

SOAPS WORKSHEET

BOLD FOR CORPS CADETS | COURSE C | BOOK 2 | NOVEMBER | FALL 2015

NAME: _____

S

READ THE SCRIPTURE (1 pt.)

COMPLETE THE SOAPS SECTIONS USING THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURE: PROVERBS 30:1-9.

O

WRITE AN OBSERVATION (1 pt.)

WRITE AN OBSERVATION ABOUT THIS SCRIPTURE. IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT DO YOU "SEE" IN THIS SCRIPTURE?

A

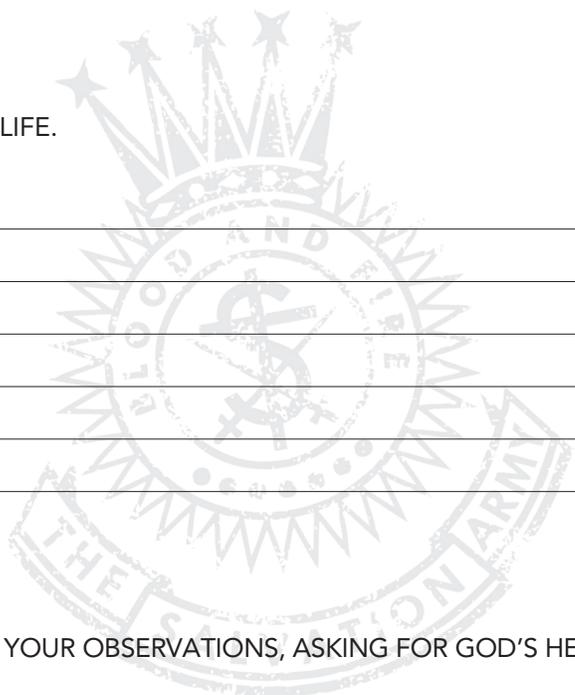
WRITE AN APPLICATION (1 pt.)

WRITE HOW THIS SCRIPTURE APPLIES TO YOUR LIFE.

P

PRAY (1 pt.)

PRAY SPECIFICALLY ABOUT THIS SCRIPTURE AND YOUR OBSERVATIONS, ASKING FOR GOD'S HELP IN APPLYING ITS TRUTH TO YOUR LIFE.





KNOWING THE TRUTH



SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Bibles
- BOLD booklets
- Pens/pencils
- Downloaded video clip on computer, iPad, etc. or Wi-Fi access and bookmarked clips
- Copies of *Monthly Questions* and *Activity Record* sheets
- Copies of the *Take Home Bookmark*

BEFORE CLASS:

- Read the *Leader Overview*.
- Watch a sample of the “Forward, Rewind” from *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* that the “Rewind, Edit” activity in the *Apply* section is based off of at www.youtube.com/watch?v=8t6vj8sII08 to become familiar with the concept.
- Download the clip for the *Pray* section from the BOLD curriculum link at www.sayconnect.com (Nov_Week1_F15.mpg) in advance and save it to your computer, or bookmark it (www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehVeDRiuahU), ensuring you have an Internet connection for viewing. Ensure that you have the sound working and adequate projection for your group’s size. If you prefer simply to play the music rather than show the video, you can also purchase the song on iTunes: “Creed” by Rich Mullins.
- Make copies of *Monthly Questions* and *Activity Record* sheets.
- Make enough copies of the *Take Home Bookmark* found at the end of the lesson for each corps cadet.

LEADER OVERVIEW

The purpose of this lesson is to teach corps cadets that there is such a thing as absolute truth, that Jesus is Truth, and that skepticism is the enemy of belief.

Corps Cadets will learn the correct use of the word “truth.” They will discuss the difference between fact, opinion, and truth, learning that neither belief nor unbelief changes what is true. They will see in Scripture what truth is, as well as what the enemy of truth is, learning that all truth points back to Jesus. As application, they will



act out the original temptation with “edits” along the way, discussing doubt and skepticism. They will also consider some basic truths to hold onto and discuss how to handle conversations with people who don’t believe the same truths to be true.

Current adolescent culture is inundated with the idea that truth is relative—that there is no such thing as absolute truth. Relativism is dangerous; however, the real enemy of absolute truth is skepticism. This has been true throughout the ages, as seen by Jesus regularly saying, “Don’t doubt; believe!” Although relativism and skepticism are not new concepts (look back thousands of years at various philosophers), they exist in schools and peer groups more obviously than ever before in the postmodern generation. “Postmodernism in general is marked by a *tendency to dismiss the possibility of any sure and settled knowledge of the truth*. Postmodernism suggests that if [objective] truth exists, it cannot be known objectively or with any degree of certainty” (John MacArthur). This is what our corps cadets are being told. In essence, they are being trained to be skeptics.

It is important to remember that truth isn’t an independent object or reality. It is a value that we ascribe to statements, beliefs, ideas, facts, etc. The value is what is correct—in other words, the value is what is absolutely true. There will be a lot of room in this lesson for corps cadets to think for themselves about absolute truth. While you want to leave this room wide open for them to come to terms with absolutes largely on their own, it is also important to know what some of the commonly held absolute truths are. You can read more in Josh and Sean McDowell’s book *The Unshakable Truth*, but here are 12 “essentials” they list as absolutes:

1. The truth that God exists – God is the creator and He created humans to be in relationship with Him.
2. The truth about God’s Word – God’s Word reveals Himself to us so we can know Him.
3. The truth about original sin – Disobedience brought separation between God and humankind.
4. The truth about God becoming human – God planned for redemption by taking on human form through Jesus.
5. The truth about Christ’s atonement for sin – Jesus paid for our sin debt so we could be reconciled to God.
6. The truth about justification through faith in Christ – Jesus’ death allows us to be declared righteous before God; we are saved by grace through faith.
7. The truth about living the transformed life – Because of Jesus’ resurrection, we can begin the process of being conformed to His image.
8. The truth about Jesus’ bodily resurrection – Christ’s resurrection is what brings the power of salvation.



9. The truth about the Trinity – God is in relationship with Himself: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
10. The truth about God’s kingdom – This kingdom is first in the hearts and minds of those who follow Jesus, later to become our eternal destiny.
11. The truth about the church – Jesus passed down His mission to establish the kingdom to each of us; functioning as a body, we are the church—with the mission to share His salvation plan with the world.
12. The truth about the return of Christ – Jesus will one day return to set up His kingdom on earth.

The song used at the end of the lesson is based on the Apostles’ Creed:

I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into Hell; the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church [in other words, the church universal], the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLE

Incarnational leadership studies the truth, practices the truth, then teaches the truth.

MEMORY VERSE

“Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.” Proverbs 30:5-6

INTRODUCTION

(5 minutes)

Read from the book together as a brigade.

KNOWING THE TRUTH

Is it true that the Bible is the all-time bestselling book with the most published copies in the most languages? Is it true that Jesus died, was resurrected, and is the way to have freedom from sin and death? Is it true that Jesus’ favorite food was bread? The answers to these questions are actually not the real issue here. The issue is that



we have lost the meaning behind “truth” to begin with. The world uses the word so carelessly (much like “love”), that we have lost sight of what absolute Truth really is. *That kind of Truth is revolutionary!*

It is a *fact* that the Bible is the all-time bestselling book (facts can be verified; go ahead and Google it!). It is an *opinion* that Jesus’ favorite food was bread (read Luke 22:19; but Matthew 14:19 and Luke 24:41-43 could help you form a different opinion). It is *truth* that what Jesus did for us on the cross is the one and only way of salvation. You may not believe it, but what’s true is still true regardless of belief. That’s what makes it “absolute truth.” Not believing it is doubting, or skepticism. That’s the real enemy of truth.

The ultimate definition of Truth (with a capital T) is simply: Jesus. He says it plain and simple. *He* is Truth. Jesus is who He says He is. This is life-altering truth! It is absolute truth. So when we throw around the word “truth” for any statement—including facts and opinions—we lose the revolutionary value of absolute truth. Knowing the number of copies of the Bible sold may win you some money on *Jeopardy!*® but that’s about it. However, knowing Jesus... well that changes *everything!*

If we want to know what truth is, then we need to know what Jesus says. By studying His words and His actions here on earth, we gain an understanding of absolute truth and we fight the enemy of skepticism in our own hearts. And as this Truth (Jesus) transforms and changes us, we start to fight the skepticism in the hearts of those around us, and Truth continues to be revealed. Now, *that’s* revolutionary!

ENGAGE

(5 minutes)

Play “Kant’s Wager.”

Say: **Blaise Pascal was a French mathematician and philosopher in the 1600s. He is known for arguing that you can wager for God or wager against God. Basically, he said, if we believe in God and He exists, we will go to heaven. If we don’t believe in God and He exists, we will go to hell. If we believe in God and He doesn’t exist, we haven’t lost anything. He makes it sound as though the wager is clear.**

Then say: **Immanuel Kant was a German philosopher in the late 1700s. He took “Pascal’s Wager” a step further and said that it’s not just about us, but rather everyone around us when we choose to live a moral life based on the existence of God. So let’s play a little game to see what that would look like.**

Ask the following questions, allowing response between each one:

- **How many of you would be willing to wager \$100 on the fact that the sky is blue?**
- **Would you be willing to wager \$1,000?**



- 1 million dollars?
- How about wagering the happiness of the rest of your life on the sky being blue?
- What about wagering the happiness of the rest of the world?
- Would you wager the lives of your family?
- How would you answer these questions differently if you were wagering on the fact that Jesus is the only way to eternal life?

