



30 days

with

WILLIAM BOOTH
(Founder of The Salvation Army)

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*“When your words came, I ate them;
they were my joy and my heart’s delight,
for I bear your name, O Lord God Almighty.”
Jeremiah 15:16*

A month of daily devotions to appreciate
the commitment of both William and
Catherine Booth to God’s commission on
their lives.

Compiled from the writings and speeches of
General William Booth
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Commissioner Maxwell Feener, Territorial Commander

The materials for this devotional booklet
are excerpts from the following books:

The Founder Speaks Again

Cyril Barnes

Words of William Booth

Cyril Barnes

Letters to Salvationists on Religion for Every Day

William Booth

The Founder's Messages to Soldiers

William Booth

The Seven Spirits or What I Teach My Officers

General William Booth

They Said It

William and Catherine Booth

General Without A Gun

Charles Ludwig

William Booth in America

R. G. Moyles

DAY

1

*“Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. I have sworn and confirmed That I will keep; Your righteous judgments.”
Psalm 119:105, 106*

‘The Bible is one of God’s greatest gifts to man. It contains not only the announcement of the sacrifice of His dear Son, but a revelation of His will as to the manner of life He wants men to live.’

The Bible has already worked saving wonders of great magnitude, and is closely associated with almost every important advance for the betterment of mankind which the human race has experienced.

The extent of the world’s indebtedness to that Sacred Book for the privileges it enjoys will never be known either in this life or the next.

You must read the Book, my Comrades, in order to learn how better to obey its commands and realize the blessings it offers. It is only in this way that you can discover the height, and length, and depth, and breadth of the religion of purity, and peace, and Divine communion, which are described and revealed in its pages.

I want my people to read the Bible with an eye on their obligation to follow Jesus Christ in that life of self-denying service which He led to seek and save the souls of men.

I want such a Bible-reading as will make Salvationists who shall be truly Christ men and Christ women; that is to say, imitators of their Lord.

The Founder’s Messages to Soldiers, pgs. 58-61

**Open your Bible prayerfully,
read it carefully, obey it joyfully.**

DAY

2

“... the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’” *Romans 1:17*

Salvation is commenced by means of faith, maintained by faith, and brought to a triumphant issue by faith.

1. Your conversion was by faith.
2. Your assurance of it has been received by faith.
3. Your peace and gladness have been according to your faith.
4. Your usefulness in honouring God and saving men has been, and will be, according to your faith.
5. Your triumph on your dying bed will be according to your faith.
6. Your crown, happiness, honour, and reward in Heaven will depend upon the extent to which the Spirit of Faith has led you, and enabled you to do all the holy will of God.

If you have a full measure of faith, that is, if like Stephen and Barnabas of old, you are full of faith, and of the Holy Ghost, you will have a full measure of salvation. That is, you will have salvation up to the full limit of your capacity and need: “Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over.” All this is in harmony with the law laid down by Jesus Christ when He said, “According to your faith be it unto you.”

The Seven Spirits, p. 88

**When we walk with the Lord,
we'll be out of step with the world.**

DAY

3

“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.” Romans 8:2

I take it that all of you feel settled and certain—as certain as men and women can be down here—of your own personal salvation.

I remember a story that they told me in the north of England of one Christer, a rather remarkable miner of those days, who, in the early time of his experience, was very much plagued by the devil as to the reality of his conversion. To circumvent Satan, he hit at last upon the following device. He was a poor scholar, but he sought out somebody who could write, and made him describe on paper all the particulars of his conversion, the date, the place, the hour, what a devilish fellow he had been, how joyful God had made him, and what a wonderful change had been wrought in his life. When it was all written, he folded it up, put it in his pocket, and the next time the devil came to try him on this point, he pulled out the paper, and spreading it forth, said, “There, devil, if thou canst read writin’, there’s the whole account of it.” After this, Christer says he was troubled no more on the subject.

Now I am supposing that every one of you carries about not on paper, but in your memory, in a never destroyable writing, the record of that transaction by which you passed from death unto life, and very useful that record doubtless is. Still, that alone is not sufficient; only the direct continuous testimony of the Holy Ghost can create the certainty which gives so much power in this struggle.

Salvation Soldiery, pgs. 142, 143

**The victories of the past
give courage for the future.**

DAY

4

*“For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
And His ears are open to their prayers;”
1 Peter 3:12*

Every home should be *the dwelling-place of God*. This was the chief glory of the first home in Eden. It was not its situation, its climate, its fruit, its flowers, or any of its other ten thousand beauties that constituted its chief splendour. The glory that eclipsed all other glories was the fact that God was there; that He found pleasure in its occupants; that He came and went with satisfaction and delight. It will be ever thus with the beautiful home on high, toward which we are journeying. God will be the chief glory of heaven. It should be so with the homes of His people on earth.

In such a home there will, of necessity, be family prayer. The first thing done by the patriarchs of old when they fixed their tents, for however short a period, was to erect an altar and offer sacrifices thereon. Thus, they openly recognized the existence of Jehovah, acknowledged their dependence upon Him for their every good and gave Him the worship which was His due. Whoever would have a happy home must do the same.

