INTRODUCTION

The theme of the 2015 International Congress – ‘Boundless: the Whole World Redeeming’ – comes from the inspirational pen of General William Booth, who wrote the words of what Salvationists affectionately call the Founder’s Song.

Boundless ... the Whole World Praying has created seven prayer stations focusing on the meaning of each verse of this song and Salvationists are encouraged to use this resource – either individually or corporately – in prayer rooms, meetings, small groups and so on, with the freedom to adapt it to particular settings and cultures.

As we pray, may we grasp the magnificence of the boundless riches of Christ and his limitless power to transform us inwardly.

O boundless salvation! deep ocean of love,
O fullness of mercy, Christ brought from above,
The whole world redeeming, so rich and so free,
Now flowing for all men, come, roll over me!

My sins they are many, their stains are so deep,
And bitter the tears of remorse that I weep;
But useless is weeping; thou great crimson sea,
Thy waters can cleanse me, come, roll over me!

My tempers are fitful, my passions are strong,
They bind my poor soul and they force me to wrong;
Beneath thy blest billows deliverance I see,
O come, mighty ocean, and roll over me!

Now tossed with temptation, then haunted with fears,
My life has been joyless and useless for years;
I feel something better most surely would be
If once thy pure waters would roll over me.

O ocean of mercy, oft longing I've stood
On the brink of thy wonderful, life-giving flood!
Once more I have reached this soul-cleansing sea,
I will not go back till it rolls over me.

The tide is now flowing, I'm touching the wave,
I hear the loud call of the mighty to save;
My faith's growing bolder, delivered I'll be;
I plunge 'neath the waters, they roll over me.

And now, hallelujah! the rest of my days
Shall gladly be spent in promoting his praise
Who opened his bosom to pour out this sea
Of boundless salvation for you and for me.
**1. BOUNDLESS LOVE**

- 2. CONVICTION OF SIN
- 3. FREEDOM FROM SIN
- 4. SURRENDER
- 5. COMMITMENT
- 6. CALLING
- 7. BOUNDLESS LIFE

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O boundless salvation! deep ocean of love,  
O fulness of mercy, Christ brought from above,  
The whole world redeeming, so rich and so free,  
Now flowing for all men, come, roll over me!

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**Context**

It can often be hard to fully understand how much God really loves us! In Ephesians 3:17-19 Paul tries to help us comprehend the vastness, length, depth and height of Christ's love – although he too mentions that it's so indescribable that it can never be fully known. It's as far as the eye can see, and beyond!

This love is available every second of our lives – it has no limit, it's for the whosoever and is constantly poured out to us by Jesus' sacrificial blood. Moreover, it has the power to transform neighbourhoods and nations, eradicating everything which is not of God.

**Activity**

Spend some moments in silence, concentrating on the second hand of a clock. Imagine every tick, every movement of it, representing an incessant flow of God's love for humanity.

Then fill in the blank spaces of the paper clock where the numbers should be with the names of people or situations, near and far, that need a full awareness of the richness and freedom found in Christ. You may want to pray for them out of the passage from Ephesians.

**Objects**

- A clock (including a second hand)
- Paper clock (see attachment 1)
- Pen.
**PRAYER STATIONS**

1. **BOUNDLESS LOVE**
2. **CONVICTION OF SIN**
3. **FREEDOM FROM SIN**
4. **SURRENDER**
5. **COMMITMENT**
6. **CALLING**
7. **BOUNDLESS LIFE**

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**Context**

The story of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32) is one of the many Bible passages that clearly represent a defining moment of personal awareness of sin and the consequent recognition of the need for God’s forgiveness and mercy. When he came to his senses, he said, “How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!” (v 17). “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son” (v 21).

This defining moment is like a light that is switched on inside us, taking away the darkness, giving us spiritual clarity to see our errors and the desire to repent, consequently fixing our eyes on the one true God so that we can be embraced by him.

**Activity**

Spend time in silence, asking God to identify where there is sin in your life. Write on the chalkboard what you need to confess and then wipe it away as a sign of God’s forgiveness. Pray that others may see Christ. Light a tea light or activate a glow-in-the-dark bracelet as you pray for the salvation of family, friends, your community and nation.

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**My sins they are many, their stains are so deep,**

*And bitter the tears of remorse that I weep;*

*But useless is weeping; thou great crimson sea,*

*Thy waters can cleanse me, come, roll over me!*
PRAYER STATIONS

1. BOUNDLESS LOVE
2. CONVICTION OF SIN
3. FREEDOM FROM SIN
4. SURRENDER
5. COMMITMENT
6. CALLING
7. BOUNDLESS LIFE

My tempers are fitful, my passions are strong,
They bind my poor soul and they force me to wrong;
Beneath thy blest billows deliverance I see,
O come, mighty ocean, and roll over me!