Say: **How we respond to absolute truth shows what our real values are. If we aren't sure, we could be wagering the eternal lives of people around us.**

READ

(5 minutes)

Ask for four volunteers to read the following passages before moving on to the Explore section: **Genesis 3:1; John 14:6; John 18:33-38; and John 20:24-28.**

EXPLORE

(15 minutes)

Ask: **After reading the introduction, can you explain the difference between fact, opinion, and truth? How would you explain it?**

Allow response. Then add from the following:

- A fact is defined as a statement about something that actually exists or is present in reality.
- Facts can be verified (for example, the boiling point of water is 212°F).
- Opinions are individual (or relative) thoughts about reality.
- Opinions can be very different, but don't change facts or truth.
- Truth is the value we apply to any statement, belief, fact, opinion, knowledge, or idea.
- Example: The value is either true or false.
- Julius Caesar crossed the Rubicon – true
- Julius Caesar crossed the Amazon – false
- Truth isn't an independent object or reality; it is the accuracy of statements describing reality.



Say: **Now let's look at Scripture. To what truth did Jesus come to testify, and who listens to that truth?** (John 18:33-38; John 14:6)

Allow response.

Say: **Jesus came to testify that He is the only way to God the Father. He is salvation because of His sacrifice on the cross for our sins. Those who listen are people who are on the side of truth. If truth is that Jesus is the only way, then being on the side of truth means being followers of Jesus and people who have been forgiven and have received this free gift of salvation. What is the result of knowing the truth? The truth will set you free. If the Son sets you free, you are free indeed.**

Say: **According to John 14, what is absolute truth?** (John 14:6)

Allow response. Then add from the following:

- Jesus is the way (Greek - *hodos*): He is the way to have a relationship with the Father. He is the way to walk out of sin and into forgiveness and experiencing grace.
- Jesus is the truth (Greek - *alētheia*): He is not a liar. He does not say anything false or represent falsehood. That's the opposite of His character. He is the most valuable reality known to humankind. Not only is He in contrast to what is false, but also what is incomplete. He is the fullness of truth. He is Truth.
- Jesus is the life (Greek - *zōē*): In Him (through His death and resurrection) is eternal life. Furthermore, following Him as His disciples gives us the opportunity to experience abundant life here on Earth.
- He is the ONLY avenue for salvation. He does NOT say, "I am *a* way, *a* truth, and *a* life." He is *the* way, *the* truth, and *the* life. It is through Jesus alone—through a relationship with the Person, not just through His teachings.

Ask: **Where do you see doubt and skepticism in these passages?** (Genesis 3:1; John 20:24-28)

Allow response. Then add from the following:

- In Genesis, the serpent didn't outright lie to Eve. His goal was to cause her to be skeptical of what God said. That's what skepticism is really about—not trusting God's character and not believing Truth.
- Thomas heard truth, but was doubtful. He would not believe truth without seeing it for himself. However, Jesus (Truth) knew Thomas' heart. He met him in his doubt. He told him that there were two ways of doing this: seeing or believing without seeing. Believing without seeing is the better way, but needing more in order to believe is also okay.



Explain: **There is a difference between doubt and skepticism. Skepticism says, “Faith is useless. We can’t know.” Doubt says, “Help me know.” Jesus says, “I can be known.” He can be known as a real Person with whom we can have a relationship—not just an abstract concept. It is good to ask questions when we doubt. But we are to take those questions to the One Who *is* Truth. When we doubt but deal with the questions on our own or through the wrong avenues (like Eve hearing the serpent’s words and making a decision without God’s input), that doubt becomes skepticism. And skepticism is dangerous.**

Ask: **Why is skepticism the enemy of truth?**

Allow response. Then add from the following:

- Skepticism may not appear as contradicting truth. It’s more about creating questions that are intended to drive you away from truth and trusting in your own thoughts or desires.
- While Thomas was given the opportunity to see for himself, not all of us have that opportunity. Skepticism can have us living permanently in doubt... until it is too late to see the truth with our own eyes.
- Thomas’ doubts were honest doubts. Pharisees, on the other hand, were not doubtful, but rather were skeptical and looking for a way to trick and trap Jesus.
- Doubt can draw us closer to God when we take our questions to Him. But skepticism holds the doubt so tightly that the person begins to look for loopholes or ways around something that God has already made clear.

APPLY

(20 minutes)

Play “Rewind, Edit.”

Ask for three volunteers who will act out Genesis 3:1-8 with the characters of Adam, Eve, and the serpent. A fourth volunteer will read the narrative from the Bible as the characters act it out. You will be the director.

Instruct the volunteers to act out the scene once through. At the end of the scene, call out “Rewind!” and have them do their actions quickly in reverse (not reading the passage) and begin again. At various points in the scene, call out “Rewind! Edit!” and have them change what the scene looks like.

For example, the narrator may read verse 6: “When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining



wisdom, she took some and ate it.” However, the characters will edit it as they act it out —Eve may say, “I’m not going to disobey God and eat that!”

Continue through the activity, rewinding and editing several times.

Ask: **Do you find that you struggle with skepticism (or doubting)?**

Allow response.

Ask: **How could we handle our doubts so that we don’t become skeptical?**

Allow response. Then say: **It’s okay to have questions. And we should bring our questions to God. There is a difference, however, between bringing our questions to God and questioning God. The first is about conversation and seeking truth. The second is about doubting truth and trusting in our own gut or thoughts or feelings. That’s where the danger really is. That’s exactly how the serpent snuck into Eve’s heart in the garden and what ultimately caused the Fall.**

Ask: **What are some truths to hold onto so that you can be confident in absolute Truth?**

Allow response. Then add from the following:

- There is only one true God.
- God is the Creator of everything.
- The Bible is inspired by God (God-breathed).
- Jesus is God’s Son.
- Jesus had to die on the cross for us. There was no other way.
- Jesus actually died and rose from the dead (was resurrected).
- Salvation is through faith alone, by grace alone, through Christ alone.

Then say: **Consider this quote about Jesus by author Randy Alcorn, “He didn’t say He would show the truth or teach the truth or model the truth. He is the truth. Truth personified. He’s the source of truth, and the reference point for evaluating all truth-claims. That’s why if we get it wrong about Jesus, it doesn’t matter what else we get right.” We can talk about God existing, but so would some other religions. We can talk about the Bible, but other faiths consider it important, too. One absolute truth that makes us different as Christians is Who we believe Jesus is and what He came to do for us.**

Ask: **How should we respond when others don’t agree with what we hold true?**



Allow response.

Explain: **The goal is to be in proper relationship with Christ, the Truth, and to bring others into relationship with Him by modeling Him, not by arguing with others.**

First, we need to understand where others are coming from when we disagree on truth. That doesn't mean we seek to compare our religious beliefs. Instead, it means that we need to realize that they have a different foundation for what they consider truth. Scripture is our absolute authority for truth. And truth cannot be understood—or even defined—without God. So if others don't have the Bible as their foundation, we will never see eye to eye. Therefore, we first have to determine the other person's foundation (or authority) for truth. If we have the same foundation, then we can discuss details in a way that sharpens our skills and knowledge.

However, if we don't have the same foundation and the other person does not believe Jesus is Truth, then we need to keep some things in mind as we talk about truth:

- We should never be close-minded. This ends all conversations.
- We should remain constant on matters of truth (always bringing it back to Scripture). We can be confident that Jesus is Who He says He is, and we do not have to argue it.
- We should be open-minded on matters of opinion. This will keep doors of communication open.
- Plan ahead for some basic logic:
 - o If someone says that “truth is whatever you believe” (relative truth), discuss the idea that if I sincerely believe I can fly, then can I step off a 30-story building safely?
 - o If someone says that “there's no such thing as truth,” can you believe that statement to be true?
 - o “With such a rock-like view of truth, the Christian faith is not true because it works; it works because it is true.” (Os Guinness)
- Everything should be bathed in love and grace. Respond with gentleness to honest questions. There is no reason to debate with anger. There is an eternal value to discussing in love.
- Keep in mind that absolute truth will always have the last word. Even if we don't see it right now.
- Above all, ask the Holy Spirit to be the center of your conversation.



PRAY

(5 minutes)

Before closing in a short prayer, play Rich Mullins' song, "Creed" that you either downloaded (Nov_Week1_F15.mpg; 4 min. 50 sec.) or bookmarked (www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehVeDRiuahU). Ask the corps cadets to listen to the words in a prayerful manner, determining whether or not they hold these things to be absolutely true.

Close with this simple, yet profound prayer of absolute truth: **God is with us. God is in us. God is. God.**

TO CLOSE THE CLASS

(5 minutes)

Have the corps cadets fill out their *Activity Record* points for the week and complete *Monthly Questions* 1 and 2. Collect to use next week.

Give each corps cadet a *Take Home Bookmark*.

RESOURCES AND RECOMMENDED FURTHER READING

Alcorn, Randy. *The Grace and Truth Paradox*. Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 2003.

Dongell, Joseph. *John: A Bible Commentary in the Wesleyan Tradition*. Indianapolis, IN: Wesleyan Publishing House, 1997.

Global Wesleyan Dictionary of Theology. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 2013.

Guinnes, Os. *Time for Truth: Living Free in a World of Lies, Hype, and Spin*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2000.

Kalakowski, Leszek. *Why Is There Something Rather Than Nothing? 23 Questions From Great Philosophers*. New York, NY: Basic Books, 2007.

