












# How We Get Our Generals

ACTIVITY	MINUTES	GRADE LEVEL	FOCUS	PITstops	*OTHER SUPPLIES
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPENING ACTIVITY Important Places	5	1-6			world map/globe, tacks or map markers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LESSON How We Get Our Generals	5	1-6	 	 A-B	song book
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MEMORY VERSE	5	1-6		 C	plastic eggs, baskets, small prizes (optional)
REINFORCEMENT ACTIVITY (Choose One Option)					
<input type="checkbox"/> OPTION 1 General's Plan Sing-A-Long	5	1-6		 D	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPTION 2 Mock High Council	10	1-6		 E-F	box / bag
<input type="checkbox"/> WORSHIP PROGRAM A New Leader	10	1-6			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LET'S DO IT! (LDI)					
General Information	5	1-2			
Generally Speaking	5	3-4			
General Facts	5	5-6			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DIALOGUE FOLDER					
iSPEAK	5	1-2			
iSPEAK	5	3-4			
iSPEAK	5	5-6			

## INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME

This lesson will help junior soldiers become familiar with the first two Generals of The Salvation Army, William Booth and Bramwell Booth. The junior soldiers will learn about the formation and purpose of the High Council, the body that elects the General.

## YOU ARE HERE!



Place the timeline marker on **1878** on the **Salvation Army** timeline.

\*In addition to materials listed in this chart, you need Basic Classroom Supplies.

# How We Get Our Generals

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE LEADER

### UNIT AIM:

This unit will help junior soldiers understand the role of the international leader of The Salvation Army, the General. They'll learn about the selection and appointment process of the General by learning about the High Council. Junior soldiers will learn about the ministry of the General while learning about past and present Generals.

**THE SALVATION ARMY** is an international movement with an international leader—a General. The Army consists of many soldiers, lieutenants, captains, majors, colonels, and commissioners, but only one General. The General's office is at International Headquarters in London, England. It's from this location that the General gives leadership to this remarkable organization.

William Booth was the first General of The Salvation Army. His son, Bramwell Booth, became the second General. William Booth appointed him. Bramwell was responsible for much of the early development of The Salvation Army. He held the first Youth Councils in 1898. During Bramwell's time as General, The Salvation Army participated in a great deal of missionary work.

Following the appointment of Bramwell Booth by his father William Booth, the High Council elected all Generals. The High Council still selects the General today. The High Council consists of the Chief of the Staff and all active commissioners and leaders of territories or commands from all over the world. The General who is the General at the time of the High Council isn't a member of the High Council.

The members of the High Council set up guidelines that they follow when selecting the new General. The High Council spends much of their time in prayer, seeking God's will for the selection of the international leader of The Salvation Army. Following a time of prayer, the members of the High Council nominate people they think are good candidates for the office of General. The people nominated must make a speech before the council members, and answer questions. Again, the council members pray and ask for God's guidance. Each member votes by secret ballot. Sometimes more than one round of voting is necessary. After each round of voting, the ballots are burned. On the final vote, the person with the absolute 2/3 majority becomes General-elect.

Before announcing the name of the General-elect to the soldiers and officers of The Salvation Army, the General-elect makes a speech to the members of the High Council, and signs the Deed of Acceptance stating that they accept the office of General of The Salvation Army. The first person not on the High Council to learn the name of the General-elect is the current General. Each General remains in office until the midnight prior to their 68th birthday, or a term of five years, whichever comes first.

The first High Council met in 1929 to elect the third General, General Edward Higgins. The High Council has elected all succeeding Generals. The 18th High Council met in 2013 to elect the 20th General, General André Cox.



## OPENING ACTIVITY

### Important Places

Before class, obtain a world map or globe and five tacks (or other map markers).

Say: **In the 150 years since The Salvation Army began, it has spread to more than 126 countries. A great army like The Salvation Army must have a main office. Do you know where that main office, the international headquarters for The Salvation Army is located?** (Allow response.) **The headquarters for The Salvation Army in our town is right here in \_\_\_\_\_** (name of the city your corps is located in). (Mark on the map or globe the location of your corps.) **Our Divisional Headquarters is located in \_\_\_\_\_** (name of the city your DHQ is located in). (Mark on the map or globe the location of your DHQ.) **Our Division is in the \_\_\_\_\_ territory** (insert name of your territory). **The Territorial Headquarters is located in \_\_\_\_\_** (name of the city your THQ is located in.) (Mark on the map or globe the location of your THQ.) **National Headquarters is in Alexandria, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C., the nation's capital.** (Mark on the map or globe the location of NHQ.) **The International Headquarters for The Salvation Army is where the General and other international officers make decisions about The Salvation Army in the world. It's located in London, England, the same place where The Salvation Army began.** (Mark on the map or globe the location of IHQ.)


Say: **Although we have different types of headquarters in different parts of the world, we're one Army, bound together by our mission to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and reach out to help people in need.**

#### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- globe or world map
- five tacks or map markers

## LESSON


### How We Get Our Generals

Before class, make copies of  A-B for each junior soldier. Encourage junior soldiers to write information about the first two Generals on the "notepads" for each General. Gather enough red songbooks for junior soldiers to share.

Say: **Raise your hand if you know the name of the first General of The Salvation Army.** (Allow response.) **Can you tell me something about him?** (Allow response.)


