



The **WAR CRY**

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Happy Children's Day!

14th November





When they say “Peace and safety...”

Major Evama Shaijuraj, Editor

How terrible it is to see the fire-breathing aeroplanes flying like birds throughout the sky, the screams in and around Gaza, the smell of burning human flesh, the collapsed buildings, the piles of dead bodies, the human communities including bleeding babies with teary eyes, dry lips without water, and babies with stomachs stuck to back with hungry! It was the bloodiest surprise attack Palestinian group Hamas launched in Israel on 7th October. The date chosen to attack Israel during the Jewish holiday of Simchat Torah was just a day after the Yom Kippur War, which started 50 years ago on 6th October 1967.

'While people are saying “*peace and safety*”, destruction will come on them suddenly, as labour pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape'. 1 Thessalonians 5:3 The people are thinking the world is experiencing peace and security, but the sudden destruction coming upon them, just as a labour pain grips a pregnant woman. Right now, the world is in such turmoil. People enjoy a false sense of peace and security, but it will not last long. In the UN Security Council, one member said “Peace will come only with a willingness to compromise, and that will only happen once all parties understand the deep risk and terrible cost of the present confrontation”.

But it is the responsibility of everyone to prevent humanitarian catastrophe and breach of peace. Indications seem to be that there may be no more diplomatic solutions. The present world is in such turmoil, that even world leaders also speak in a tone of fear. It is convinced that all the fearful things, we see, coming upon the earth right now – hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, drastic weather changes, terrorism, nuclear threats, wars, and rumours of war etc.

The world is trying and doing things madly to achieve peace and the more they try madly, the more there is no peace. They signed hundreds of thousands of Peace Treaties, but there is no peace because they are trying to find and establish peace outside the King of peace revealed in flesh – Jesus our saviour. But until that day that comes to accept, acknowledge, and confess, that it was Jesus Christ the son of the living God, who was offered on Calvary, they will never be in peace. Because only when our God lives in us and rules our life, that we can enjoy real peace.

World peace is a delusion without Christ. There is no true peace without peace with God, the real source of peace. Legislation can not change the heart of man. Any other approach without God is an illusion. So, its our responsibility to pray for our beloved innocent people of Israel and Palestine! May the God of peace intervene and bring heavenly peace among them! 🙏



The Church - Unitedly Build in Jesus Christ
Commissioner Suresh Pawar
International Secretary, South Asia, IHQ

**National Education day and Salvation
Army Contribution towards Education in India**
Major Joseph Khan, INT

My Testimony
Hemlata Wycliff Christian, IWT

Robbery without a Weapon
Major Emmanuel Masih
India Northern Territory

Self Denial
Lt. Colonel Joginder Masih (R)
India Northern Territory

On Neglecting 'Neglect'
Lieutenant. Sabinmon
India South Western Territory

Cricket World Cup 2023
Advocate Priyadarshini Palmer
India Western Territory

Spiritual and ethical lessons from ants
Captain Vanlalhrhriata
India Eastern Territory

Suppress our Desires and Cravings
Saupriya Solanki
Petlad Division, India Western Territory

The Spiritual Eyes
Mrs. Sornam Paul
India South Eastern Territory

**Brief report on phase 3rd
IT Workshop for women leaders, ISET**

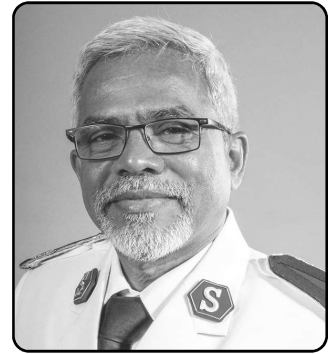
Youth Page - Quiz

Women Empowerment Seminar
India Eastern Territory

Happy Children's Day 2023!
Captain Charles Chairimawia
India National Office, Kolkata

International Conference of Training Principals 2023

The Church - Unitedly Build in Jesus Christ



Commissioner Suresh Pawar
International Secretary for South Asia
IHQ-London

After returning home from a wonderful time with the territorial leaders in the Zonal Conference, I was contemplating on God's grace and love, which perfectly works in the lives of true believers, that binds them together in one purpose and mission that Jesus gives to his Church. As I raised my prayers of thanks - giving and glorifying God for all his goodness that was very much evident in the lives of his people, my devotion guided me to the prayer Jesus prayed for his disciples. It reassured me that the prayer is very much for us, even of this 21st century generation, which will remain true the generations that would follow us till Jesus comes in His glory.

Theme of the prayer is found in John 17: 11, *'I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name the name you gave me so that they may be one as we are one.'* Jesus prayed to the Father for our unity as his children and his kingdom on the earth, so that the world may know God, that He may be glorified as souls seek him and find him in their lives. It requires that those who are purified and sanctified in death and the resurrection of Jesus built and live in unity. As believers together we become visible love of God for this dying world. This is only possible when we continually remain in Jesus. Apart from Jesus we are not able to produce its fruit. Jesus said, *'I am the vine, you are the branches, if you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you and do nothing.'* (John 15: 5)

Produce Much Fruit of Love:

When our lives are built upon Jesus; he is being in the centre around him we join in hands and souls with each other, we surely produce fruit of love that not only will keep us united with him, but we also will exhibit God's love to those around us. We are governed by his command of love (John 13: 34 & 35). Peter puts it for us this way, *'Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.'* 1 Peter 4: 8 – 10.

The true outcome of us being built in Christ is that our godly love is growing, unstopably and unceasingly in loving each other, reflecting God's love in Jesus. I describe as it found in words of one of my favourite songs.

*"Loving God loving each other,
making music with my friends,
Loving God, loving each other
And the story never ends."*

The Church which do not demonstrate Christ like love for each other, misses whole purpose of its calling. This fruit of love should be spontaneously produced in corporate fellowship of the believers as well as by everyone. This only possible when each of the believer abides in Christ.

Referring to the vine and branches, Jesus states that every branch needs continual care and pruning (John 15:1). Pruning also means cleaning. As the salvationists we know that this is everyday process of our lives, as we allow the blood of Jesus Christ sanctifies us, when the Holy Spirit is at work in our lives. This work of the Holy Spirit in us not limited to any ceremony or event, it is on going work that he does when we are obedient to Jesus' command and submit ourselves to ongoing work that he does in our personal life.

It is my personal observation, if I experience any lack of such love in my church community or in the Salvation Army Corps, division or territory, then I must first need to search my own heart, rather than pointing fingers to others. It becomes necessary for me, in true repentance, search my innersole, examining my own life. Letting God's hand prune me, so that God's love freely flow in my life and produce the fruit of love that would impact me as well as my Church community.

God's Word provides the best resource:

Is there any need to speak about unity within Christian believers? If so, why does that needed, and how sever is it? More over how it could be addressed? These are some of the questions, we need to seek answer to.