MacArthur, John. *The Truth War: Fighting for Certainty in an Age of Deception*. Nashville, TN: Nelson Books, 2007.

McDowell, Josh and Sean McDowell. *The Unshakable Truth: How You Can Experience the 12 Essentials of a Relevant Faith*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2010.

The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine. London, England: Salvation Books, The Salvation Army International Headquarters, 2010.

The Wesley Study Bible New Revised Standard Version. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2009.

WEB RESOURCE

<https://carm.org/dictionary-truth>

TAKE HOME BOOKMARK

BOLD

BIBLE STUDY OUR HERITAGE LEADERSHIP DISCIPLESHIP

LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLE

Incarnational leadership studies the truth, practices the truth, then teaches the truth.

MEMORIZE

“Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.”

Proverbs 30:5-6

DID YOU KNOW?

Rich Mullins was a contemporary Christian music singer and songwriter in the 90s. He wrote “Creed” based on the Apostles’ Creed, which dates back to 390 AD and is the foundation for the faith doctrines of most Christian denominations worldwide. Mullins’ most famous song was “Awesome God.”

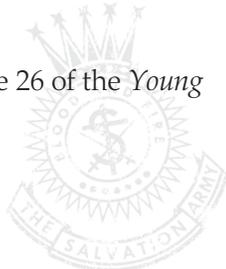
GO DEEPER

Read through our doctrines and discuss or journal which points you hold as truth and which ones you are still unclear on.

Listen to transMission’s CD *We Believe*.

Consider and share with someone how the 1st Commandment (Exodus 20:3) relates to absolute truth.

Complete the activity on page 26 of the *Young Salvationist*.



BOLD

BIBLE STUDY OUR HERITAGE LEADERSHIP DISCIPLESHIP

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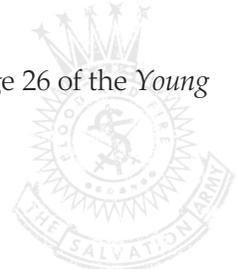
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Complete the activity on page 26 of the *Young Salvationist*.





BECOMING

W 2

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Bibles
- BOLD booklets
- Pens/pencils
- Paper
- Tape
- Envelopes
- Marker board or newsprint
- Markers
- Copy of “The Other Half” sheet
- Copies of “Order the Ranks” sheet
- Copies of “A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ” sheet
- Copies of *Monthly Questions* and *Activity Record* sheets
- Copies of the *Take Home Bookmark*

BEFORE CLASS:

- Read the *Leader Overview*.
- Make a copy of “The Other Half” sheet and cut into pieces.
- Make copies of the “Order the Ranks” sheet, cut each apart, shuffle, and put each set into an envelope.
- Make copies of “A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ” sheet.
- Make copies of *Monthly Questions* and *Activity Record* sheets, if needed.
- Make enough copies of the *Take Home Bookmark* found at the end of the lesson for each corps cadet.

LEADER OVERVIEW

The purpose of this lesson is to help corps cadets understand that The Salvation Army is more than a name that sounded good to William Booth; it is a name that embodies the truth of who we are as a church.



In this lesson, corps cadets will engage with some Salvation Army terminology to see how much they know. They will explore the history of the uniform, salute, and rank system. They will learn about Brigadier Clifton Siple who embodied what it means to be a Salvationist. As application, they will consider how they match up with William Booth's definition of a Salvationist.

Even though we teach that The Salvation Army was founded in 1865, it didn't become The Salvation Army as we know it until 13 years later, in 1878. The work that William and Catherine Booth did in the early years was certainly in the interest of The Salvation Army and moving them towards the creation of The Salvation Army. But The Salvation Army with uniforms, flag, crest, military structure, and terminology—all of that didn't come until the name changed. And, the name changed in 1878.

As Clifford W. Kew explains in his book, *The Salvation Army* (p. 22), "The title was chosen when William Booth was reading the proofs of the annual report. He came to the phrase, 'The Christian Mission... is a volunteer army.' He said, 'We are not volunteers, for we feel that we must do what we do.'...so he changed 'volunteer' to 'salvation,' creating a title which caught on and became the official name."

The change of The Christian Mission to The Salvation Army was much more than simply a name change. It reflected William Booth's very strong sense that Christians were at war with sin in the world and this required wartime tactics and wartime leadership. William Booth's idea of wartime leadership was all soldiers led by one General. In The Christian Mission, he was under a conference of missionaries who decided the direction of The Christian Mission. He took over and became the General in charge of The Salvation Army.

As Allen Satterlee explains in his book, *Turning Points: How The Salvation Army Found A Different Path* (p. 15): "The daring of this move by Booth was amazing. Conversely, Great Britain joined the rest of the Western world as it moved away from the concepts of royalty and autocracy in favor of democracy and socialism. Labor unions were rapidly forming, asserting the rights of the individual factory workers over factory owners. Marxism was born at the same time with its tenets of power invested in the people. Even church denominations were placing more power in the hands of its people, partly because they were following the flow of events and partly as a result of demands from its membership. That Booth took his organization in an entirely different direction flew in the face of all conventional wisdom. It emphasized leadership authority over the individual, an almost foreign concept in nineteenth century Britain."

Many, both inside and outside The Salvation Army, were amazed by the amount of authority William Booth held as General. Some were unkind and suggested that perhaps Salvationists needed such a leader because they could not think for themselves. Others agreed that wartime required special tactics and leadership. While one may believe having such power might not always be a good idea, for this man at this time, it was what was needed. Under Booth's increased leadership,



the military metaphor expanded to include ranks, appointments, uniforms, a flag and crest, and a lot of other military terminology.

According to *Webster's Dictionary*, distinctive means “characteristic, making distinct —not alike, different; not the same; separate; individual; clearly perceived or marked off; clear; plain; well defined, unmistakable; definite.” Kew says, “The most obvious distinctive feature of The Salvation Army is its use of military characteristics. It believes that evil is so powerful and so widespread, that the Christian must ‘go to war’ against it on a permanent basis. In the New Testament there is much ‘fighting talk’ likening Christians to soldiers” (p. 22). This “fighting talk” inspired William Booth.

First Timothy 1:18-19a and 6:12 call us to “fight the good fight...” while 2 Timothy 2:3-4 encourages us to “(e)ndure hardship...like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.” Second Corinthians 10:2-4 tells us that, as Christian soldiers, “...we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world...” Our protection is not the strength of the world. Ephesians 6:10-17 tells us to “(p)ut on the full armor of God... (f)or our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” We do all of this because, in the end we want to be able to say, as it does in 2 Timothy 4:7, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

For more information on the change to The Salvation Army and its military structure, read turning points two and three in Allen Satterlee’s *Turning Points: How The Salvation Army Found A Different Path*. Your corps officer should have a copy.

In your brigade, you might have first, second, third, fourth, and even fifth generation Salvationists. This is always a tricky thing to balance when teaching a lesson. You have those who believe they have heard it all before and know it all and you have those for whom this will all be new. Help your corps cadets to understand that there is always more to learn if they pay attention. Also, you can often have the corps cadets who are more familiar with the material explain it to the newer corps cadets. Then you can fill in the blanks.

LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLE

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MEMORY VERSE

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INTRODUCTION

(5 minutes)

Read from the book together as a brigade.



BECOMING

According to *Webster's Dictionary*, distinctive means “characteristic, making distinct —not alike, different; not the same; separate; individual; clearly perceived or marked off; clear; plain; well defined, unmistakable; definite.” The most obvious distinctive feature of The Salvation Army is its use of military structure, terminology, and other characteristics, like uniforms, the flag and crest, and ranks. In the New Testament there is a lot of “fighting talk” that compares Christians to soldiers. This “fighting talk” inspired William Booth.

The Salvation Army just celebrated its 150th birthday in July with the Boundless Congress in London, England. Even though the work that led to The Salvation Army was founded in 1865, it didn't become The Salvation Army as we know it until 13 years later, in 1878, when the name changed.

The change of The Christian Mission to The Salvation Army was much more than simply a name change. It reflected William Booth's very strong sense that Christians were at war with sin in the world and this required wartime tactics and wartime leadership. William Booth's idea of wartime leadership was all soldiers led by one General.

William Booth had been working with a Conference that decided the direction of The Christian Mission. It took too long. So instead of bringing things before the Conference for permission, William Booth began acting first and reporting to the Conference afterwards.

The members of the Conference noticed. Three early leaders—George Scott Railton, William Ridsdel, and Bramwell Booth—approached William Booth and said they wanted him in charge. So William brought together the members of the Conference and said he was taking over. They agreed. From there he established a military structure with commanders over small groups, which in turn were part of larger groups with a commander, which in turn were part of still larger groups with a commander at the head. Over all of them was William Booth, first General of The Salvation Army.

ENGAGE

(5 minutes)

Do “The Other Half” activity.

Make a copy of “The Other Half” sheet. Separate the word or phrase (in bold) from its explanation. Divide the pieces among the corps cadets. If you have a small brigade, give each corps cadet more than one. Be sure both parts have been given out. Tell the corps cadets to walk around the room saying their word or the part of the meaning that's in bold type to find the person who has the other half. When matches are made, have corps cadets tape them on the wall or marker board next to each other.