Context
In Romans 7:14-25 Paul clearly describes humanity's wrestle with sin. Why do we do the things we so desperately want to steer away from (v 15)? Why do lies, corruption, poverty, bondage and sickness seem to prevail in the world around us? Who will rescue us from our sinfulness and the situations that subject us to death? 'Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!' (v 25).

Activity
Sin can resemble something soluble – once dropped into God's mighty ocean of love and forgiveness (the water), it is no longer seen or remembered. Write on the bubble wrap as many words as possible that relate to your personal sin or the sins you see in the world that grieve God's heart. Then burst each bubble as a sign of God's deliverance from evil.

Objects
Cup or basin of water
A soluble object (e.g. salt or sugar)
Spoon (to mix the object)
Bubble wrap
Pen.
Now tossed with temptation, then haunted with fears, 
My life has been joyless and useless for years; 
I feel something better most surely would be 
If once thy pure waters would roll over me.

Context
Sometimes the things we cling to or put all our efforts into can be the very things that keep us from experiencing the boundless freedom found in Christ. In Matthew 19:16-26, Jesus knew that for the rich young man money was the thing that stood in the way of him finding a life of service and meaning in the Kingdom of God.

Ask God what things in your life need to be surrendered so that you can experience life to the full (John 10:10).

Activity
Make a display with your objects and choose a paper object that exemplifies the extra baggage that you are carrying and put it in the box as a sign of your willingness to give it up and follow Jesus on the journey. Perhaps you see people in your corps or around you who are also desperately seeking meaning and fulfilment. Choose another paper and pray for them too.

Objects
Objects that represent a need for surrender in different areas of our lives, such as:
- Technological gadgets
- Money
- Family
- Words
- Thoughts.

You will also need a box and paper cut-outs (see attachment 2).
PRAYER STATIONS

1. BOUNDLESS LOVE
2. CONVICTION OF SIN
3. FREEDOM FROM SIN
4. SURRENDER
5. COMMITMENT
6. CALLING
7. BOUNDLESS LIFE

O ocean of mercy, oft longing I’ve stood
On the brink of thy wonderful, life-giving flood!
Once more I have reached this soul-cleansing sea,
I will not go back till it rolls over me.

Context
There are worldwide variations for the sign below but it generally indicates that there is a crossroads or intersection ahead. The driver needs to be aware of what’s coming but also sure of which route to take. Sometimes it can be hard to know which way to go or what decisions are the best for our lives. However, we’re not called to stand still and watch the world go by, but instead to discover God’s plans for us through his Word, prayer and fellowship with others, gaining wisdom and understanding that will equip us with the tools required to move forward in faith and with confidence. ‘I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you’ (Psalm 32:8).

Activity
Draw or write in the sign prayers of personal dedication and commitment, or for guidance and courage to take the next steps in your journey of faith.

Objects
Paper crossroads sign (see attachment 3)
Pens.
The tide is now flowing, I’m touching the wave,
I hear the loud call of the mighty to save;
My faith’s growing bolder, delivered I’ll be;
I plunge ‘neath the waters, they roll over me.

Context
Hebrews chapter 11 is distinctively a passage about faith in action, with a list of ordinary, imperfect people who God called and used. These heroes of the faith heard the Father’s voice, obeyed and ‘took the plunge’. Things were far from easy for them, they sacrificed much and went through many hardships, but their faith in God spurred them on. They lived lives of obedience and holiness.

Activity
Touch the water as if ‘touching the wave’ and listen to what God is calling you to do. ‘He hears, he forgives, he accepts, he loves, he restores, he regenerates, he saturates, he invigorates as you plunge ‘neath the waters they will roll over you’ (Boundless, Court and Strickland).

Place a rock or stone in the water and pray for your community of faith and for The Salvation Army. Pray for a wave of holiness, that we would: ‘...throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith’ (Hebrews 12:1, 2).

Objects
Basins of water
Rocks/stones.
PRAYER STATIONS

1. BOUNDLESS LOVE
2. CONVICTION OF SIN
3. FREEDOM FROM SIN
4. SURRENDER
5. COMMITMENT
6. CALLING
7. BOUNDLESS LIFE

And now, hallelujah! the rest of my days
Shall gladly be spent in promoting his praise
Who opened his bosom to pour out this sea
Of boundless salvation for you and for me.

Context
This final verse is a testimony to God's boundless work of grace, love, and salvation in us and its availability to the world. We can experience more than redemption from our sins, but victory over them and the power of the Holy Spirit over temptation along with the freedom that only comes from Him. Hallelujah! Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Activity
In the jigsaw outline either:
draw, write or paint aspects related to your story of boundless salvation as a prayer of thanksgiving to God, or
Draw, write or paint a prayer to God for the redemption of humanity.

Objects
Jigsaw outline (see attachment 4)
Coloured pens, paint etc
Scissors.
Emotions

thoughts

emotions

attachment 2