For me, according to my personal experience, I believe, it is the high time to realise how severely we need as God's children in this world to live in unity. As Psalmist suggest this way, *'How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity.'* (Psalm 133: 1). Living in unity, pleases God. It creates space for every believer to find strength in each other. The Church demonstrate God's love revealed in life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The people of this world see in us the loving God, who is righteous, forgives us from sin and make us able to forgive others. He reconciles us to him, and give everlasting hope, peace and joy. He binds our wounds and set us free from the hands of evil and unrighteousness. Moreover, church is empowered to make Jesus' Great Commission (Matthew 28: 16 – 20) a reality. Jesus said to his disciples, also tells us, who follow him today, *'If you have love fore one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples.'* (John 13:35) In other words the world will know Jesus and what he is for the people of this world.

As God's children, washed and forgiven in Jesus'

sacrifice on the cross, called into unity as his family, which is the Church of God, we are to continue in building this family and must remain united in Jesus. As it was the need of the early church, it is needed more than ever for us to remain united in Christ. The word of God is given to us as resource and The Holy Spirit is our true guide sent by God to make this the reality in present life his people – the Church.

In my personal devotion and study of God's word, I have found that God's words provide us the direction where I should be in this united fellowship with God's people. It requires for me to take divine help of the Holy Spirit. Some of the direction I have listed in my study of God's words, I would put some of them here. I want to encourage my fellow Salvationist brothers and sisters to continue discovering more of those direction by making a commitment to study God's words, with the help of the Holy Spirit, for he is sent to us to lead in all truth Jesus taught and revealed.

We are created to have fellowship; therefore, we need each other (Genesis 2: 18). We ourselves are God's temple, and therefore we should never destroy it (1 Corinthians 3:16 & 19). We are fellow workers in God's service (1 Corinthians 3: 9). Encouraging one another (Hebrew 10: 24 & 25). Find common purpose so that all agree with one another in what we say and do, and that there is no division among the Church (1 Corinthians 1:10). Willing to accept difference, but at the same time seek God's approval for what is from him and what is not (1 Corinthians 11: 17 – 19). Live by the Spirit of God (Galatians 5: 16 – 18). The list of instruction go on as we deeply study the word of God. It is true source that God has provided us to know how and for what he has brought you in that family of God, that we call church. It will surely help you and make your life a blessing to the church (Corps) where God has placed you in. You will become a true wine that produces fruit of unity, being abiding in Christ.

As a Church – we the believers are built united in Jesus Christ. As a follower of Jesus, this should be a personal affirmation. We should take every opportunity to remain connected and do what we ought to do to be the Church that pleases God. Christ to be seen in and through us, so that others may find God, so that they too may have joy, hope and purpose to their lives joining as God's chosen people in the family of God. 🐾

National Education Day and Salvation Army Contribution towards Education in India

Every year National Education Day observed on 11th November, to commemorate the birth anniversary of independent India's first Education Minister Moulana Abul Kalam Azad. Speaking at All India Education in 1948, he stresses the importance as birthright of everyone to receive basic education. As Chairman of the Central Advisory Board of Education, he worked towards the eradication of illiteracy. He advocated for the elementary education and secondary education, particularly for the girls.

His foremost contribution was the establishment of Indian institutions of Technology. Under his leadership, the first IIT was inaugurated in 1951 to develop research and technological advancement in India.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development announced the National Education Day to honour this great son of India for his contribution for the cause of education in India. All educational Institutions in the country mark the day with seminars, symposia essay-writing, elocution competitions, workshops and rallies with banner cards and slogans on the importance of literacy and the nation's commitment to all aspects of education. (information taken from biography).

Salvation Army in India has about 100 schools, which has been contributing profoundly to the community irrespective of caste, creed and colour. In the early days of the Salvation Army, most of the corps were used to teach elementary education to the village children. In India Northern Territory, in most places Corps officers used to visit house to house to request the parents to send their children to school. Children from criminal community were shifted to other places to give them education as well as to prevent them to follow their family profession, which include robbery, stealing, snatching etc. When the Army established the first corps in Fatapukur, near Siliguri, West



Major Joseph Khan
Education Secretary
India Northern Territory

Bengal, the children of those community were shifted to Kolkata Boys Hostel for the purpose of education and better environment for their development. In Angul, Odisha, there was a boys home established in the early 20th century, which is still running. Children from that home have been working in many fields including Salvation Army Officership. In Bihar (Now Jharkhand) all the corps used to teach children by opening elementary schools, and the officers were called Master Saheb (Teacher) by the students and villagers as well. Now the Army has many good schools, in some places up to Degree level. Like other Christian Schools, people like the Salvation Army schools due to the discipline, love, help and passion they receive, which separate them from other schools.

Practically, education ministry is really brings changes in the communities, many children get affordable education, assistance and now many students are working in India and abroad, and they are also becoming source of financial support for the social and spiritual work for their corps. The vision Dr. Abdul Kalam to eradicate illiteracy is being materialized by the Salvation Army education ministries in various places of the Army throughout India. 🇮🇳

MY TESTIMONY



Psalm 107:1-3 (ESV) "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!"

My name is Hemlata Wycliff Christian, and I am really indebted to my Almighty God for what He has done in my life. My parents had six children and I am Second one in the family. By the grace of God, I had completed class 12th and took admission in General Nursing for better life career. After the completion of my training, I was appointed in one of the cities of Gujarat at Mundra (Kutch) and started my serving job and later I also completed B.Sc. nursing.

In the plan of God, I got married with Mr. Wycliff Christian on 28th December 1993 a strong salvationist and man of God fear and blessing. Thus, far God has blessed our marital life and blessed us with children Joen and Aaron. Later, I was transferred to Ahmedabad Civil Hospital and promoted as Nursing College Tutor on 25th July 2007 till today 31st July 2023 the day of my retirement. I had served 19 years in hospital and 16 years as Nursing School Tutor, and for this I give all glory and honor to God.

At last, I want to share my favorite Bible verse with you all:

Jeremiah 29:11 – "For I know the plans I have for you," declares ... 11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

I indeed, thank God for manifold miracles that He has done in my life and family. I, request you all to pray for me and my family that May God continue to bless us and help us to do God's will in our lives. 🇮🇳

Hemlata Wycliff Christian
Home league Treasurer
Ahmedabad Central Corps
India Western Territory



Major Emmanuel Masih
Territorial Finance Trainer
India Northern Territory

Robbery without A Weapon

BIBLE READING MALACHI 3: 7-12

It has been an experience of the Lord God that "People of this world robbing God without weapon".

Robbers: John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; This word of the Lord confirm that if keep on stealing or robbing God in our tithe and offering. It means we are keeping on destroying our own blessings, killing our good spirit, which has been given by God himself. We are not only robbers in tithe or offering, we are in reality, we are trying to bring a great disaster to ourselves and even our generations to come.

Attitude towards Giving: Your attitude towards giving is more important than the amount of stuff you are bringing to God. Your giving should not be matter of your proud as we read through Luke 18:12 "I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get." We all can learn through this word of God that "here is a man who is predicting even in the temple in his prayer before the Lord letting God know that he is fasting and paying all the tithe". Sometime being human we are also doing the same way and wanted that everyone in the church should be aware about what I am giving in.

