

Modern Day Witnesses—My Part In The Church

ACTIVITY	MINUTES	GRADE LEVEL	FOCUS	PITstops	*OTHER SUPPLIES
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPENING ACTIVITY Hot or Cold?	10	1-6		 A-B	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LESSON Faithful Witnesses	10	1-6	 	 C-E	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MEMORY VERSE	5	1-6		 F-L	
REINFORCEMENT ACTIVITY (Choose One Option)					
<input type="checkbox"/> OPTION 1 Worldwide Witnessing	5	1-6			All the World
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPTION 2 We Can Witness	5	1-6			CD/Media player
<input type="checkbox"/> WORSHIP PROGRAM Prayers for Witnessing	10	1-6			
<input type="checkbox"/> LET'S DO IT! (LDI)					
Little Things To Big Things	5	1-2			
Busy Bodies	5	3-4			
What Will You Do?	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 understand that God wants all believers to be witnesses. They'll become familiar with three modern day Christians who've served God in very different capacities.

YOU ARE HERE!



Place the timeline marker on **1941** on the **Salvation Army** timeline.

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

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE LEADER

UNIT AIM:

This unit will introduce junior soldiers to men and women who have made significant contributions to the Christian faith over the last five centuries. They'll learn about key movements in the Church that have helped shape our beliefs as Salvationists.



MATERIALS NEEDED:

- A-B
- tape

OUR SOCIETY CHANGES rapidly. Each day new technologies are introduced, computers are faster, and iPads, iPods, iPhones, and tablets make information and music available anywhere, anytime. Our world is fast-paced and ever-changing.

The Church is changing too. In many churches new worship services have been introduced such as contemporary services, inter-generational services, and post-modern services. Worship services meet on Saturday evenings, Sunday afternoons, and Tuesday nights.

One thing, however, remains constant in the rapidly changing world—God. God was present at the beginning. He created the world and the people who inhabit the world. He is still watching over and caring for His children today. God still desires to have a relationship with His children.

Over the past few weeks, the junior soldiers in your brigade have been learning about some people who have affected the Church and the world over the last five centuries. Today your junior soldiers will begin to understand that they can be powerful witnesses for God. God commands all believers to share His message with others. This lesson will introduce junior soldiers to three people from the 20th century who have used the talents God has given them to be witnesses to His love.

OPENING ACTIVITY

Hot or Cold?

Before class, place a long strip of tape on the floor. At one end of the line, tape  A; at the other end of the line, tape  B.

Say: **I'm going to read a few statements. If you totally agree with the statement, move to the end of the line where it says "HOT." If you totally disagree with the statement, move to the end of the line where it says "COLD." If your response is somewhere in the middle, stand in the middle.**

Ask the junior soldiers the following questions. If one or two junior soldiers are standing in a different spot than the others, ask them for their opinion. Be careful not to make children feel like their opinion doesn't count. The purpose of this activity is to get junior soldiers thinking about their beliefs, not to make them feel excluded.



Statements:

- It's okay to smoke a cigarette if you only try it once.
- Going to church is important because God wants us to spend time with other Christians.
- It's okay to have a boyfriend or girlfriend before you're 16.
- It's okay to sneak into an R-rated movie when your parents think you went to a G-rated movie.
- It's important to go to school.
- Downloading music from the internet without paying for it is okay.
- It's important to obey your parents.

LESSON
Faithful Witnesses  

Say: **Over the past few weeks, we've been talking about people who've made a difference in the Christian Church. Today we're going to talk about three people who've made a difference for Christians in modern times. Each day millions of people make a difference in the world because they love God.**

Show junior soldiers  C.

Say: **Do you know who this woman is?** (Allow response.) **Her name is Corrie ten Boom. She was a faithful witness for Jesus in a terrible situation.**

Corrie ten Boom was a Dutch woman born in the Netherlands. Her father was a watchmaker, and owned his own watch shop. The ten Boom family lived above the watch shop that they owned.

When Corrie was 14 years old, she asked Jesus Christ to forgive her of her sins, and live in her heart. She loved Jesus so much that she told the kids in her neighborhood about God. She read Bible stories to them. She organized a club for children with intellectual disabilities. In this club, she shared Bible stories and songs with the children. Corrie ten Boom cared about all people, and wanted to tell everyone about Jesus.

Corrie ten Boom lived in Europe during a dangerous time. During World War II, Adolf Hitler and his band of soldiers, the Nazis, tried to take over Europe. They wanted to kill anyone who was Jewish—this is called the Holocaust. The ten Boom family thought that Hitler and the Nazis were wrong. They built a secret room in Corrie's bedroom where they could hide Jews.



MATERIALS NEEDED:

-  C-E



Soon the ten Boom family home became a center for the Jews trying to escape from the Nazis. They helped many Jews escape from the Nazis until the secret police raided their house and took the ten Boom family to prison.

Corrie ten Boom didn't let being in prison, a concentration camp, and a work camp stop her from telling others about Jesus. In fact, she told the other women imprisoned with her about God's love and care for them.

When Corrie ten Boom was released from prison, she traveled all over the world telling people about what happened to her and to many Jews during World War II. She preached about God's love and forgiveness. She wanted everyone to know that God loves them.

Move timeline marker to 1944 on the Salvation Army timeline. Show junior soldiers  D.