Once all the matches have been made, read through the words and meanings. Then say: **Some of these words and phrases you knew right away. Others weren't as familiar to you. The Salvation Army uses a lot of military terminology. Sometimes it can just sound like a lot of noise—like when we were walking around and all of us were talking at the same time. But, once you know what the words mean, they give you a clearer picture of The Salvation Army.**

READ

(5 minutes)

Have several corps cadets look up the following passages and be ready to read them during the *Explore* section of the lesson: **2 Corinthians 10:3-4; Ephesians 6:10-17; 1 Timothy 1:18-19a, 6:12; 2 Timothy 2:3-4; 2 Timothy 4:7; and James 3:13.**

EXPLORE

(20 minutes)

Say: **Let's look at the fighting talk in the Bible that inspired William Booth.**

Have two corps cadets read 1 Timothy 1:18-19a and 1 Timothy 6:12.

Ask: **What do 1 Timothy 1:18-19a and 1 Timothy 6:12 call us to do?**

Allow response. Add if necessary: They call us to “fight the good fight.”

Have a corps cadet read 2 Timothy 2:3-4.

Ask: **What does 2 Timothy 2:3-4 encourage us to do?**

Allow response. Add if necessary: It encourages us to “(e)ndure hardship... like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.”

Have a corps cadet read 2 Corinthians 10:2-4.

Ask: **What does 2 Corinthians 10:2-4 teach us about being Christian soldiers?**

Allow response. Add if necessary: It teaches us that, as Christian soldiers, “...we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world...” Our protection is not the strength of the world.

Have a corps cadet read Ephesians 6:10-17.

Ask: **What does Ephesians 6:10-17 tells us to do and why?**

Allow response. Add if necessary: It tells us to “(p)ut on the full armor of God” because “...our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”



Have a corps cadet read 2 Timothy 4:7.

Ask: **What does 2 Timothy 4:7 say we want to be able to say in the end?**

Allow response. Add if necessary: We do all of this because, in the end we want to be able to say, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Say: **Let's talk about uniforms. In fact, let's have a debate about the pros and cons of uniforms.**

Divide the brigade into two teams: Pro and Con. Give teams a minute or two to write down as many reasons they can think of to support their side of the debate. Have teams each choose one person to make their argument and one to be their recorder. Have each recorder write the reasons on the marker board or newsprint. Explain that even if they don't agree with the side they are on, they can still come up with arguments to help their team.

After each side has presented its argument, say: **Did you know this isn't a new argument? It's been going on since very early in Salvation Army history. Not everyone thought Salvationists should wear uniforms.**

Elijah Cadman was all for uniforms. He is known for saying, at the "War Congress" of 1878, "I would like to wear a suit of clothes that would let everybody know that I meant war to the teeth and salvation for the world" (Kew, p. 22).

George Scott Railton, however, was against uniforms. He was afraid that uniforms would separate Salvationists from other people, "much like the parish priest's robes separated him from his congregation."

Who had the last word on the subject? William Booth. He almost always had the last word. William Booth was for the uniform, obviously, since we're still wearing them today. He said, it's "very useful, attracts attention, gives opportunity for conversation, gathers people together at the open-air demonstrations, excites respect in the rowdy population, indicates not only connection with the Army but the person's position in it, and is a safeguard against conformity to the fashions of the day" (Satterlee, p. 26).

So within three years, Catherine Booth created plain and distinctive uniforms with strong bonnets, since people often threw things at Salvationists. The uniform varies based on the country in which it's worn. For example, in India it is a sari for women. In tropical countries, the uniform is white or tan, instead of sun-absorbing navy blue.

Adapting the uniform is one of the ways The Salvation Army remains one army around the world.

Ask: **Soldiers and officers wear uniforms. They also salute. Who can show us The Salvation Army salute and explain what it means?** Allow response.

If nobody can show you, demonstrate it yourself. Have the corps cadets practice.



Say: **“The Salvation Army salute is given by pointing the right index finger upwards. It signifies recognition of a fellow-citizen of, and a traveler to, heaven, and a pledge to do everything possible to get others to heaven also...”** (Sandall, p. 40).

In an army, there are soldiers and there are officers. In The Salvation Army, we have soldiers and officers. We also have adherents and envoys.

Adherents are members of The Salvation Army. An adherent doesn’t have to fully accept Salvation Army regulations the way a soldier does. As described on a widely used adherent certificate: An adherent member of The Salvation Army is a person who believes in the Lord Jesus Christ and seeks to follow and be like him; participates in the worship, fellowship, service, and support of a local Salvation Army congregation; and identifies with the Army’s Mission Statement.

Envoys are non-commissioned officers who work for The Salvation Army in a ministry position. There is no requirement on the number of years an envoy has to serve. Non-commissioned means they have not gone through the two-year training period and they are not ordained. Since they are not ordained, they cannot perform weddings.

Officers are ordained ministers in The Salvation Army. Officers have ranks.

Ask: **What is the current rank structure?**

Allow response. Add if necessary: The current rank structure is: Cadet, Lieutenant, Captain, Major, Lt.-Colonel, Colonel, Commissioner, and General.

Say: **Today there are 8 ranks. At one point there were 17 ranks. Can you “Order the Ranks”?**

Depending on the size of your brigade, divide the corps cadets into two or more teams. If you have a small brigade, have the corps cadets work together. Give each team an envelope with the ranks on separate strips of paper. When you say, “Go,” each team should put the ranks in order. When a team thinks they have it right, check the order, pull out any ranks that are out of order and leave the rest. The team can continue until they have all the ranks in the correct order or time is called.

Here is the correct order, beginning at the top rank:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. General | 8. Senior-Major | 15. Senior-Captain |
| 2. Chief of the Staff | 9. Major | 16. Captain |
| 3. Commissioner | 10. Staff-Captain | 17. Lieutenant |
| 4. Lt.-Commissioner | 11. Field-Major | 18. Second Lieutenant |
| 5. Colonel | 12. Commandant | 19. Probationary Lieutenant |
| 6. Lt.-Colonel | 13. Adjutant | 20. Cadet |
| 7. Brigadier | 14. Ensign | |



Say: The first ranks were removed in 1931: Staff-Captain, Field-Major, and Commandant. The last ranks to be removed were Lieutenant-Commissioner, Brigadier, and Probationary Lieutenant. They were removed in 1973.

Ask: Have any of you ever met a Brigadier? Allow response.

Say: I want you to **meet Brigadier Clifton C. Siple**. Throughout his life, Brigadier Siple understood and taught the fullness of the experience of being a Christian: salvation and sanctification and continued obedient faith. He was a wonderful example of what it means to be a Salvationist.

During their officership, Cliff and his wife Jessie were ready to be used wherever they were needed. They alternated between being corps officers and being evangelists—first divisional and then territorial. Siple said it kept him alive on both sides (*Priority*). When they retired, they continued as evangelists for 15 years. Their ministry was local, national, and international.

In the corps, they were role models for fellow officers and developed strong local officers. In his years as an evangelist, his goal was to bring sinners to Christ, the blessing of holiness to growing Christians, and new strength and faith to believers. He was a confidante to fellow officers, serving as an officer counselor.

He loved to teach and preach. He preached in all four U.S. territories, as well as in Canada, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Argentina, and Uruguay. He taught at Brengle Holiness Institute 14 times and at the National Soldier Seminar on Evangelism 14 times as well. He also taught at the Continuing Education Seminars at the School for Officer Training.

But teaching to a large group was never more important than the moments with individuals. In fact, once when Brigadier Siple was teaching at the School for Officer Training, a cadet was so moved by what he was sharing that she interrupted him and asked him to pray for her. He stopped teaching and prayed right then and there.

Then, for 21 years, Brigadier Siple ran the Christmas effort at the Jamestown, New York corps—including ringing bells on the kettles and counting all the money each night—so the corps officer could concentrate on the corps during the busy holiday season.

In 1996, Brigadier Clifton Siple received The Order of the Founder—the highest honor given to one of its own in The Salvation Army—for actions that would have commended him to the Founder.

Brigadier Siple's long-time friend, Ron Bush said, "The most significant thing I can say about him was his evenness, his consistency. He had no hidden agendas. He had a transparency, a real love of the Lord."



Cliff Siple's favorite chorus was, "Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me." The beauty of Jesus was seen in him. He was promoted to Glory in 2010. He was 94.

Have a corps cadet read James 3:13.

Say: **Brigadier Clifton C. Siple was wise and understanding. He showed it by his good life, by his deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.**

APPLY

(10 minutes)

Say: **As the life of Brigadier Clifton C. Siple showed, being part of The Salvation Army is more than wearing a uniform, saluting, and showing up at corps activities and Sunday worship. What does being a soldier in The Salvation Army mean to you?**

Allow response. Give each corps cadet a copy of the "A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ" sheet.

Say: **Read "A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ" by William Booth. While you're reading, ask yourself, are you a soldier like the one described by William Booth? Would you like to be?**

Ask: **What would "making war your business" and "understanding your business" and "enduring hardness" look like in your life?**

Allow response.

PRAY

(5 minutes)

Close in prayer.

Ask God to help you and your corps cadets to be true Salvation soldiers:

- To be saved from sin;
- To be ready to follow wherever God leads;
- To know how to work together;
- To be willing and able to suffer;
- To know the Scripture; and
- To make fighting against sin and the Devil a priority.



TO CLOSE THE CLASS

(5 minutes)

Have the corps cadets fill out their *Activity Record* points for the week and complete *Monthly Questions* 3 and 4. Collect to use next week.

Give each corps cadet a *Take Home Bookmark*.

RESOURCES AND RECOMMENDED FURTHER READING

Barnes, Cyril J. *The Founder Speaks Again: A Selection of the Writings of William Booth*. London, England: Salvationist Publishing and Supplies, Ltd., 1960.