Why Does God require it: God himself become poor so that we can be rich "let the poor says I am rich and weak says I am strong". This theory and way of God. We are not trying to adopt this way and then God has a program for us to follows: "Brings all your tithe and offering unto my storehouse" This program does not say on salaried, Government employees, Pastor or Officers. It is an exercise and opportunity for everyone who said the Bible is rule of their faith require to adhere this God's given commandment and

program to follow. God don't want only a few people to adopt this program and commandment. Once we become a follower of Jesus Christ, we need to fully follow Him wholeheartedly, not partially. We firm in our faith, prayer and reading of the word of God, Fasting and all other exercises, but slipping away from the tithe and offering. It means partially we are follower of Jesus Christ not full followers.

My article not design to get more money for the work the Salvation Army or Ministry. It is all about to help you to learn the truth of the Gospel. Let us see some examples: Elijah and a widow: 1 Kings 17: 11 -12

11 "As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread."

12 "As surely as the LORD your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die."

She is having last meal and no hope of anything their lives. But she was not deny the request made to her by the servant of God Elijah. What about us we have sufficient in our lives still we keep on robbing the creator Who gives and keep on giving.

The story of the boy with five loaves and two fish, found in Matthew 14:13-21,

A young boy was willing to give up his meager lunch to feed thousands of people. Although he had so little food available at hand, he trusted that Jesus could use even a small amount for a greater purpose. This may be last meal for

him in this journey and He may not be aware when he shall get back home for the further food. Be encourage that our God is Yahweh Jireh, you may be thinking it may be last meal and no money in my bank account, no cash in hand, and no may be jar full of wheat floor trust in the Lord, who is provider, His purposes are great to fulfil in this world. Be encourage when such opportunity knock at your door please be willing to follow what God said to you. If this young boy would have hold his food back may not be recorded in the Bible. Your small seed can be multiplied by God for greater purposes to fulfil. Kindly feel encouraged by the Spirit of the Lord that you are using yourselves to fulfil His great purposes in this world.

I encourage everyone who claim to be His children, believers or Salvationist to adhere His commandment to bring all your tithe and offering to my storehouse and stop robbing to your Master the Lord Jesus Christ. Malachi 3: 10 "Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. 11 I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the LORD Almighty.

He is giving us an open offer to adhere His program and Command in our lives and be a channel of blessing to ourselves and our generations to come.

May the maker of heaven and earth, help us not to slip and even keep on watching us, how does we participate in this great blessing program. 🙏



Lt. Colonel Joginder Masih (R)
India Northern Territory

Denying one's self has never been an easy job for human being but still it was done in the past and is being done in the present by those who really love their near and dear ones, their society, their county because of their love and devotion. We are trying to learn the biblical inspiration and those who love the Creator of the universe, the Lord Almighty, the True and Righteous God and His creation, the human being.

The people who love the Creator and His creation, the Christians, their life is not about their own self-promotion, it is their self-denial. Self-Denial is a giving away of one's benefits, interests, and gains for the sake of 'others', means it is forgetting 'I' for 'others' without any discrimination. It is living and dying for others. Self-Denial is the central point of Christianity. It



is always for others. The founder of Christianity, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour had never committed any sin while on this earth but set an example of dying for the sins of the whole world. He demands his followers to follow him loving those who are not loved, visiting those who are despised and helping those who are helpless. When we don't do what our Lord asks us to, we show that we are not his people, He demands our choicest living sacrifice as St. Paul tells to the Church at Rome. (Romans 12:1&2)

The Almighty God did not spare His one and only begotten son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, sending him in the world in human nature to suffer the consequences of the sins

Self Denial

of the whole world. He was innocent but killed as a hard code criminal, was buried and on the third day was raised from among the dead.

He was sent into this world as God but He never tried to take the universe into His own hands as its owner. He did not consider Him in equality with God, rather made him nothing by taking a very nature of a servant. This is His devotion and obedience to God, his Heavenly father while on this earth. He humbled himself to the point of death on the cross. (Phil 2:8). Jesus by shedding His blood and dying on the cross purchased forgiveness for the sinners of the world. He finished the work His Father in Heaven sent Him into the world to do.

We are Salvationist – we are Christians and are bound to follow his teaching as Jesus says in John 15:10 "If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in His love." Jesus demands our first love to him – He expects us to give Him first place in our lives more than anything else that we love in this world. But if we love them more than Jesus we are not worthy of Him. (Matthew 10:37&38)

General William Booth started sharing God's message of hope and salvation; many homeless and destitute started attending his meetings with their needs of food, shelter and clothing but there was no money to meet their basic needs. His congregation knew the demand and very limited resources and thus started praying and thinking. During the course of time one man named John Aiken Carleton's pledge, 'to go

without pudding for a whole year and bring that money in for the mission of God through the Salvation Army', reached to William Booth. He read it to the congregation and remarked, "*while we ought not to ask our people to do without pudding for a whole year, I see no reason why we should not ask them to unite in going without something every day for a week and to give the proceeds to help on the work.*"

William Booth adapted Carleton's idea and started a Self-Denial Week in 1886, which continues to be an annual event in the Salvation Army around the world.


We may argue that we do observe the Self Denial Week or even praying more to smash our target and we do it successfully.

Simultaneously, we must admit the absence of 'the spirit of Self Denial' among us both the Officers and soldiers in the Territory. Our Territorial Commander has asked to teach our soldiers on this subject. No doubt, our Officers too need promotion in their commitment to the Lord God and the Salvation Army.

Self-Denial is a sacrificial giving of money, time and talent, and careful consideration of those in need of support physically and spiritually. This is a total commitment of our Officers and soldiers in the Army. This is our devotion and submission to save souls, grow saints and serve the suffering humanity without any discrimination. When we become accountable to God – it pleases Him, and we receive His all-round bountiful blessings.

The Self Denial money is nobody's income. It is neither the Corps Income nor of DHQ or THQ. This is a Self-Denial contribution which is given to the International Headquarters Self Denial Fund (Pool) joining the International Salvation Army, to advance the mission of God in the world. We, the Indian Territories, are contributing very low percentage in the International Self Denial Fund but receiving proportionately a very high percentage as Mission Grant from this fund. There is a huge difference between both giving and receiving from IHQ. We are often reminded to be financially self reliance as we are more than one hundred years old in India and the mission grant from International Self Denial Fund is used here for our maintenance can be used to expand our God's Mission elsewhere in the world.

We need to be aware of whether our offerings are acceptable to our God! When our offerings are accepted we can only expect our Lord's blessings in our food and water (Ex.23:25). We need to give our offering to our Lord in humility and dedication, in obedience and sincerity. Our offering must be best and blameless.

A Salvationist is first of all convinced to make his covenant to his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to support the mission of God through the Salvation Army with their physical, spiritual and financial efforts. They make their decision to involve them in the warfare against evil forces in the world motivating others to accept their sins and the Saviour of the world as their personal Saviour to forgive their sins and thus have the crown of eternal life. There is a great need to examine us in what we give and how we give. Are we moved with compassion and the Spirit of God dwells in us? 

