

Old Testament People

LESSON 1: Josiah—The Boy Who Became King

This lesson will help junior soldiers understand what it means to be faithful to God. Through the example of Josiah, junior soldiers will learn what it means to be responsible, to love God, and to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

LESSON 2: Samuel—The Boy Who Listened

This lesson will help junior soldiers learn about listening to God and obeying His commands. Through the example of Samuel, junior soldiers will understand that God calls people to His service even when they're children.

LESSON 3: Gideon—The Boy Who Obeyed

This lesson will help junior soldiers understand the importance of obeying God. Through Gideon's example, junior soldiers will learn what it means to trust God and obey His commands.

LESSON 4: Esther—The Girl Who Became Queen

This lesson will help junior soldiers understand that God has a purpose for all of His children. Through the example of Esther, junior soldiers will learn about courage and faithfulness. They'll be challenged to step out in faith.

UNIT BIBLE TRUTH:

Being faithful to God will result in personal growth.

UNIT BIBLE TRUTH SCRIPTURE:

"Love the Lord, all of you who are faithful to him! The Lord watches over the faithful. But he completely pays back those who are proud. Be strong, all of you who put your hope in the Lord. Never give up."
Psalm 31:23-24 (NirV)

UNIT 1



UNIT AIM:

This unit will introduce junior soldiers to four people from the Old Testament who are powerful examples for young people. Junior soldiers will learn the importance of relying on God, listening to God, following His guidance, and having complete trust in Him.

UNIT DOCTRINE EMPHASIS:

Doctrine Two

We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.

Doctrine Eight

We believe that we are justified by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and that he that believeth hath the witness in himself.

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(YEAR TWO)

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SALVATION ARMY CONNECTION

We believe that we are justified by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and that he that believeth hath the witness in himself.

The eighth doctrine of The Salvation Army expresses our belief that all believers, through their justification and assurance by Jesus' sacrifice, can have confidence in living, in serving, in praying, and in facing eternity. We don't need to spend our time worrying, because God will meet our needs. We can spend our time as witnesses of His loving care.

This unit will introduce junior soldiers to several Old Testament figures who relied on God to meet their needs. Their faith in God led to positive outcomes for either themselves or the people they served.

As Christians and Salvationists, we must show the same type of faith. We must be comforted by God's love and care for us, and be firm in our belief in Him. Our reliance on Him will serve as a witness to those around us.

UNIT CONNECTION

Old Testament People

This unit will help your junior soldiers learn about Bible people—not much older than they are—whom God used to fulfill His purpose. Your junior soldiers will see what happens when God's children place their faith, trust, and hope in Him.

In lesson one, they will learn about trusting God and the Holy Spirit's guidance to fulfill their responsibilities. The story of Josiah, the boy king, will inspire junior soldiers to trust God to help them complete their tasks.

Lessons two and three examine listening to God's voice and obeying His commands. Both Samuel and Gideon heard the voice of God. Samuel listened to God's voice, and followed His command. Gideon needed to see God's power in concrete ways before obeying God's commands.

The final lesson of this unit will help your junior soldiers understand that God has a purpose for each one of them. Through the story of Esther, they'll learn about courage and holding on to their faith. Junior soldiers will learn that God is faithful to those who are faithful to Him.

TEACHING TIPS

There's no such thing as a dumb faith question, but there are dumb faith answers, like:

- *You should know that by now.*
- *That's a silly question. Be serious.*
- *You're too young to understand that.*

A child's question opens a door. Our answer opens it wider or slams it shut. Respectfully answering questions builds trust and invites more conversation.