Green, Roger J. *The Life & Ministry of William Booth: Founder of The Salvation Army*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2005.

Kew, Clifford W. *The Salvation Army*. Oxford, England: The Religious Education Press, 1977.

Priority Winter 2000. West Nyack, NY: The Salvation Army Eastern Territory, 2000.

Satterlee, Allen. *Turning Points: How The Salvation Army Found A Different Path*. Alexandria, VA: The Salvation Army Crest Books, 2004.

The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine. London, England: Salvation Books, The Salvation Army International Headquarters, 2010.

The Salvation Army's National Archives and Research Center.

The Wesley Study Bible New Revised Standard Version. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2009.

Webster's New World College Dictionary. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster Macmillan Company, 1997.

WEB RESOURCE

<http://legacy.biblegateway.com>

TAKE HOME BOOKMARK

BOLD

BIBLE STUDY OUR HERITAGE LEADERSHIP DISCIPLESHIP

LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLE

Incarnational leadership studies the truth, practices the truth, then teaches the truth.

MEMORIZE

“Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.”

Proverbs 30:5-6

DID YOU KNOW?

The very first rank created was Captain. The second was General. The third was Lieutenant. During his tenure, General John Gowans (R) removed the rank of Lieutenant. General John Larsson (R) upheld the decision. Then, when he became General, Shaw Clifton (R) reinstated the rank. It's the only rank to have been removed and later reinstated.

GO DEEPER

Read the 2nd doctrine and 1st “I Will” statement of “The Soldier’s Covenant.” Discuss or journal how they relate to today’s lesson.

Check out the videos on George Scott Railton and Elijah Cadman at <https://vimeo.com/album/3215759>

Watch for King and Country’s “Fix My Eyes” at https://youtu.be/_ej9T4bTAGI. What do you think this line means: “It takes a soldier who knows his orders to walk the walk I’m supposed to walk”?

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FIND THE OTHER HALF

The General is the international leader of The Salvation Army.

The Chief of the Staff is second in command of the international Salvation Army.

“Fire a cartridge” means give a weekly tithe in an envelope called a “cartridge” to take aim at the enemy.

“Blood and Fire” is The Salvation Army motto, found at the center of the flag. It stands for the blood of Jesus Christ and the fire of the Holy Spirit.

“The Soldier’s Covenant” is the document a person signs before being enrolled as a Senior Soldier (becoming a senior member) of The Salvation Army.

“Open fire” means to start The Salvation Army in a new town or a new country.

Promoted to Glory is how we describe the death of a Salvationist. He received his final promotion, his promotion to Glory, meaning heaven.

“Fire a volley” means a Salvationist should shout Scripture verses.

A Knee Drill is a prayer meeting.

A Sword Drill is a way to practice finding Scripture verses.

The War Cry is The Salvation Army’s official monthly magazine.

Reinforcement personnel are missionaries.

A Corps is a center for worship and service.

Soldiers are members of The Salvation Army church.

Officers are ordained ministers in The Salvation Army.

A Testimony is a brief, personal witness, either in or out of meetings, as to what God has done for the saved person.

An Open-Air is a street meeting held to preach the gospel to those who may not otherwise be reached for Christ.

ORDER THE RANKS

General	Field-Major
Chief of the Staff	Commandant
Commissioner	Adjutant
Lieutenant-Commissioner	Ensign
Colonel	Senior-Captain
Lieutenant-Colonel	Captain
Brigadier	Lieutenant
Senior-Major	Second Lieutenant
Major	Probationary Lieutenant
Staff-Captain	Cadet

"A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ"

by William Booth

If, then, there is to be... fierce and terrible fighting (to) overcome this great enemy (Satan, who is really and truly now... the god of this world), there must... be soldiers, and they must be good soldiers.

- *A good soldier is a good man or good woman.*
 - *Has been saved from sin*
 - *Who will follow wherever God leads*
- *A good soldier makes war his business.*
 - *Fighting is his trade*
 - *Chooses it*
 - *Makes it a priority, making everything else second*
- *A good soldier understands his business.*
 - *Knows his part in the war*
 - *Understands his weapons — can use the sharp two-edged sword of Scripture*
 - *Understands the hearts of men*
 - *Knows the tricks of Satan*
 - *Knows the delusions, excuses, and hiding places of sinners*
- *Good soldiers understand how to act in combination.*
 - *They all move as one man, like a machine!*
 - *One can direct the whole so they can accomplish something.*
 - *An army that doesn't work together is just a mob.*
- *A good soldier of Jesus Christ is always a fighting man.*
 - *No excuses*
 - *No concern for self*
 - *Live to fight, love to fight, love the thickness of the fight, and die in the midst of it*
- *A good soldier endures hardness.*
 - *Is willing and able to suffer*
 - *Accepts that the road to resurrection and Heaven is through the cross*
 - *Knows how to live and how to fight and die*
- *A good soldier is victorious.*

Excerpted from "A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ," in The Salvationist, November and December, 1879 (Barnes, The Founder Speaks Again, pp. 49-55), paraphrased and summarized.



MAKE IT PLAIN

W 3

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Bibles
- BOLD booklets
- Pens/pencils
- Envelopes
- Copies of the “Questions and Answers” sheets
- Copies of *Monthly Questions* and *Activity Record* sheets
- Copies of the *Take Home Bookmark*

BEFORE CLASS:

- Read the *Leader Overview*.
- Make copies of the “Questions and Answers” sheets. Cut into strips. Put the ten questions in one envelope. Put ten answers in a separate envelope, but not all of the right answers. Put two of the same answer in the envelope.
- Make copies of *Monthly Questions* and *Activity Record* sheets, if needed.
- Make enough copies of the *Take Home Bookmark* found at the end of the lesson for each corps cadet.

LEADER OVERVIEW

The purpose of this lesson is to introduce corps cadets to C. S. Lewis and explore the skill of writing.

In this lesson, corps cadets will engage with the idea that they don’t have all the answers and be encouraged to live with the questions. They will explore Scripture passages that reflect on writing as well as learn about the author C. S. Lewis and his advice on writing. They will be encouraged to think outside the box about Christian writing. As application, they will consider what and why they post on social media.

From Facebook to blogs, everyone thinks they can be a writer. In a way, they’re right. In a way, they’re wrong. Technically, to put words on a paper is to write. To be the one who puts them there makes you the writer. But there is more to being a writer than simply applying words to paper. Writing takes skill and discipline. Writers have to accept responsibility for what they write.



Why do people write? Because they have a story to tell, they have wisdom and experience to share, they have important information people need to know, they have a question to pose, or they see an issue that needs to be raised and confronted.

Some of your corps cadets will be very interested in creative writing and will happily hear what C. S. Lewis has to say. For others, the idea of creative writing is terrifying or boring. The idea of doing it by choice is laughable. Don't let this derail this lesson. In the *Apply* section they're reminded that if they're using social media, they're writing every day. The overarching ideas are still applicable: we don't have all the answers; we need to know the difference between fact and opinion; and our words, wherever they appear, need to reflect Jesus, the Truth.

One really important element of this lesson is that we don't have all the answers—and we aren't supposed to. Rainer Maria Rilke, the German poet, wrote in his classic book, *Letters to a Young Poet*: "Have patience with everything that remains unsolved in your heart. Try to love the questions themselves, like locked rooms and like books written in a foreign language. Do not now look for the answers. They cannot now be given to you because you could not live them. It is a question of experiencing everything. At present you need to live the question. Perhaps you will gradually, without even noticing it, find yourself experiencing the answer, some distant day."

As the leader, be comfortable with questions. Model this for your corps cadets. Especially in our American culture, we don't like unanswered questions. If there is a blank, we fill it in. If we don't know the answer, we make an "educated" guess. We don't like to say, "I don't know." But "I don't know" is an essential part of our faith journey. If we know the answer to everything, we don't need faith.

The *Apply* section mentions two recent social media events of which you might not be aware. Iggy Azalea is a white Australian woman rapper who has taken criticism for her public comments. Many have accused her of racism for racist tweets she posted before she was famous. She has explained herself, but not apologized for anything she said.

In December 2013, Justine Sacco was the senior director of corporate communications at a company called IAC. She sent what she thought was a humorous tweet—heading to Africa, hope I don't get AIDS. She took a flight from JFK in New York to Johannesburg, South Africa. By the time she landed 11 hours later, her tweet was trending worldwide, and she had lost her job.

LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLE

Incarnational leadership studies the truth, practices the truth, then teaches the truth.

MEMORY VERSE

"Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar." Proverbs 30:5-6



INTRODUCTION

(5 minutes)

Read from the book together as a brigade.

MAKE IT PLAIN

Probably one of the best-known and loved Christian writers is C. S. Lewis, author of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Clive Staples Lewis was born on November 29, 1898 in Belfast, Northern Ireland. In 1911, at the age of 13, he abandoned his childhood Christian faith. At 19, he was on the frontline of World War I in France. Injured in battle, he was back in England by 21, studying at Oxford University. At 27, Lewis became a tutor in English Language and Literature at Magdalen College, Oxford where he remained for 29 years.

At the age of 31, Lewis said he became a theist (one who believes in a divine reality): “I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed.” Two years later, Lewis had a long conversation with J. R. R. Tolkien about Christianity. The next day, Lewis and his brother Warren took a motorcycle ride to the zoo. Lewis described his conversion this way: “When we set out I did not believe that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, and when we reached the zoo I did.” In 1933, Lewis started “The Inklings.” It was a group of writers, including J. R. R. Tolkien, who met together twice a week for 16 years to talk and share what they were working on.