On Neglecting 'Neglect'

Happy Childrens' day!

We are at the brim of celebrating another Childrens' day. Children are really valuable, precious gift from God. In them we see the future. If we nurture them with good values and capabilities, they will be a treasured possession. What if it is the other way?

Recently, I happened to see a Lebanese movie 'Capernaum'. It was released in 2018 and was directed by Nadine Labaki. The film was widely applauded in Cannes Film Festival, competed for Palme d'or. The story revolves around a twelve year old boy named Zain El Hajj. It throws light on various aspects of child abuse, especially abuse by neglect. The movie is so heart-wrenching.

The protagonist is sentenced to imprisonment for stabbing his brother in law. He wants to sue his parents for giving birth to him.

Does it sound so illogic or unexpected from a child of twelve years?

When Zain's life is examined, we see a tortured life with so much insecurity, fear, hatred and helplessness. He is living with parents and about seven siblings. The responsibility of taking care of them falls on little Zain. They make a living by selling tramadol pills to drug addicts. Parents are not interested in nurturing their children. Zain is having an eleven year old sister Sahar, who is 'sold' in marriage for two chickens. This decision makes Zain furious and in protest he runs away from his parents. Later on he happens to hear that Sahar passed away due to some pregnancy issues. This was when he came back home for a certification from his parents, essential for him for his migration. The realisation struck that his sister is no more, he runs away to his brother-in-law and stabs him. This put him in jail. When he is visited by his mother, he knows that she is again conceived, which they plan to name 'Sahar'. This makes Zain to sue his parents for continuing to have children, when they cannot take care of them properly.

From Zain's side, the decision seems logical and justifiable.

World Health Organization identifies four major types of Child abuse namely; physical, sexual, psychological and neglect. We consider the first three as major and the fourth simply we 'neglect'. Neglect in child protection theory means the failure to provide for or meet a child's basic physical, emotional, educational and medical needs. A simple carelessness may harm our child. There need not be any kind of physical, sexual or psychological abuse. So, abuse by neglect cannot be 'neglected' simply.

Over 90% of Indian children experience some form of abuse before they reach eighteen. The percentage of abuse by neglect is not lower than other types of abuses. But in general we tend to see neglect as not an important thing. Nowadays people are very busy making a living. To such a generation, other things are nothing but waste of time. But remember children need the presence, care and guidance of their parents while they are growing. It is like how a growing tree absorbs water, minerals and nutrients from the soil. When we see stunted trees, remember they lacked something unavoidable.

As we celebrate this year's childrens' day, keep in mind that such observances and festivals come and go. The importance of a child is not just to be remembered and considered for once in a year. It should be a continuous process. Whenever children lack care and protection their vulnerability increases. We must find time to be with him/her. We should have open ears and ready to help hands to reach out to them. They must have trust in us. The story of little Zain is a reminder. Our children should be brought up with security, bravery and compassion. Let's create a safe and secure environment for them.



Lieutenant. Sabinmon P. S.
Stagbrook Corps, Peermade Division
India South Western Territory

Jesus Christ was very fond of little children. He told the disciples not to stop them from coming to Him. If anyone causes these little ones to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and drowned into the depths of the sea. So, let's not be a stumbling stone for our children.

May Almighty bless all our dear children and those who remain stepping stones for them.





CRICKET WORLD CUP 2023

As we have been aware that our country India is hosting Cricket World Cup and many teams around the world is taking part in it. There are teams who are winning and there are teams who are losing the game. The various passages in the Bible picture the Christian life as a race or other athletic competition (see 1 Timothy 4:7-8; Galatians 5:7; Hebrews. 12:1; Jas. 1:12). To win in the race, require once attention, self-denial, hard work, and to fight still the finish line. The finish line for Christians is to become disciples of Christ. Now that we have a goal in mind, we'll begin making strides toward it.

Unlike an athletic competition, the race for the Christian lasts a lifetime. If you're not dead yet, you aren't finished yet. You still have time to push forward in the race and win. You may be coming to the starting blocks with regrets over personal, family, or spiritual failure. You may have stumbled coming out of the blocks. You may have tripped during the race. You may even be starting the race a little late, but God can help you make up for the lost time. He can help you pick up speed in the last half of the race and cover more ground in less time than the average runner.

Apostle Paul In Philippians 1:6 says *"I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus."*

Our relationship with God begins with God. Paul was saying that what God starts, He finishes. What God initiates; He completes. God wants us to be involved in His mission in the world to make Himself known by making His people more like His Son. He always helps us finish. Sometimes it may appear that God is doing nothing and everything is up to us. Yet God routinely works behind the scenes to lead us toward the finish line.

Paul knew how to persevere. He knew how to let go of the past. Paul had a shady past. He persecuted and oppressed the church. But one day Jesus met him on the road to Damascus. That encounter changed Paul's life. He knew the wisdom of forgetting failures and even successes. He wrote about it in Philippians 3. Paul pressed on:

Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead.
Philippians 3:13

Paul has a kingdom-disciple attitude. He let go of the things that were behind him. His eyes were straight ahead, focused on the goal. Runners don't win a race looking backward. They must keep their eyes on the finish line. You can't change yesterday, but you can do a lot about what happens tomorrow. Don't let other people stop you from running for God. Don't let other




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India Western Territory

people distract you from seeking His approval.

The truth is that if you know Jesus, you already have God's approval. When you believed the gospel, God exchanged all the sin in your past, present, and future for the perfect life of His Son. You're now in Christ, so when God sees you, He doesn't see your past; He sees Jesus' perfect record. God isn't concerned about your past failures; however, He has an unmistakable, amazing way of using even failure to bring about success.

At the end of World Cup 2023 the winner team will receive rewards and prizes. The prize in the Christian life is in the future. God will embrace us with rewards and prizes. Let us be attentive in our Christian walk and our God will bless us. 

Spiritual and ethical lessons from ants



Introduction:

Every generation has its own period of time. As the planet earth rotates, following its orbit, there is a time, an era or a stipulated period for every generation. Down through the past history till today, no doubt that the cosmos has been coming across several generations, age after age, period after period and generation after generation. We are definitely living in our own world within our own respective time frame. The world might have happened to experience several but diverse generations, there seems to be a universally accepted law to guide the consciousness, values and conscience of humanity. And today, we are now living in a period beyond modernism which some scholars of intellect put it as post modernism. People particularly the Christians in this post modern period have many natural constant ethical and moral lessons to learn in life which should simultaneously go in parallel with our spirituality. Among many lessons, in our context today we Christians ought to rethink our ethos and spirituality and learn a priceless and practical lesson from ants so that our impact to the world as Christians is immensely boosted. Therefore, as the heading of the article says, this article is intending to succinctly discover and inculcate the much needed lesson we need to learn from ants in our contemporary context.