At stated times—morning, noon and evening if possible, . . .—let all the members of the household gather and offer the ‘sacrifice’ of praise and thanksgiving, interceding for themselves and for the dear ones absent, for the corps with which the family is connected, . . . and for the dark sinning multitudes around.

They Said It, pgs. 15, 16

**Faithfulness in little things
is a great thing.**

DAY

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, . . .” 11 Timothy 2:15

5

I Do promise—my God helping—

Firstly. That I will rise every morning sufficiently early (say twenty minutes before seven o’clock) to wash, dress and have a few minutes, not less than five, in private prayer.

Secondly. That I will as much as possible avoid all that babbling and idle talking in which I have lately so sinfully indulged.

Thirdly. That I will endeavour in my conduct and deportment before the world and my fellow servants especially to conduct myself as a humble, meek and zealous follower of the bleeding Lamb, and by serious conversation and warning endeavour to lead them to think of their immortal souls.

Fourthly. That I will not read less than four chapters in God’s word every day.

Fifthly. That I will strive to live closer to God, and to seek after holiness of heart, and leave providential events with God.

Sixthly. That I will read this over every day or at least twice a week.

God help me, enable me to cultivate a spirit of self-denial and to yield myself a prisoner of love to the Redeemer of the world.

Amen and Amen.

(Written at twenty years of age—December 6, 1849 . . .)

The Founder Speaks Again, p. 147

**Good intentions are no good
until they are put into action.**

DAY

6

“I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, That you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.” Acts 13:47

We are a salvation people—this is our speciality—getting saved and keeping saved, and then getting somebody else saved, and then getting saved ourselves more and more, until full salvation on earth makes the heaven within, which is finally perfected by the full salvation without, on the other side of the river.

We believe in salvation. We believe in the old-fashioned salvation. Ours is just the same salvation taught in the Bible, proclaimed by prophets and apostles.

We believe the world needs it, and that this and this alone will set it right. We want no other nostrum—nothing new.

There are *think-so* Christians, and there are *hope-so* Christians, and there are *know-so* Christians; thank God we belong to the *know-so* people—we know we are saved.

Our work is salvation. We believe in salvation, and we have salvation. We are not mere sentimentalists or theory people; we publish what we have heard and seen and handled and experienced of the word of life and the power of God. We aim at salvation. We want this and nothing short of this, and we want this right off. My brethren, my comrades, soul-saving is our avocation, the great purpose and business of our lives. Let us seek first the Kingdom of God, let us be Salvationists indeed.

They Said It, pgs. 50, 51

**Wanted: Messengers to deliver
the good news.**

DAY

7

“... I will pray with my spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.” 1 Corinthians 14:15

You must pray with all your might. That does not mean saying your prayers, or sitting gazing about in church or chapel with eyes wide open while someone else says them for you. It means fervent, effectual, untiring wrestling with God. It means that grappling with Omnipotence, that clinging to Him, following Him about, so to speak, day and night, as the widow did the unjust judge, with agonizing pleadings and arguments and entreaties, until the answer comes and the end is gained. This kind of prayer be sure the devil and the world and your own indolent, unbelieving nature will oppose. They will pour water on this flame. They will ply you with suggestions and difficulties. They will ask you how you can expect that the plans and purposes and feelings of God can be altered by your prayers. They will talk about impossibilities and predict failures; but, if you mean to succeed you must shut your ears and eyes to all but what God has said, and hold Him to His own word: and you cannot do this in any sleepy mood; you cannot be a prevailing Israel unless you wrestle as Jacob wrestled, regardless of time or aught else, save obtaining the blessing sought—that is, you must pray with your might.

They Said It, pgs. 32, 33

**God's answers to our prayers
may exceed our expectations.**

DAY

8

“... but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:13, 14

Every man has some ruling, controlling object in life. That is, there is something which forms the chief attraction of his existence, and influences him most in all he feels and says and does in his everyday life. Perhaps he does not realize the presence or power of this force, or the influence it exerts over him, but it is there all the same.

Now the real object for which The Salvation Army exists is known to us all. It is to save men; not merely to civilize them. That will follow. Salvation is the shortest and surest cut to civilization. The Army's real object is not to educate them. That will follow also; and if it does not, men and women had better live good lives, and get into Heaven at last, than, with heads full of learning, whether secular or religious, finish up in Hell. The Army's real object is not merely to feed them; that is good, very good, so far as it goes. It is true that in our social work we feed the starving and house the homeless, but it is only a step toward the purpose we wish to accomplish.

The object is to save men from sin and hell, to bring them to God and to bring God to them; to build up the Kingdom of Heaven upon the earth.

The Founder Speaks Again, pgs. 38, 39

**To love sinners is
to be like Jesus.**

DAY

9

“For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.” John 3:17

We must hold on to the doctrine of the Atonement because of the marvellous revelation it affords of the love of God to man.