Over the course of his life, C. S. Lewis wrote more than 60 books. He wrote in a variety of forms: essays on literature and ethics and theology, poems, criticism, science fantasy, and fantasy. There are people who can make the simplest thing complicated. But to make a complicated thing simple and understandable is difficult. C. S. Lewis was a master at making things plain.

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe was published in 1950. He died on November 22, 1963, a week before his 65th birthday. It was the same day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

ENGAGE

(5 minutes)

Do the “Q&A” activity.

Make copies of the “Questions and Answers” sheets. Cut the questions into strips and place them in an envelope. Cut the answers into strips and place ten answers, mostly the right ones, in a separate envelope. If you have a big brigade, break up into groups of 3-4. If you have a small brigade, make a set for each corps cadet.

Say: **You have two envelopes. One has questions. The other has answers. Let’s see how quickly you can match the answers to the questions. Go!**



Here are the questions and answers:

- $2 + 2 = ?$ 4
- What planet do we live on? *Earth*
- Who is the President of the United States? *Barack Obama*
- What color is a lemon? *Yellow*
- Who is Jesus? *The Son of God*
- Who are the co-founders of The Salvation Army?
William and Catherine Booth
- What shines in the sky at night? *The moon and stars*
- Who wrote *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*? *C. S. Lewis*
- What do the letters in S.T.E.M. stand for? *Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math*
- What are the colors of the rainbow? *Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet*

After a minute or two, someone will probably say something like: “We don’t have all the answers.” Encourage everyone to match as many answers as they can. Encourage them to talk to each other to see if someone else has an answer they need.

Say: **Admitting we don’t have all the answers is a really good start. Talking with others to find out if they have the answers we don’t have is a terrific next step. We want to be the ones with all the answers, but we aren’t. We don’t know everything and we aren’t supposed to. If we had all the answers, we wouldn’t need faith.**

READ

(5 minutes)

Have all the corps cadets find and bookmark each verse. They will need to find them again quickly during the *Explore* section of the lesson. Ask a different corps cadet to read each verse aloud: **Habakkuk 2:2; Philippians 4:8; and Hebrews 10:24.**

EXPLORE

(25 minutes)

Ask: **What does it mean to be a Christian writer?**

Allow response. Then add from the following:



- A Christian writer writes from a Christian worldview. It doesn't mean you have to say Jesus or have your characters pray or go to church. Is the name of Jesus said anywhere in *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*? No. Would you consider it a Christian book? Yes.
- A Christian writer tells the truth. Part of that truth is that, as Christians, we don't know everything. There are questions we can't answer and with which we struggle. Don't imagine you know the absolute truth. Don't answer questions to which you don't know the answer. There is more danger in giving a false answer than in saying, "I don't know."
- When writing about faith, especially for people who aren't Christians, a Christian writer shows the choices. As Christians, we don't automatically make the right choices. We need to show the process. To deny the process is to lie.

Say: **C. S. Lewis was asked, "Would you say that the aim of Christian writing, including your own writing, is to bring about an encounter of the reader with Jesus Christ?" He answered, "That is not my language, yet it is the purpose I have in view."**

Say: **Let's see what Scripture says about writing.**

Have a corps cadet read Habakkuk 2:2.

Ask: **What does Habakkuk 2:2 tell us about writing?** Allow response.

Say: **It says, "Make it plain." Not convoluted or confusing. Not caught up in so much Christian and Salvation Army jargon that nobody outside the church can understand it. The Oxford Dictionary defines jargon as "special words or expressions that are used by a particular profession or group and are difficult for others to understand."**

Ask: **What are some examples of Salvation Army jargon or Christian-ese that make what we say or write confusing to people who aren't Christians or Salvationists?**

Allow response. Then say: **For example, what about all of our initials? Do you even know all of these?** Say initials and have corps cadets call out that they stand for.

- NC: National Commander
- TC: Territorial Commander
- CS: Chief Secretary
- TYS: Territorial Youth Secretary
- TFS: Territorial Finance Secretary
- DC: Divisional Commander
- DYS: Divisional Youth Secretary



- DMD: Divisional Music Director
- CO: Corps Officer
- CSM: Corps Sergeant Major
- YPSM: Young People's Sergeant Major
- CT: Corps Treasurer
- DHQ: Divisional Headquarters
- THQ: Territorial Headquarters
- NHQ: National Headquarters
- IHQ: International Headquarters

Say: **C. S. Lewis gave some advice about being clear when writing:**

1. **Be clear. Remember that readers can't know your mind. Don't forget to tell them exactly what they need to know to understand you. Make sure each of your sentences couldn't mean anything else.**
2. **Always prefer the plain, direct word to the long, vague one. Don't implement promises, but keep them.**
3. **Never use abstract nouns when concrete ones will do. If you mean, "More people died," don't say, "Mortality rose."**
4. **Know the meaning of every word you use.**
5. **Don't use words too big for the subject. Don't say "infinitely" when you mean "very"; otherwise you'll have no word left when you want to talk about something really infinite.**

Have a corps cadet read Philippians 4:8.

Ask: **What does Philippians 4:8 tell us we should spend our time thinking about?**

Allow response.

Ask: **How could that affect what we write?**

Allow response.

Say: **Matthew 5 tells us we are to be the salt and light, as Eugene Peterson puts it in *The Message*, to bring out the God-flavors and God-colors in the world. Too often we are the vinegar and bitter herbs that leave a bad taste in the mouth and we're the glare of the interrogation lamp demanding a confession and repentance. When we think about what is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, praiseworthy, then we talk about and write about those things. That makes it possible for others to think, talk, and write about those things.**



Say: Malcolm Gladwell wrote *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Make a Big Difference*. As described on Amazon, it explores “that magic moment when an idea, trend or social behavior crosses a threshold, tips and spreads like wildfire. Just as a single sick person can start an epidemic of the flu, so too can a small but precisely targeted push cause a fashion trend, the popularity of a new product, or a drop in the crime rate.”

Ask: Could we cause a tipping point among Christians, among Salvationists, to rejoice and pray and give thanks and think and talk about what is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy—instead of being critical and judgmental and complaining? What if we became known for blessing instead of condemning?

Allow response. Then have a corps cadet read Hebrews 10:24.

Ask: **What does “Let us consider how...” mean?** Allow response.

Say: “Let us consider how...” means not everyone needs the same approach. We have to think about how to reach each person. Know your audience. Some people need a gentle nudge. Some just need to hear the story and meet the people. Some people need a fire lit under them. There is value in different intensities of writing. Some need a direct approach. Some need more subtlety.

Ask: Ask yourself, “Will what I am sharing help others to love more? Will it encourage them to do something that needs to be done?”

Say: C. S. Lewis wrote a wide variety of books in many different styles. He wrote some things during the war. He wrote some things after the war. He said during the war he could be more direct. There was a sense of urgency and people wanted to get to the point. But after the war, people became complacent. He said that to get the truth to people, he had to smuggle it behind enemy lines through their imaginations. He considered how to spur them on.

Say: In his last interview, C. S. Lewis said, “There is a character in one of my children’s stories named Aslan, who says, ‘I never tell anyone any story except his own.’ I cannot speak for the way God deals with others; I only know how he deals with me personally.”

As we think about absolute truth and how we express it, this is a good standard. I can only speak about how God deals with me.

APPLY

(10 minutes)

Ask: **Have you ever heard this—“I don’t lie, but Facebook does”? What do you think it means?**



Allow response.

Say: **I know that many of you don't plan to be writers. So everything we've talked about today may seem like it doesn't apply to you. But if you use social media, you are writing, every day. You are choosing words to share with your friends and followers. Writers have to be responsible for what they write. So, as we think about being honest in how we present ourselves, some phrases to use are "in my opinion" and "in my experience." Then we need to ask: Why am I posting this?**

If corps cadets have smartphones or tablets, have them open up their social media.

Say: **Look through or think about what you have posted recently—maybe the last 10 posts. Ask yourself these questions about those posts:**

- **Am I seeking approval and validation?**
- **Am I boasting? Constantly comparing myself with others?**
- **Am I discontent? Am I complaining? Am I spreading bitterness?**
- **Is this a moment to protect?**
- **Is it kind?**
- **Am I getting caught up in the mob mentality, joining in on the attack without considering the person?**

Say: **Before you post, how would you feel if your whole life was reduced to your most "foolish, offensive, and regretted public moment?" Think about Iggy Azalea who is getting flak for four-year-old posts on Twitter. Or, think about the woman who tweeted a racist comment before getting on an 11-hour flight. By the time she landed, her tweet was trending worldwide, and she had lost her job.**

Ask: **What if we became known for blessing instead of condemning?**

PRAY

(5 minutes)

If you think it would be meaningful for your corps cadets, have them each write a prayer.

Then close with the following prayer:

Dear God,

Before we write, post, or speak, help us to T.H.I.N.K. and ask ourselves:

Is it TRUE?

Is it HELPFUL?



Is it **INSPIRING**?

Is it **NECESSARY**?

Is it **KIND**?

Grant us wisdom. Grant us courage.

Amen.

TO CLOSE THE CLASS

(5 minutes)

Have the corps cadets fill out their *Activity Record* points for the week and complete *Monthly Questions* 5 and 6. Collect to use next week.

Give each corps cadet a *Take Home Bookmark*.

RESOURCES AND RECOMMENDED FURTHER READING

Cockerill, Gareth L. *Hebrews: A Bible Commentary in the Wesleyan Tradition*. Indianapolis, IN: Wesleyan Publishing House, 1999.