Ants:

Ants are tiny wingless insects (0.05 to 25 cm long) which usually occur in almost in all terrestrial habitats in large and highly organized social groups. They belong to the widely hymenopterous family called Formicidae. In the Bible we see the inclusion of ants along with many other animals. Ants happen to appear only twice in the Bible viz. Proverbs 6:6 and 30:25 in both of which ants are made an example of wisdom of providing in the summer for the wants of the winter. Many types of ants are found in the land of Palestine, but the ants (in Hebrew Nemalah) mentioned in Proverbs seem to be harvester ants or sometimes identified as agricultural ants and are about 6mm long.

Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise (Proverbs 6:6)

Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in summer (Proverbs 30:25) NIV

Lesson:

As the Bible advises us to be wise and consider the ways of ants, the following are the lessons every Christian should vividly learn from them,

i) Diligence and persistence: Ants are hard working, industrious, active, diligent and determined. The Bible has always encouraged and propagated hard work. Therefore, as ants are labouring hard and diligent, Christians should also be active, diligent, persistent and hard working. Laziness and Christianity contradicts each other. One cannot become a good Christian so long as s/he remains idle. No good results are yielded often in our ministry, may be because we lack diligence and persistence. As we work for God and His Kingdom, sometimes we do not labour hard enough, plus we often lack determination to have positive and good result in our ministry. Hard work is the key to success, no other alternatives. There is no shortcut at all. Hard work together with consistent persistence leads to significant accomplishment. Let us strive forward to work harder to be successful in life and ministry. This will make us happy and content too as the saying goes, *"Hours are the happiest when hands are busiest"*. Out of his zeal and nationalist philosophy, in an attempt to capture the mind and thought of his countrymen, Mahatma Gandhi once said, *"Work is worship"* basically meant to instil the value and importance of hard work in order to reach their destination of liberation. The same is very much applicable in the realms of Christianity. Jesus is still working, he does not rest. Our God whom we worship is also a working God as Jesus has rightly pointed out in John 5: 17: (NIV) *"My Father is always at his work to this very day. And I too am working"*

ii) Unity and cooperation: Ants are highly organized social groups. They exhibit intricate organisation within their colonies with a keen sense of unity, good cooperation and teamwork. They are strongly bonded uniting together. Their unity and good cooperation make them achieve success. Likewise, we Christians must unite together work, together and support each other. On the contrary, we tend to live the opposite. Sometimes it is likely that we build dividing walls between us creating chasm amongst us instead of building bridges. It is inescapable from the fact that many of our problems are man-made, created by ourselves. We must always remember that



Captain Vanlalhriata
Field Training Officer, OTC
India Eastern Territory

unity is strength. Our unity and working together as one will make us stronger and more successful. Most of our problems today do not come from external forces, but internal factors cause problem within us. In many areas including our mission fields, our mission and work seems to have been stagnant and retarded because we lack unity and we do not cooperate well. Discerning God's will, to have our ministry and work more fruitful and of course, successful; we must work together, maintain unity and cooperate well breaking all the walls that separate us and thwart our consolidation.

iii) Accountability: In Proverbs chapter 6 we see the example of the ants which do good work without a visible supervisor. They intrinsically do their work faithfully and diligently without being monitored. This is exactly what we should learn from the ants these days. Ants are intrinsically accountable by nature. The present need of the hour is accountability, however unfortunately this quality seems to be lacking in our context today. Every Christian is called to be accountable in the Lord's service and in whatever work is assigned to him/her. In every situation, even if there is no supervisor, no CCTV coverage, no leader who will monitor us, we must be accountable and loyal. Through this quality of loyalty and accountability, we can make a difference.

iv) Focussing on Spiritual agenda: We have dealt with three positive lessons we should learn from ants. Now, we shall deal with the negative lesson we may learn from ants which has something to do with our spirituality. As we all know, ants are always keeping themselves busy. Seems like they never take rest. They spend most of their time for their physical need; of course this is what God has made them for. However, like ants, it is very likely that we Christians are busy enough to deliberately spend most of our time for our physical needs. There is a tendency that we often forget, neglect and ignore about nurturing our spiritual life and building up our spiritual formation. From ants, we must learn a lesson that we should spare time for our spiritual growth and nourishment. Therefore, Christians should not neglect involving in spiritual exercise, rather have focussed on our spirituality as we pilgrim towards our heavenly abode. 🏠

Suppress our Desires and Cravings



Saupriya Solanki

Pandoli Corps, Petlad Division
India Western Territory

Self-denial is not a concept that is easily embraced in today's society. The world constantly bombards us with messages of self-indulgence and instant gratification, making it difficult to prioritise the needs of others above our own. However, within the vibrant realm of the Salvation Army, selflessness flourishes as individuals joyfully surrender their comforts, desires, and ambitions to uplift others and advance the Kingdom of God.

One of the enchanting forms that selflessness takes within the Salvation Army is the sacrifice of material possessions. Salvation Army members embrace a humble existence, directing their resources towards assisting the less fortunate. They give monetary contributions, clothing, and other tangible treasures to support the organisation's noble social endeavours and ground-breaking initiatives. By willingly parting with their own possessions, they demonstrate a deep understanding of the value of generosity and the power of sharing.

In addition to material possessions, Salvationists also sacrifice their time and energy. The devoted soldiers of the Salvation Army invest their precious time and boundless energy in the noble pursuit of serving humanity. They willingly lend their hand at Salvation Army centres, actively engage in community outreach initiatives, and radiate acts of kindness and empathy towards the marginalized and those in need. Their selflessness is not limited to financial contributions but extends to the investment of their own personal resources.

Embracing selflessness within the Salvation Army often requires gracefully setting aside personal dreams and aspirations to prioritize the needs of others. It demands a willingness to let go of career prospects, personal ambitions, and even cherished relationships if they conflict with the sacred mission of this extraordinary organisation. Salvationists understand that their own desires must take a backseat to the greater purpose of spreading the gospel and uplifting lives. They exemplify the true meaning of selflessness by sacrificing their own personal aspirations for the betterment of others.

In the realm of the Salvation Army, selflessness is not about diminishing oneself or devaluing one's worth. On the contrary, it is a magnificent display of love, compassion, and unity with those who have faced adversity in life. It is a powerful tool, a way to embody the teachings of Jesus himself, and to ignite a spark of hope and transformation within the hearts of individuals and communities yearning for it.

Let us wholeheartedly embrace the radical concept of selflessness, as it resonates throughout the sacred pages of the Bible. In the

teachings of Jesus Christ, we find a resounding call to willingly set aside our own desires, interests, and comforts in pursuit of God's divine will and in service to others.

"Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.'" (Matthew 16:24 NIV).

Jesus beckons us to take up our own cross and walk in His footsteps. Selflessness is not an easy concept to grasp, but it is an essential aspect of our journey as disciples of Christ. Let us delve deeper into this passage and discover the transformative power of selflessness in our lives.

I. Understanding the Call to Selflessness:

Jesus' words in Matthew 16:24 are a direct call to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Him. Selflessness demands that we relinquish our ambitions, cravings, and egocentric tendencies, aligning ourselves with the God's will. It is not an invitation to self-loathing or self-neglect, but rather a redirection of our gaze from ourselves to Christ and others.