Say: **God had a plan for William Booth. As a young man, William Booth promised to give God his entire life. God used William Booth to be the founder and first General of The Salvation Army.**

#### MATERIALS NEEDED:

-  A-B
- scissors
- glue
- pens or pencils
- song books




In 1865, William Booth and his wife Catherine founded The Christian Mission. In 1878, The Christian Mission was renamed The Salvation Army, and William Booth was named the General. He was General until 1912. While he was General, The Salvation Army started work in 58 countries. William Booth wrote many books and songs. (Instruct junior soldiers to turn to song #298 in the song book. Read over the words to "O Boundless Salvation.") **This song is sometimes called "The Founder's Song" because William Booth wrote it. William Booth was promoted to Glory on August 20, 1912.**

Instruct junior soldiers to cut out the picture of William Booth and glue it to  A. Move timeline marker to 1912 on the Salvation Army timeline.

Say: **After General Booth died, a small blue envelope was found in a security box. In the envelope was the name of the person William Booth wanted to be General of The Salvation Army when he died. Who do you think it was? (Allow response.) The name in the envelope was Bramwell Booth, the oldest son of William and Catherine Booth. Bramwell Booth was very important in helping his father with The Salvation Army.**

**While Bramwell Booth was General, The Salvation Army went through a lot of growth. The Salvation Army spread to more countries, and it started doing a lot more missionary work. Bramwell Booth served as the second General of The Salvation Army until 1929. Bramwell Booth was promoted to Glory on June 16, 1929.**

Instruct junior soldiers to cut out the picture of Bramwell Booth and glue it to  A. Move the timeline marker to 1929 on the Salvation Army timeline.

Say: **Since 1929, all Generals have been elected by a group of Salvation Army officers called the High Council. The High Council is made up of all commissioners and officers who are territorial or command leaders throughout the world. The members of the High Council meet in England, where they decide the rules for the group. They choose the next General by following the rules and guidelines they set up.**

**The members of the High Council spend time in prayer, asking God to help them make the best choice for The Salvation Army. Next, the members of the High Council nominate people who they think will be good candidates for General. Each person nominated makes a speech in front of the High Council and answers questions. The members of the High Council spend more time in prayer asking God for guidance. After prayer, the members of the High Council vote by secret ballot. Sometimes it takes more than one round of voting because someone must receive 2/3 majority. After each round, the ballots are burned so no one knows the results. After the final round, the votes are counted,**



## LESSON 1

and a new General is selected. The new General gives a speech to the High Council, and signs a special paper called the Deed of Acceptance stating that they accept the job of General of The Salvation Army.

In 2013, the 18th meeting of the High Council gathered in England to elect the 20th General of The Salvation Army. Do you know who the new General is? (Allow response.) The 20th General of The Salvation Army is General André Cox. We'll learn more about General Cox in a few weeks.

Being the General is hard work. The men and women who've served as General know that they were selected by God to do something very special. In the next few weeks, we'll learn about the generals and how they helped The Salvation Army grow.'



### TEACHER ALERT:

Collect completed A from each junior soldier. They'll complete this project over the next two lessons.

### MEMORY VERSE

## Psalm 4:3 (NlrV)

"Remember that the Lord has set his faithful people apart for himself. The Lord will hear me when I call out to him."

Before class, make two copies of C. Cut the strips of paper and place them in plastic eggs. Place each set of eggs in a separate basket.

Review the verse. Divide junior soldiers into two teams. Give each team a basket of eggs. Instruct each team to place the verse in the correct order. The first team to place the verse in the correct order wins. Review the verse again.

### REINFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE ONE OPTION)

## General's Plan Sing-A-Long (Option 1)

Before class, make copies of D. Give each junior soldier a copy of the words ( D). Sing the song as a brigade. For added fun, allow junior soldiers to act out the different verses.



#### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- C
- scissors
- plastic eggs
- baskets
- small prizes (optional)




#### MATERIALS NEEDED:



- D





**MATERIALS NEEDED:**

-  E-F
- box/bag
- pens/pencils

## Mock High Council (Option 2)

Before class, make copies of  E. Also, make a copy of  F and color the Junior General badge. Place a box or bag on the table to be the ballot box.

Say: **Today we're going to elect a Junior General. The person we elect as Junior General will be my helper next week in class. We'll elect our Junior General the same way the High Council elects the General of The Salvation Army.**

Open in prayer. Then, allow the nomination of three junior soldiers. Ask each nominee to state why they'd make a good Junior General. Give each junior soldier a ballot (from  E) to write their selection on. Tally the votes, and announce the Junior General. Give the winner the Junior General badge ( F).



## WORSHIP PROGRAM

**CHORUS:** Song #45: "Trust In the Lord"  
(Track #45, *Great Big Praise* CD 1)

**SCRIPTURE:** Deuteronomy 31:1-8 (NirV)

**CHORUS:** Song #47: "Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho"  
(Track #47, *Great Big Praise* CD 1)

### DEVOTIONAL

## A New Leader ?

Say: **God loves to help His children make important decisions. He loves to help us make good choices. Moses wasn't allowed to lead the Jews into the Promised Land. God told Moses that Joshua should be the new leader of the Jews.**

Joshua took over the leadership of the Jews. God used Joshua to help the Jewish people go into the Promised Land, defeat their enemies, and build their new nation. Joshua trusted God to help him make big decisions and he listened to what God had to say. Joshua was a good leader.

God calls all kinds of people to do things for Him. God calls some people to be leaders of countries like the United States of America or organizations like The Salvation Army. God calls other people to be teachers, doctors, lawyers, and even to be sanitation workers. It doesn't matter what God calls you to do, you can trust Him to help you do it well. The Generals of The Salvation Army trust that God will help them make good choices for The Salvation Army, and God helps them. God will help you too, if you trust Him.

## PRAYER



Remember to fill out  
the *What Do You Think*  
*Evaluation* on page 219.