Gladwell, Malcolm. *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Make a Big Difference*. New York, NY: Back Bay Books, 2002.

Lewis, C. S. *The Great Divorce*. New York, NY: Macmillan, 1946.

Lewis, C. S. *Mere Christianity*. New York, NY: Macmillan, 1952.

Lewis, C. S. *The Screwtape Letters*. New York, NY: Macmillan, 1943.

Lewis, C. S. *What Christians Believe*. New York, NY: Macmillan, 1943.

Peterson, Eugene. *The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language*. Carol Stream, IL: NavPress, 2005.

Rilke, Rainer Maria. *Letters to a Young Poet*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton and Company, 1993.

The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine. London, England: Salvation Books, The Salvation Army International Headquarters, 2010.

The Wesley Study Bible New Revised Standard Version. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2009.



WEB RESOURCES

www.cbn.com/special/narnia/articles/ans_lewislastinterviewa.aspx

www.christianwritingtoday.com/7-writing-tips-from-c-s-lewis/

www.cslewis.org/resource/chronocsl/

www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/1208289-briefe-an-einen-jungen-dichter

<http://grammar.about.com/od/advicefromthepros/a/C-S-Lewis-On-What-Really-Matters-In-Writing.htm>

www.thehollywoodgossip.com/slideshows/iggy-azalea-racist-tweets/

<http://legacy.biblegateway.com>

www.lettersofnote.com/2012/04/c-s-lewis-on-writing.html

www.nytimes.com/2015/02/15/magazine/how-one-stupid-tweet-ruined-justine-saccos-life.html

www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/jargon

www.pbs.org/faithandreason/theogloss/theism-body.html

www.relevantmagazine.com/culture/internet-outrage-public-shaming-and-modern-day-pharisees

www.relevantmagazine.com/culture/tech/5-questions-ask-posting-social-media

www.relevantmagazine.com/culture/tech/8-dangers-social-media-were-not-willing-admit

<http://youtu.be/rC7kxDzxKoU>: Why C. S. Lewis wouldn't write for Christianity Today.

TAKE HOME BOOKMARK

BOLD

BIBLE STUDY OUR HERITAGE LEADERSHIP DISCIPLESHIP

LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLE

Incarnational leadership studies the truth, practices the truth, then teaches the truth.

MEMORIZE

“Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.”

Proverbs 30:5-6

DID YOU KNOW?

There is a Bible in tweets. It’s called *The Twible: All the chapters of the Bible in 140 characters or less... now with 68% more humor*. Written by Jana Riess and illustrated by Leighton Connor, it also claims to have 99% fewer begats. It has a tweet for each of the 1,189 chapters of the Bible and a summary of every book of the Bible in seven words or less.

GO DEEPER

Read the 2nd doctrine and 1st “I Will” statement of “The Soldier’s Covenant.” Discuss or journal how they relate to today’s lesson.

Read a book by C. S. Lewis or watch *The Chronicles of Narnia* movies—*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*; *Prince Caspian*; or *The Voyage of the “Dawn Treader.”*

What did C. S. Lewis sound like? Listen at <http://cslewis.drzeus.net/multimedia/audio/>.

Find C.S. Lewis’s books you might not know at www.cslewis.com.

Read the *Young Salvationist*. Consider submitting an article.

BOLD

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTIONS

2 + 2 = ?

What planet do we live on?

Who is the President of the United States?

What color is a lemon?

Who is Jesus?

Who are the co-founders of The Salvation Army?

What shines in the sky at night?

Who wrote *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*?

What do the letters in S.T.E.M. stand for?

What are the colors of the rainbow?

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ANSWERS

4	Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet
Earth Science	Technology, Engineering and Math
Barack Obama	C. S. Lewis
Yellow	The moon and stars
The Son of God	William and Catherine Booth
William and Catherine Booth	The Son of God
The moon and stars	Yellow
C. S. Lewis	Barack Obama
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math	Earth
Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet	4



NO FINE PRINT

W 4

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Bibles
- BOLD booklets
- Pens/pencils
- Candy
- Downloaded video clip on computer, iPad, etc. or Wi-Fi access and bookmarked clips
- Copies of *Monthly Questions* and *Activity Record* sheets
- Copies of the *Take Home Bookmark*

BEFORE CLASS:

- Read the *Leader Overview*.
- Download the clip for the *Apply* section from the BOLD curriculum link at www.sayconnect.com (Nov_Week4_F15.mpg) in advance and save it to your computer, or bookmark it (www.youtube.com/watch?v=dc5s1ZKNmcc), ensuring you have an Internet connection for viewing. Ensure that you have the sound working and adequate projection for your group's size.
- Make copies of *Monthly Questions* and *Activity Record* sheets, if needed.
- Make enough copies of the *Take Home Bookmark* found at the end of the lesson for each corps cadet.

LEADER OVERVIEW

The purpose of this lesson is for corps cadets to understand that we need to live out truth in our lives to be more Christ-like. Ultimately, we do this by having a solid understanding of absolute truth through a strong foundation in Scripture.

Corps cadets will play a game that helps them see how easy it is to believe something is in the Bible when it may really not be, showing them that they need to know God's Word for themselves. They will read passages that give warnings to those who do not heed the Bible. They will also continue to examine absolute truths. As application, they will discuss the importance of living out truth in daily life, not just avoiding lies. And they will look at their own lives to determine if they are living truthfully right now.



As stated in the *Leader Overview* in the Bible Study lesson this month, our teens are facing a culture of relativism—this is a catch phrase these days in Christian circles. They are taught in schools, by their peers, and by the media that there is no such thing as absolute truth. At its core, however, relativism is about learning to be skeptics. They don't learn to hold on to any truth that may exist independent of their beliefs.

Oprah has been quoted as saying, "One of the biggest mistakes humans make is to believe there is only one way. Actually, there are many diverse paths leading to what you call God." Furthermore:

"Sixty-four percent of Americans say, 'I will lie when it suits me if it doesn't cause any real damage.' Fifty-three percent say, 'I will cheat on my spouse —after all, given the chance, he or she will do the same.' Only 31 percent of Americans agree that 'Honesty is the best policy.' When asked what they would do for 10 million dollars, 25 percent said they would abandon their family, 23 percent would become prostitutes for a week or more, and 7 percent would murder a stranger." (Randy Alcorn, *The Grace and Truth Paradox*, p. 53)

Not understanding the absolute truth of God as well as not living out truth on an individual basis is the cultural norm. We want corps cadets to understand that truth matters. "Being a representation of the truth is about allowing the truth of God to penetrate us so intimately that it transforms our very lives" (Josh & Sean McDowell).

We also want to be sure that our corps cadets understand that, although Jesus is absolute Truth, Christianity doesn't hold the ultimate monopoly on truths. Faith traditions outside of Christianity (such as Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, etc.) have wisdom to offer and can affirm general truths about humans and acting ethically. *But* none of these religions reveals the divine absolute Truth of Jesus!

If you are unfamiliar with *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*, you can watch the clip of the part of the movie referred to in the intro at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=aDEdKzAZgko.

LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLE

Incarnational leadership studies the truth, practices the truth, then teaches the truth.

MEMORY VERSE

"Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar." Proverbs 30:5-6

INTRODUCTION

(5 minutes)

Read from the book together as a brigade.



NO FINE PRINT

In the original 1971 movie *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*, Willy Wonka makes all of the children sign a contract before entering the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to tour his factory. However, the contract goes on and on, with the print getting smaller and smaller until it can't be read without a magnifying glass. Of course, no one reads it; they simply sign and enter. But when Charlie comes to the end of the tour as the "winner," he finds out that he has unknowingly broken the contract, and Willy Wonka tells him and his uncle, "You get nothing! You lose! Good day sir!"

Obviously, it's important to read the fine print before signing anything, but what if we could live in a place where there was no fine print? That is too much to ask for in a fallen world, but it's not too much to expect of those who claim to be disciples of Jesus. As His followers, we can live a life with "no fine print." We say what we mean and mean what we say. That's living out truth.

"Truth is more than mere facts. It's not just something we act upon. It acts upon us. We cannot change the truth, but the truth can change us. It sanctifies us (sets us apart) from the falsehoods woven into our sin nature and championed by the world" (Randy Alcorn). Living out truth is more than just being honest and not telling lies. It means we live out *absolute truth*. We live out the truth that Jesus is the only way to God, that He is our means of salvation, and that following Him has eternal consequences.

Once we have an understanding of what things are absolutely true according to Scripture, then we should be in a place where truth begins to change our character to become more Christ-like. That is what discipleship means.

So, do you know absolutely what you believe, and why you believe it? And is it changing you to look more like Christ?

ENGAGE

(5 minutes)

Play "Does God's Word Say That?"

Instruct the corps cadets that you will read verses. They need to determine, "Does God's Word Say That?" Give each corps cadet some candy (either mini candy bars or something like a package of Skittles®). Let them know that they will be wagering their candy on whether or not the verses you read are in the Bible. If they are correct, you will double the candy they wagered. If they are incorrect, you will take away the candy they wagered.

To ensure from the beginning that corps cadets are not embarrassed by getting answers wrong, let them know that versions of this game have been played at many Salvation Army events, and often even officers are not the last one standing.