II. The Purpose and Benefits of Selflessness:

Selflessness is a means to grow in our relationship with God and become more Christ-like. It helps us break free from the bondage of worldly desires and find true freedom in Christ. Through selflessness, we learn to prioritise God's kingdom and the needs of others above our own. It enables us to experience the joy of sacrificial love and service, mirroring Christ's example.

III. The Challenges and Obstacles of Selflessness:

Our human nature often resists selflessness, as it goes against our natural inclination for self-preservation and self-gratification. The world around us constantly promotes self-indulgence, materialism, and instant gratification, making selflessness countercultural. Fear, pride, and the desire for control can hinder our willingness to surrender to God's will and embrace selflessness.

IV. Embracing Selflessness as Disciples of Christ:


Recognise that selflessness is a daily choice, not a one-time event. Seek God's guidance through prayer, studying His Word, and cultivating a personal relationship with Him. Surround ourselves with a community of believers who encourage and support us in our journey of selflessness. Practice self-discipline in areas such as our thoughts, speech, actions, and use of time and resources. Embrace opportunities for sacrificial love and service, putting the needs of others before our own.

The venerable apostle Paul, in his epistles, also expounds upon the virtue of self-denial,

"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 interest of others." (Philippians 2: 3-4 from NIV).

On this journey of life, let us embrace the noble art of self-denial. By doing so, we unlock the boundless power of love and compassion, transforming not only our own lives but also the lives of those around us.

In the scriptures, self-denial is not a twisted act of self-loathing or masochism, but rather a profound realisation that our own desires and cravings should not reign supreme in our existence. It is about humbly submitting our will to the divine, embracing God's purpose for us, and diligently adhering to His divine decrees. Through this act of renunciation, we can radiate the boundless love of the Lord to those around us and lead a life that resonates with His divine pleasure.

At the core of the Salvation Army lies the principle of self-denial, which not only shapes its mission but also resonates within the hearts of its members. It is a practice that involves willingly letting go of personal comforts, desires, and ambitions in order to serve others and further the Kingdom of God. This practice can be likened to a divine dance, inspired by the belief that followers of Christ should mirror His selfless love and sacrificial spirit. This concept is deeply rooted in the Bible, particularly in the teachings of Jesus Christ and the apostle Paul. By denying oneself, individuals become a radiant reflection of God's love to others, leading a life that brings Him great joy. As we embrace selflessness, it is important to remember that each person has the ability to make a difference, touch lives, and bring light to even the darkest corners of our world through the power of love. Within the symphony of selflessness, Salvationists become agents of change, weaving a tapestry of hope and redemption. They respond to a divine calling and exemplify the strength of collective action. The Self-Denial Appeal echoes throughout time, reminding us that we all have the capacity to contribute to the betterment of humanity and the advancement of God's Kingdom. 

The Spiritual EYES



Mrs. Sornam Paul BSN

Haggai Trained Leader for Evangelism
Booth Tucker Memorial Church, Nagercoil
India South-Eastern Territory

Eyes are your windows to the world. You can see with your eyes and I believe that sight is one of the greatest gifts given to mankind. Imagine not being able to see people, books, fireworks and the vivid colours which the whole world is made up of. Therefore, we should take care of our eyes.

The eye indicates an eye that is physically healthy and that reflects moral integrity, generosity and light. A good eye gives evidence of inner light. Where there is a good eye, it is a result of light within.

1. An Eye is the Lamp Matthew 6:22

the eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light." In contrast to that, unhealthy eyes can often mean darkness and greed.

A pair of healthy eyes is equal to a healthy soul! The Eye of Providence usually depicts an image of an eye surrounded by rays of light or a triangle. It represents God's divine providence, in which He watches over the entire human race with

a compassionate, all-seeing eye.

2. Eyes are the channel of Information

Jesus said in Matthew 15:14, "*They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into a pit....*" Our 'eyes' are the chief channel of information for men. Of all the five senses, sight is the most needed and greatly valued.

3. Sight is the KEY to knowledge

What you cannot conceptualize, you cannot understand. Both in the natural life and in the spiritual life.

Seeing precedes knowledge. Our moral flesh, our mind and soul, is not spiritual and so has no capacity to communicate with an immortal God.

4. Eyes of Enlightenment

Scripture states in Ephesians 1:18

"The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints."

When we are able to discern situations in life then we have the eyes of our understanding "enlightened" and or "illuminated" by God's Spirit through revelation and through God's Word. Our spiritual insight can come through divine dreams and visions, and the revelation gifts of the Holy Spirit. However, one of the primary ways we communicate with God with a small voice. "*And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice*". (1 Kings 19:12)


Whatever, our physical eyes can see, our spiritual eyes can comprehend much more. Our spiritual eye is very sensitive and has a heightened awareness, and function in a much greater depth and often includes graphic vision.

5. The prophetic Eyes

The prophetic use of dreams and visions is summarized in the Lord's dramatic defence of Moses in the face of Aaron and Miriam's revolt: "*When a prophet of the Lord is among you, I reveal myself to him in visions, I speak to him in dreams*" (Numbers 12:6).

Visions are found in the prophetic portions of the Old Testament and other prophecies from Ezekiel, Daniel, and Isaiah, which developed a greater capacity for visionary revelation. Prophets in the Bible implied that visions were a normal medium for receiving the divine word in a "vision."

In conclusion, the human eye is an exquisite organ that not only allows us to perceive the world around us but also communicates our thoughts and emotions. Psalms 123:1-4

The psalmist himself lifted up his eyes to him. The eyes of a good man are ever towards the Lord, Psalms 25:15. In every prayer we lift up our soul, the eye of our soul, to God, especially in trouble, The eyes of the people waited on the Lord, Zechariah 9:1. The eyes of the body are heaven-ward. to teach us which way to direct the eyes of the mind. Our eyes wait on the Lord, the eye of desire and prayer, the begging eye, and the eye of dependence, hope, and expectation, the longing eye. Our eyes must wait upon God as the Lord, and our God, until that he have mercy upon us. 

A good eye gives evidence of inner light.

Brief report on phase 3rd IT Workshop for women leaders




IT Workshop for Senior Women Leaders, conducted by Women's Ministries department with support of IT department On July 20th and 21st 2023, at the Salvation Army, ISET, Catherine Booth College of Nursing, Nagercoil. It was themed as **"Focus on the Mission."** The workshop was planned and organized under the Leadership of Commissioner Mani Kumari, TPWM which was co-ordinated by Mr. Christopher Israel, IT Coordinator with the support of Lieut. Colonel Lalnunhlui, TSWM. This workshop was phase-III for developing the women leaders. There were 23 women leaders joined DDWMs, DLMOs, DWDO's and Catherine Booth Hospital DWM as well.

This workshop was inaugurated with keynote address by Commissioner John Kumar Dasari, Territorial Commander, who encouraged the women leaders by directing them into scripture, Proverbs 22:29. A man skilled in his work will stand before the kings. He explained about grace of being knowledge of work, accomplishing the work, and getting done skilfully. His words were motivated and inspired.

