Chapter TWELVE

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

Just before his death, Jesus prayed the longest of his recorded prayers. He prayed for us. For you and I. For the believers to come. He prayed that we would be united as one. And in that unity, in the depth of our relationships, in the integrity of our words and actions, in the way we behave towards others, God will be seen.
Unity starts with us. We are responsible for our own relationship with God. No one can have that relationship for us. No one can grow in faith for us. No one can pursue holy living for us. And if we are not right with God, we cannot be right with one another.

Our salvation and our fellowship as believers are so deeply connected. To pursue unity is to honour and respect others, to cover difference with love, to recognise the unique gifts of those around us, to champion how when each member brings their unique giftings to the table, something beautiful is made.

We need one another. But being together is not always easy. And being together as one is certainly not always easy.

The church is made up of humans, fallible, foolish, imperfect people. There will be things that don’t please us, decisions we don’t understand, matters we disagree on.

But in the skilled, steadfast hands of our Father, the church becomes beautiful, useful, and good.

May we rejoice in being one body, with one Spirit, one hope, one Lord – and through our unity, may the world discover truth and the eternal freedom that can be theirs too.

We are The Salvation Army. Diverse, scattered, united as one.
We each have different gifts, skills, abilities and perspectives. We all have something to offer. Something to contribute to God’s kingdom building mission here on earth.

When we bring those different skills and experiences together, we can appreciate the immense diversity and richness that comes when believers work together as people of God.

We see the importance of every individual, learn from one another, encourage one another, see our communities bloom and grow.

In what ways have you seen the beauty of unique gifts and perspectives in your experience with the body of Christ?

This week, we are focusing on the final chapter of Called to be a Soldier and the importance of being united as one. Read with us. Contact your local Salvation Army to find out how you can access a copy of the book.
Consider what it means to be a Salvation Army soldier.

What are the privileges and the responsibilities?

If you are a soldier in the Salvation Army, what helps you to keep the promises in this covenant?

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Find out more at sar.my/calledfocus

Get in touch - tell us your story, share where God is at work in your life or how you are using Called to be a Soldier.
'But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God’s instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted.'

1 Peter 2:9 (MSG)

You are chosen. Chosen by God to tell others what he has done for you. To tell others who your God is.

You don’t need to have all the answers or life all figured out.

God calls imperfect people to do his work. He calls them just as they are and then works on shaping them into faithful servants.

Come as you are.

God can use you.

What are you waiting for?