Read one verse at a time, allowing time for them to decide “Does God’s Word Say That?” and make their wager before giving the answer:

- “God will not give you more trials than you can handle.” *Answer: No!* (1 Corinthians 10:13b – “And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.”)
- “Who can withstand his icy blast?” *Answer: Yes! Psalm 147:17*
- “When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen.” *Answer: Yes! Isaiah 1:15*
- “Money is the root of all evil.” *Answer: No!* (1 Timothy 6:10 – “For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.”)
- “This too shall pass.” *Answer: No!* (Ecclesiastes 3:1 – “There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens.”)
- “Among all these soldiers there were seven hundred chosen men who were left handed.” *Answer: Yes! Judges 20:16*
- “Do not judge, or you too will be judged.” *Answer: Yes! Matthew 7:1*
- “Cleanliness is next to godliness.” *Answer: No!* (Psalm 51:10a – “Create in me a clean heart, O God.”)
- “God moves in mysterious ways.” *Answer: No!* (Isaiah 55:8 – “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord.)
- “There is no God.” *Answer: Yes! Deuteronomy 32:39*

Discussion regarding this game will come in the *Explore* section.

READ

(5 minutes)

Ask for four volunteers to read the following passages aloud at this time: Ezekiel 36:23-26; John 8:31-32; John 17:17; and 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

EXPLORE

(15 minutes)

Ask: **What do we need to have as a foundation so we can know truth?**
(John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Allow response. Then add from the following:

- Scripture: God’s Word is Truth (John 17:17)



- A solid knowledge of Scripture for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16)
- Knowledge of Scripture to be equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:17)

Say: **We played “Does God’s Word Say That?” at the beginning of our lesson. Note that we don’t promote gambling. In fact, as Salvation Army soldiers, we say that we will not participate in gambling. In gambling, you are ignorantly believing a total falsehood—that you will come out a winner. But when you were wagering your candy in our game, you were learning a truth: the more you know Scripture, the greater the opportunity you will have to prosper!**

Continue: **While most of us would get a lot of those wrong, the more we study the Bible, the more likely we will be to know what is truth and what isn’t. Having a solid foundation in Scripture doesn’t just happen. It takes intentional time on a regular basis reading it for ourselves, studying it, and talking with others about it. We also need to truly understand what the Bible says so we can speak truth. Satan’s first act recorded in the Bible was creating doubt in Eve’s mind about God’s Word by asking, “Did God *really* say that?” Unless we know God’s Word for ourselves, we won’t be able to fight off that doubt the enemy plants.**

Ask: **What do these passages have in common about those who follow truth?**

Allow response. Clarify if needed: They all show how we are transformed by truth.

Then say: **Knowing Jesus—the Truth—is about relationship. It’s not just about knowing truths (which is also important), but the most important thing is in knowing, following, and being transformed by Truth.**

Ask: **What are some ways in which the truth transforms us?**

Allow response. Then add from the following:

- Others will see the holy God through us. We are transformed by our relationship with Him, not merely by reading and knowing the Bible. (Ezekiel 36:23)
- We have a new heart and a new spirit inside us. (Ezekiel 36:23-26)
- It brings about freedom (from sin, selfish choices, living an empty life, etc.). (John 8:31-32)
- We are sanctified, cleansed, and set apart by the Word. (John 17:17)
- We become equipped for any task and are trained in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Ask: **So what would a transformed life look like to the world around us?**



Allow response. Then add from the following:

- They would see us as people of love.
- They would see us as people of hope.
- They would see us as people of joy.
- They would see us as selfless.
- People would wonder what makes us different.
- Ultimately, in wondering what makes us different, the goal would be that they would want to know the Truth for themselves that they see has transformed our lives.

APPLY

(15 minutes)

Watch the “God’s Not Dead” video clip.

Play the video clip that you either downloaded (Nov_Week4_F15.mpg; 3 min. 48 sec.) or bookmarked (www.youtube.com/watch?v=dc5s1ZKNmcc; starting at the 10:46 mark and ending at 14:34).

Ask: **Have you ever had someone (a teacher, family member, friend, or even a stranger) want to debate you about what is truth? If so, how did you respond?**

Allow response. Share if you have any experience with this, too.

Ask: **What do you think about how this student discussed truth with his college professor?**

Allow response. There is no right or wrong answer here. This is a matter of opinion. But remind the corps cadets of what was discussed in the first lesson this month—it’s one thing to answer the questions (doubts) of someone sincerely seeking answers. It’s another thing all together when we debate with a skeptic. It’s almost like we become similar to a used car salesman.

Ask: **How do we live out absolute truth in our daily lives so that we show others the reality of God’s love?**

Allow response. Then add from the following:

- We can understand for ourselves what we believe and why we believe it.
- We can be straightforward with the words we speak.
- We can make sure that our actions match our words.



- We may explain that truth is not about keeping us from having “fun.” Instead, it’s about protecting us. “...properly understood, biblical truths are guardrails that protect us from plunging off the cliff. A smart traveler doesn’t curse the guardrails. He doesn’t whine, ‘That guardrail dented my fender!’ He looks over the cliff, sees demolished autos below, and is *grateful* for guardrails” (Randy Alcorn).
- Ultimately, we need to have a personal relationship with Jesus and know what God says is Truth in order to live it out in our lives.

Ask: **What is the difference between avoiding lies and speaking truth?**

Allow response. Then say: **Avoiding lies or living out a list of dos and don’ts isn’t the same as showing Jesus. We show Jesus to others through living out truth in our words and our actions. Ultimately, it comes down to our character. “When we fail to tell the truth, we fail to represent Jesus, who is the Truth”** (Randy Alcorn).

Say: **“Someone has said, ‘We teach what we know, we impart who we are.’ And if we become a living representation of God’s truth, we will demonstrate it in our lives—we will live it”** (Josh & Sean McDowell).

Ask: **Do you have “fine print” in the words you speak? In other words, do you lie, do you avoid lies, or do you live out truth? Are you up front with who you are, what you believe, and Whom you represent?**

Allow response. Ask them to consider this prayerfully throughout the week.

PRAY

(5 minutes)

Pray this “parish prayer” over your corps cadets:

Prayer For Truth

**Lord, Jesus Christ,
You are the Way, the Truth and the Life.
Hear our prayer for truth and integrity
in all segments of society today.**

**May the truth be spoken by us and affirmed in others,
that in seeking truth, the world will come to find You,
the Source of All Truth.**

**Wherever relationships are weakened by deception or hypocrisy,
strengthen good Christian character among us
that we may bear witness to the critical need for truth.**

**May Your Spirit of Truth fashion minds and hearts
open to a moral integrity so strong
that both words and actions can be trusted.**



**In public and private life,
deepen among us a genuine commitment
to honesty, sincerity and truth-telling.**

**Let nations and peoples not compromise truth
by rationalization or pretense,
but safe-guard and defend it always
as Your most precious gift.**

**Lord, may those around us come to know
that they can take us at our word,
until that day when all the world lives in truth
and the Truth sets us free. Amen.**

(www.holynameebg.org/Parish_Prayers/prayer%20for%20truth.html)

TO CLOSE THE CLASS

(5 minutes)

Have the corps cadets fill out their *Activity Record* points for the week and complete *Monthly Questions* 7 through 10.

Ensure that all *Monthly Questions* are complete, with the corps cadet's name on each paper. Collect completed papers to turn in to DHQ.

Give each corps cadet a *Take Home Bookmark*.

RESOURCES AND RECOMMENDED FURTHER READING

Alcorn, Randy. *The Grace and Truth Paradox*. Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 2003.

Bertrand, J. Mark. *(Re)Thinking Worldview: Learning to Think, Live, and Speak in this World*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2007.

Guinnes, Os. *Time for Truth: Living Free in a World of Lies, Hype, and Spin*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2000.

McDowell, Josh and Sean McDowell. *The Unshakable Truth: How You Can Experience the 12 Essentials of a Relevant Faith*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2010.

Nobel, David A. *Understanding the Times: The Collision of Today's Competing Worldviews*. Manitou Springs, CO: Summit Press, 2006.

The Salvation Army Handbook of Doctrine. London, England: Salvation Books, The Salvation Army International Headquarters, 2010.

Satterlee, Allen, ed. *Notable Quotables: A Compendium of Gems from Salvation Army Literature*. Atlanta, GA: The Salvation Army Supplies, 1985.



The Wesley Study Bible New Revised Standard Version. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2009.

Wilkins, Steve and Mark Sanford. *Hidden Worldviews: Eight Culture Stories That Shape Our Lives*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2009.

WEB RESOURCES

www.huffingtonpost.com/lucy-mangan/top-ten-surprising-facts-_b_5760628.html

http://mobile.nytimes.com/blogs/opinionator/2015/03/02/why-our-children-dont-think-there-are-moral-facts/?_r=0&referrer=

STOP  **REMEMBER TO FILL OUT THE COURSE EVALUATION.**

TAKE HOME BOOKMARK

BOLD

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MEMORIZE

“Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.”

Proverbs 30:5-6

DID YOU KNOW?

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory was written by Roald Dahl based off a bedtime story he made up for two of his daughters. The book sold 10,000 copies in its first week. Up until the last moment, the Oompa-Loompas were going to be called the Whipple-Scrumplets. Roald Dahl wanted Maurice Sendak to illustrate his book—but he was too busy working on *Where the Wild Things Are* to accept the offer.

GO DEEPER

Read through our doctrines and discuss or journal which points you hold as truth and which ones you are still unclear on.

Watch the movie *The Lion King* and consider how it reflects basing decisions off of lies rather than the truth.

Remember to “like” BOLD on Facebook and follow @BOLDcorpscadets on Twitter!



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