Mr. Christopher, IT Co-ordinator took sessions on Office-365, Signing into office 365, Introduction of Outlook, New mail, Mail to Send, Replying and Forwarding mails, etc. The women officers were led

directed into practical sessions on what they learnt. Outlook team's app in mobile device, Team Meeting, Google Meet, File attachments in mail, Word, Excel, and PDF classes were taken place in the Computer Lab, College of Nursing. All the Divisional Director of Women's Ministries Office is equipped with the Computer and Individual Email IDs are being Open in the Territory.

This workshop went on by theory and practical in addition to practical home exercises. The final meeting Commissioner Mani Kumari Dasari, TPWM detailed about Women's Ministries and its Business. This workshop was closed by the spiritual meeting and encouraged the women with the word of God based on Hebrews 12:11-12 'Strengthen Your Feeble Arms'.

Some of the young women leaders gladly shared their experience saying that how they are going to make changes in their daily work style. This workshop was concluded with prayer and benediction. It was a wonderful aimed at bringing transformation among the women and raise potential women leaders. 

Major Santhi Babu
Secretary for Programme Administration
India South Eastern Territory



THE WAR CRY

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Our Mission

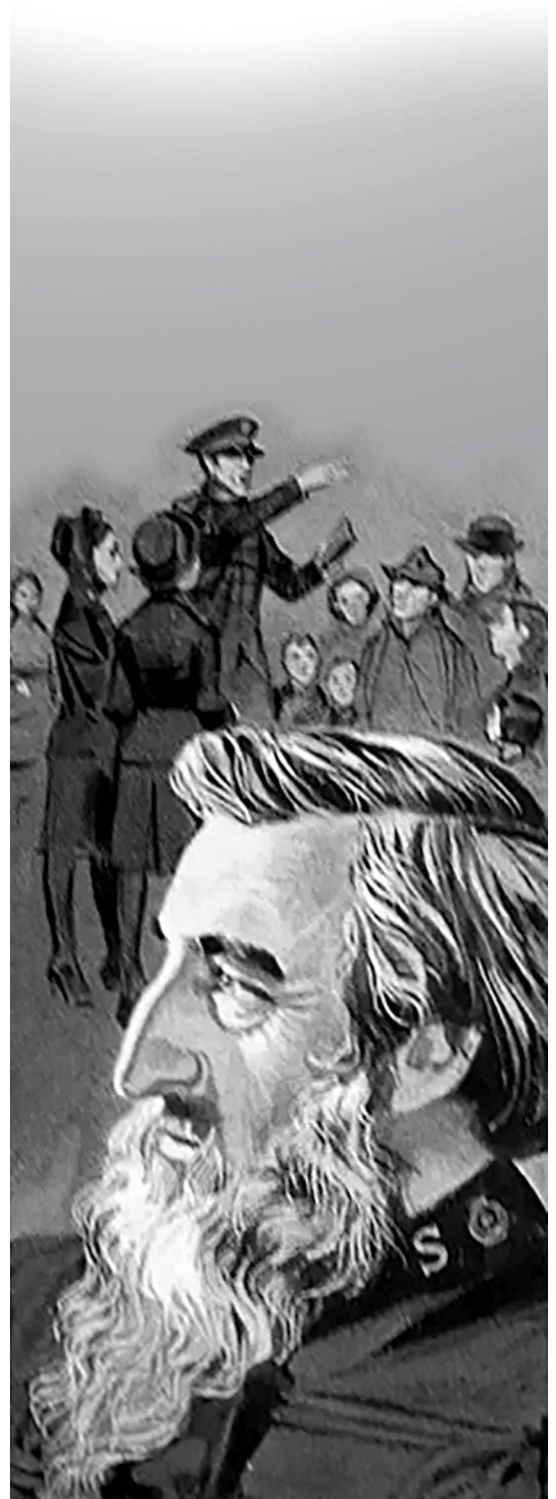
"The Salvation Army is an international movement, a part of the Christian Church whose spiritual motivation has practical application in an evangelical, social, educational and health ministry.

It's goal is to help all people find fulness of life in a relationship with the living Christ discovered through the scriptures and demonstrated by holy living in peace and harmony with others."

Quiz

QUESTIONS:

1. The first General elected by High Council ?
2. The Woman who came India with Booth Tucker ?
3. The Territory in which MAC Robert Hospital is situated.
4. The Indian name accepted by Clara Case ?
5. The English man who became the Editor of Gujarathi War Cry ?
6. The Indian name Booth Tucker adopted in India ?
7. An Indian represented to the first High Council ?
8. William Booth born on ...
9. Parents of Catherine Booth.....
10. The name of second wife of Booth Tucker
11. The Motto of The Salvation Army
12. The Birth place of Tucker
13. First Chief of the Staff of the Army
14. The first soldier who received the order of the Founder award
15. 13th General of Salvation Army



Answers

1. General Edward J. Higgins
2. Mary Ann Thompson
3. India Northern Territory
4. Nuraní (Shining Star)
5. Henry Burfoot
6. Fakir Singh
7. Commissioner Narayana Muthalali
8. 10th April 1829
9. John & Sara Mumford
10. Emma Booth-Tucker
11. Blood and Fire
12. Monghyr - Bengal
13. Bramwell Booth
14. Herbert J. Bourne
15. General Eva Burrows

Women Empowerment Seminar – India Eastern Territory

On the 21st and 22nd September 2023, Women Empowerment Seminar was organized by the Territorial Women Ministries, India Eastern Territory at Booth Mansion Conference Hall. There were 26 Delegates in this Seminar, they are Officers from Corps, Division and Social Institutions. And eight Officers from the Territorial Headquarters were with us in this seminar. Each of the delegates were given 3 minutes to give reports about their ministry.

The Seminar was successfully completed under the teachings of our five resource persons with their interesting topics. Here are our Resource Persons and their Topics:

1. Colonel Lalhlimpuii, TPWM - *Women in Leadership & Communication Skills*
2. Lt. Colonel Rani Phula Pradhan, TSWM - *The Power of meditation*
3. Lt. Colonel Zonunsangi, HRDS - *Spiritual Exercise*
4. Major Ramhmuzaui, WDO - *Team Building*
5. Lt. Colonel C. Lalhriatpuii, THLS - *Better Tomorrow*

The role of women leader is to strengthen our colleagues, serves everyone without discrimination, and be in close contact with our people, be accountable, responsible, be a good listener, be humble, be the first to appreciate, and be slow to judge, to have good strategy and principles, determination and commitment, and to have passion in saving souls and the upliftment of others. But in order to transform others and to have that lists of good qualities in our ministry, we first have to be transformed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit. And



most of all, we have to be filled and lead by the Holy Spirit, because Spirit-led leaders are always the most powerful leaders in the ministry.