Say: **Do you know who this man is?** (Allow response.) **This is Reverend Billy Graham. He's a famous preacher not only in the United States, but also all over the world. He organizes large rallies where thousands and thousands of people come together to hear about God's love.**

The first time Billy Graham organized a rally, called a crusade, it was somewhat successful, a few thousand people attended and listened to Billy Graham preach. In 1949, Billy Graham organized a crusade in Los Angeles, California. The people in charge of the event put up a tent big enough for 6,000 people. Each night Billy Graham preached and people asked Jesus for salvation.

Over the years, Billy Graham's crusades became more popular. Soon, the meetings were held in temporary buildings the size of football fields, and eventually in large stadiums. Over 20,000 people would attend each meeting.

Soon Billy Graham raised money to preach on the radio and television. Billy Graham knew that by talking on the radio and television he could preach to millions of people at one time.

Many people have heard the good news about Jesus Christ because of the preaching of Billy Graham. People are still influenced by his preaching and ministry today.

People called Billy Graham the "Preaching Windmill" because when he preached, he swung his arms around like a windmill. He's a powerful preacher. (If you have a video tape of Billy Graham preaching, show a clip to the brigade. If you have access to the internet during class you can show a clip of Billy Graham from YouTube.)



LESSON 4

Say: **People witness about Jesus' love in all types of careers. Billy Graham is a preacher, so he speaks about God's love everyday. Some people witness about God's love by their behavior.**

Move timeline marker to present day on the Salvation Army timeline. Show junior soldiers  E.

Say: **This is Tim Tebow. He's a former NFL quarterback. He played for the Denver Broncos and New York Jets. He also played college football for the University of Florida, and won the Heisman Trophy in 2007. Now he's a college football analyst.**

In addition to his football skills, Tebow is known for his devotion to his Christian faith, displayed often on the field with what has become known as "Tebowing"—dropping to one knee in prayer with his head resting on one hand. Tebow has stated, "Regardless of what happens, I still honor my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, because at the end of the day, that's what's important, win or lose..." He's a witness to the other players in the NFL, to the football fans, to his community and his family.

We can learn a lot about being a good witness from the lives of Corrie ten Boom, Billy Graham, and Tim Tebow. Corrie ten Boom witnessed to hundreds of Jews through her kindness and positive attitude. Billy Graham witnesses to millions of people by using the preaching abilities God has given him. Tim Tebow uses the athletic ability given by God to serve as a Christian example.

There are many ways to share God's love with others. We can use all sorts of talents and abilities to share God's love. People who are skilled artists can paint pictures or design sculptures; writers can express God's love in books or short stories; people who enjoy gardening can plant flowers for someone who can't take care of their own yard. There are many ways to share God's love. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can use the talents and abilities God has given to us to share His message with everyone we meet.





MATERIALS NEEDED:

- F-L



MATERIALS NEEDED:

- *All the World*



MATERIALS NEEDED:

- poster board
- *Great Big Praise* CD
- CD/Media Player

MEMORY VERSE
Acts 22:15 (NIV)

“Now you will give witness to all people about what you have seen and heard.”

Before class, make one copy of F-L. Mount each on construction paper. Tape the to the wall or board.

Say: **We’ve talked about three famous people who’ve been witnesses for Jesus, but we find witnesses in all walks of life. We can be a witness for God in everything that we do. Adults can be witnesses for God in their careers and in their hobbies. God wants all of His children to be witnesses of His love, care, and forgiveness.**

Review the verse. Each time you recite the verse, remove one until junior soldiers memorize the verse. After class, display the verse on the wall or bulletin board as a reminder of God’s command for all Christians to serve as witnesses.

REINFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES
 (CHOOSE ONE OPTION)

Worldwide Witnessing (Option 1)

Before class, obtain copies of *All the World* magazine. Allow junior soldiers to look through the magazine to see the ways The Salvation Army witnesses around the world. Place emphasis on some of the practical things The Salvation Army does like building houses, providing food and shelter, listening when people need to talk, etc.

Allow junior soldiers to brainstorm ways they can be a witness to others.

We Can Witness (Option 2)

Before class, write the words to Song #69 “I Want to Be a Witness” from *Great Big Praise for a Great Big God* on a piece of poster board.

Play the song once while junior soldiers look over the words (Track #19, CD 2). Then play it again and have the junior soldiers sing along.



WORSHIP PROGRAM

DEVOTIONAL

Prayers for Witnessing

CHORUS: Song #69: "I Want to Be a Witness"
(Track #19, *Great Big Praise* CD 2)

SCRIPTURE: Acts 22:15 (NirV)

CHORUS: Song #77: "I Give All to You"
(Track #27, *Great Big Praise* CD 2)

PRAYER: Corps

Ask a junior soldier to pray for strength to be witnesses to people at the corps.

CHORUS: Song #9: "I Will Sing of the Mercies"
(Track #9, *Great Big Praise* CD 1)

PRAYER: Community

Ask a junior soldier to pray for courage to be witnesses to people in the community.

CHORUS: Song #74: "Tell the Good News"
(Track #24, *Great Big Praise* CD 2)

PRAYER: Family

Ask a junior soldier to pray for courage to be witnesses to members of their families. Follow this prayer with a closing prayer.



Remember to fill out the *What Do You Think Evaluation* on page 320.

