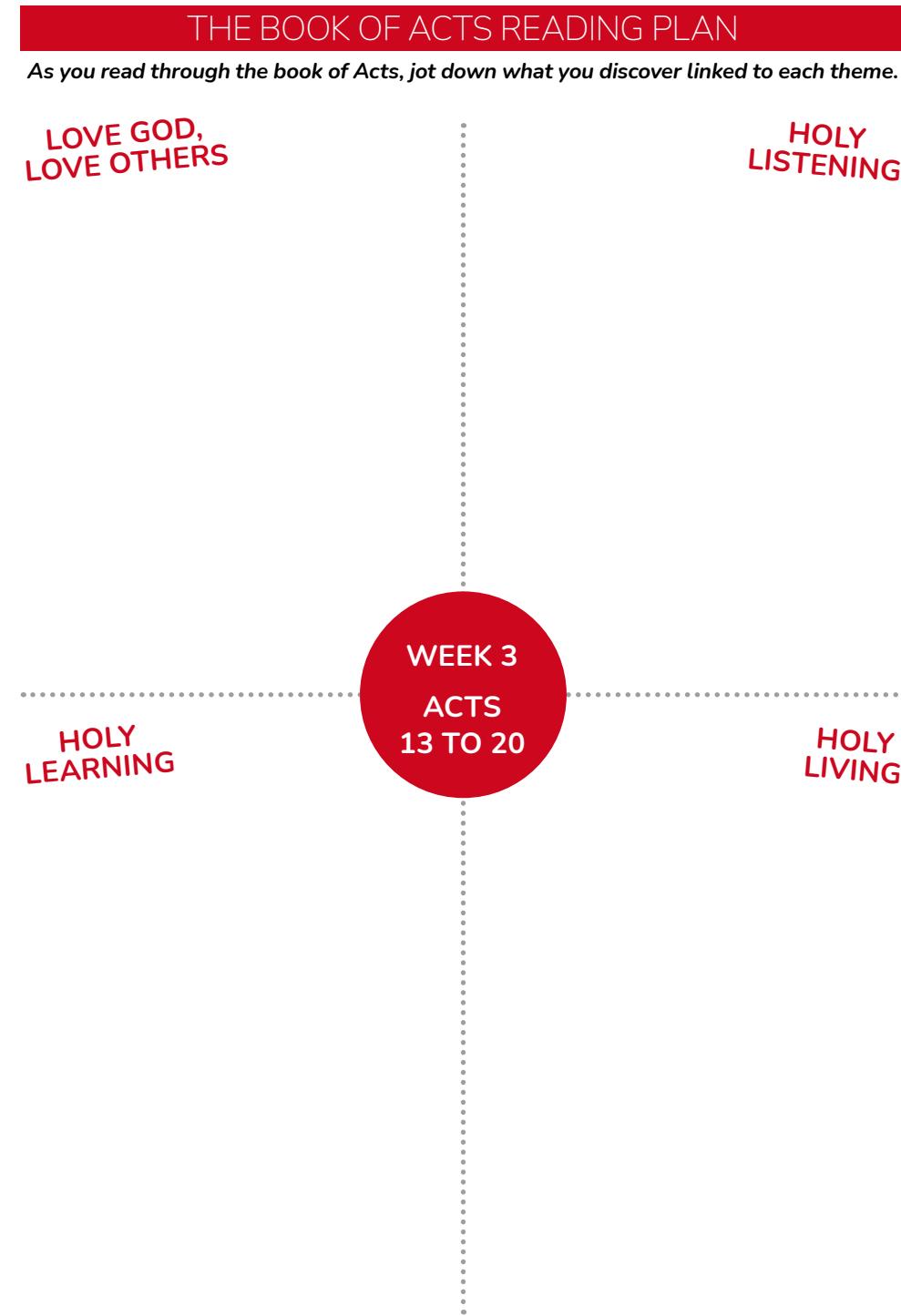
LOVE GOD,
LOVE OTHERS

HOLY
LISTENING

HOLY
LEARNING

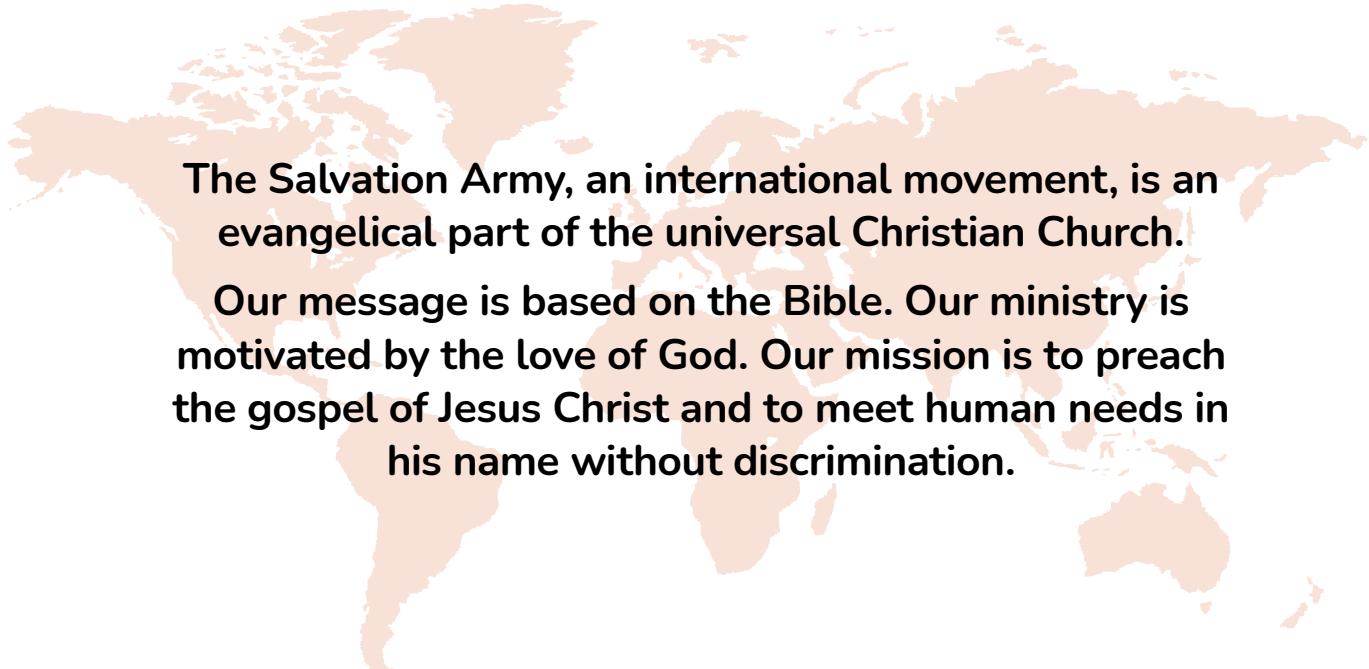
HOLY
LIVING

WEEK 3
ACTS
13 TO 20



EXPLORING THE SALVATION ARMY'S GOD-GIVEN IDENTITY

OUR INTERNATIONAL MISSION



The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church.

Our message is based on the Bible. Our ministry is motivated by the love of God. Our mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in his name without discrimination.

OUR MISSION:

To
share
the good news

To
care
for creation

To
nurture
disciples of Jesus

To
serve
others without
discrimination

To
seek
justice and
reconciliation

OUR VISION:

Fullness of life for all with Jesus