We have been taught that we should not focus on our today's strength only, but to grow in faith through spiritual meditation, we need to have good connection with God so as to share the compassion of Jesus, spiritual meditation enables us to do miracles and help us hear the voice of God. As physical exercises are important for the health of our body, so is the spiritual meditation for the spiritual health. (Philippians 4:13)

Every Athletes practices and trained regularly for the whole year just to participate in a competition for a short period of time, and Commandos were trained roughly for the war. Likewise, we Christians have to practice spiritual exercises for our everyday spiritual warfare, and the Bible is our weapon, some Christians used their Bible just for the preparation of their sermons, but it should be the anchor of our everyday challenges, our mirror that tells us what to

change about ourselves so as to become Christ-like Christians. (1Timothy 4:8).

The second day was on the topic of

'Communication skills', 'Team Building' and 'Better Tomorrow'.

In the second session of the second day, we learned about the importance of being a team leader, we have been encouraged not to lose a team member, and teaches us the importance of team work through practical activities, we have been informed that leadership can be learned and acquired by practicing, because Leadership is an Art.

The leaders must look over the spiritual condition and physical conditions of their team/church members. Leaders should be friendly and kind to everyone, they should know how to resolve conflicts and motivate each one of them. And they must try to upgrade their knowledge physically and spiritually.

PROFOUNDING SEMINAR

We have been informed that the main aim of 'WOMEN EMPOWERMENT' is to help us realize the strength that has already been in us, and to end the feeling of helplessness, oppressed and distressed in the heart of many women. Empowering women doesn't mean lifting women above men; instead it simply strengthens women to believe in themselves, help women to become more helpful and have a richly productive life. 🍷

Captain Lalbiakkimi
Commanding officer, Dapchhuah Bial
India Eastern Territory





Captain Charles Chalmawia
Secretary for Youth & Children
India National Office, Kolkata

Happy Children's Day 2023!

of heaven belongs to such as these." This scripture clearly tells us that Jesus is a 'children loving person' who welcomes and values children. Jesus has a big heart for the children. In his statement, He said that the children have a special place in God's kingdom. He also teaches that adults should have a childlike faith and humility. We all know that Jesus made this

be treasured. This means we should value them.


· They are also dependent yet developing. This means they need our guidance, care and protection.

· We believe children and young people are natural models of faith. This means we should give space to them to join and lead in serving God and others with their unique set of gifts, talents and skills.

TRAINING, SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

The Youth and Children's Section at International Headquarters supports and strengthens The Salvation Army around the world in its work among children and young people through:

- providing training, especially in child protection
- providing support to territories on child protection
- providing guidance on creating child protection policies
- sharing resources, like children's programmes
- creating resources, like our Faith Talks card game
- building relationships, like creating zonal meetings with youth leaders
- promoting the interest of children and young people, for example, at councils
- supporting territories in increasing youth participation, by sharing good practices.

As we celebrate Children's Day, I wish every child a Happy Children's Day. The Salvation Army wants to assure every child that they are valued and that they have a place in the Army – but most importantly they are precious in the sight of God and they have place in the Kingdom of God. Heaven is incomplete without children. Every person – boy or girl, we all are made in the image of God. Let us show the beautiful face of Jesus to wherever we go – at home, schools and in our community so that others may also see Jesus in and through us. God bless us all! 

Children's Day is celebrated every year on 14 November which was the birthday of the first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru who was known very well with his love for the children. Across India, this day is observed to celebrate the children by acknowledging their values both in family and community. It is also used to raise awareness about the rights, education, and welfare of children. With this initiative, various programmes are organised to encourage and motivate especially in the schools. Some schools create space for children by giving them holiday so that they can enjoy themselves by having fun. Some organised exciting programmes for the children to engage with. Whatever form it may be, they are for the awareness of the importance of the children.

In the Bible, we see a person who has greater love and concern for the children – that is JESUS. We found in Matthew 19:14 - *"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them! For the kingdom*

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them! For the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."



statement when the disciples turned away from the children. Rather, Jesus wants the children to stay close to him, within His reach so that he is able to embrace them – touch them, smile at them, play with them and even wants to listen to their story. This loving nature of Jesus is a great lesson for us. As we follow Jesus' example in celebrating the life of each child, let us encourage each other with the vision of International Youth and Children of The Salvation Army. (Source: The Salvation Army International - Youth and Children)

OUR VISION

We envision a world where children and young people experience life in its fullness, loved and valued by their families and communities and equipped to contribute.

In order to do that we have created a framework of our beliefs:

- We believe children are made in the image of God and are a gift from God.
- They are intricately made and should

International Conference of Training Principals 2023



International Conference of Training Principal's 2023 was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 30th September- 5th October 2023 with the theme "Called, Covenanted and Commissioned". The Training Principals and Educators around the world got together for the conference with support of International Officer Training And Leadership Development Council, IHQ-London. The General Lyndon Buckingham and Commissioner Bronwyn Buckingham, WPWM inaugurated The Conference with Bible Message and Blessings.

Aim:

To bring all the Training Principles and Educators to gather to consider, discuss and make future recommendations on issues relating to the training of The Salvation Army cadets.

Objectives:

1. How to equip cadets for cross cultural ministry in the 21st century, with a renewed focus on discipleship and evangelism.
2. How to resource colleges within the context of current training needs, changing trends and challenges.

3. How to address matters of the governance system, compliance, quality assurance and standards for officer training colleges.

The following Lectures and Workshops were included:

Theme: Called

- The Importance of Spiritual Life for Ministry
- The Importance of "Soul Care, keeping our own sense of calling
- Nurturing the Spiritual life of Cadets
- Teaching Salvationists Expression of Spirituality
- Spiritual Life Development Conversations
- Resilience- Equipping Cadets for 21st Century Ministry

Theme: Covenanted

- Theological Foundation of Covenantal Living
- Exploring Contextual Issues of Covenant Living
- Sacred Moments of The Covenant
- Pluralistic Worldwide/Post Christian Challenges of Covenant
- Equally Covenanted
- Redeeming The True Purpose of Covenant
- The Training Principal as Lifelong Learner

-Exploring The Pillars of The Training Curriculum

Theme: Commissioned

- What officer Leadership Looks Like in the 21st Century
- Preparing Cadets to Use Critical Biblical Thinking in Relation to Social Change in their context and Communities
- Measuring The Orders and Regulations Competencies
- Challenges and Benefits of The Church in The Digital Age
- What it means to be Appointed to the Community not just The Corps
- Training Millennial and Generation Z Cadets
- Preparing Cadets to Live out The Phrase "Every Officer A Candidate Secretary"
- The Development and Preparation of Training College Staff
- Social Justice Curriculum

May God continue to bless Training Principal's, Educators and Cadets around The World. 🇮🇳

Major Samson Macwan
Secretary for HRDI &
IOTALDC, IHQ Member
India National Office, Kolkata

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

OF INDIA NATIONAL OFFICE

November 4-6, 2023
November 8-10, 2023
November 13-15, 2023
November 21, 2023
November 23-25, 2023
December 2-5, 2023
December 2-5, 2023

Property Assessment Programme, Trivandrum
National Finance workshop, Coonoor
National Church Growth Seminar, Coonoor
Board of Directors Meeting, Kolkata
National Youth Leaders Conference, Chennai
Women in Leadership Workshop, Chennai
Brenge Institute, Coonoor