You have the revelation of that love in the *Creation*, the provision made for man’s health and happiness.

You have a revelation of that love in *Providence*. All things work together for our good. That we do not understand why things that appear opposed to our welfare come to us does not disprove the fact.

You have a revelation of that love in the *Bible*. Who would ever have dreamed of many of the things we know about God if they had not been there revealed?

You have a revelation of that love in *Grace*. Grace is the sign of the infinite compassion, love and beauty of God in the conversion, sanctification, preservation and utilization of His people, and in their final triumph over death and hell.

But in Christ—in His hanging, dying, on the Cross—we have a manifestation of the heart of love which made all this possible, and which, in importance, far transcends it all.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small,
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

The Founder Speaks Again, pgs. 11, 12

**Jesus gave His all for us.
Do we give our all for Him?**

DAY

10

“He holds victory in store for the upright, . . .

Proverbs 2:7

A REMARKABLE event in the religious history of St. Ives took place on September 30th, 1861 when the Rev. William Booth (later General Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army) paid a visit to the town, and began a revivalist campaign which lasted until the January of 1862. Mr. Booth, then still only a young man, was at this time working as a kind of free-land Methodist preacher, and had already made a considerable reputation for himself as a result of the evangelizing missions, conducted in many parts of the country.

Mr. Booth's labours in this town proved very successful, a total of 1,028 conversions taking place during his ministry here. A writer at this time said of him: "We do not wonder he creates a stir wherever he goes. He is an earnest, sincere and zealous minister. He is highly poetic; his illustrations are very vivid, and sometimes truly sublime." The effect of his fervent, emotional type of preaching was to bring members of the congregation flocking to the "penitent form," which he introduced for the first time in this district. A local poet wrote of him:

I bless the day when Mr. Booth,
Came to St. Ives to preach the truth
And stir up men to pray,
And in this famous fishing town
Strong, hardened sinners were brought down
And did for mercy cry.

History of the St. Ives Fore Street Methodist Church

**Attempt great things for God;
expect great things from God.**

DAY

11

“Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts.” Jeremiah 15:16

... **J**esus Christ—the Divine Word—became a man in order to make us know by His speech, action, suffering, and death what *the thoughts and feelings of God* really are towards us.

So we want the words of the Holy Book to be made flesh in our day. That is, we want the truths and doctrines of the Bible to so take possession of the souls of men that they shall live and act them out before the people around them, and show them by living pictures what the Bible teaches.

The men and the women that are moved and actuated by the Bible, will explain the goodness and love of God by being good and loving themselves.

They will teach the evil of sin by trampling it under foot themselves.

They will teach the beauty of holiness by living true, honest, industrious, kindly, pure lives themselves.

They will teach the sacrificing compassion of Jesus Christ by themselves pitying the lost, and seeking to save the souls of men.

They will reveal in themselves the joy of a real conquering religion by a glad and victorious warfare.

The Founder's Messages to Soldiers, pgs. 63, 64, 67

**Study the Bible to be wise; believe it to be safe;
practice it to be holy!**

DAY

12

“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” James 5:16

Many years ago, in the town of St. Just, at the extreme western point of the Cornish coast, I was preaching in a large chapel, holding I should think 2,000 people. It was generally crowded, and almost every night forty or fifty people were shouting and shrieking and seeking salvation. But in spite of all the solemn influences that were upon the people, a gang of rougns held out, and mocked and scoffed at all that was said and done. One night I had been pleading with this gang and finally said, ‘Very well, if you won’t listen to me, I will go and talk to God and ask Him to influence you and save your souls.’ I used to be compelled to go home at ten, so exhausted was I by the extraordinary meetings, while the people went on with the after-service sometime till two or three the next morning. After I had gone, three or four of the gang agreed that they would see whether I kept my word. They followed me home (I did not hear of it until afterward), but as soon as I got into my room I fell on my knees and began to plead for these men. The room had a bay-window reaching down to the ground. The men were under the window and listened to my prayers; then they went back and told their mates, and all went in a body to the Penitent-form and prayed to God to save them.

The Founder Speaks Again, p. 183

**The closer you are to God,
the bigger your heart for people.**

DAY

13

“... because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, ...” 11 Thessalonians 1:3

Let me mention two or three reasons why Salvationists should cherish a really brotherly and affectionate disposition toward one another.

The first reason is the personal pleasure which true friendliness imparts to all those who are the subjects of it. The joy flowing out of genuine friendship cannot very well be over-estimated.

To know that there are comrades who really feel affectionately toward you, whose eyes sparkle, whose hearts beat warmly, and whose hands are stretched out when you meet them, creates pleasure not only while you are with them, but when you think about them afterward.

The Salvationist should cultivate this friendly spirit because of the comfort it will bring to him, and also to others, in the everyday sorrows and trials of life.

Nothing strikes the stranger who finds himself within our walls more forcibly, or affects him more favorably, than the loving faces and friendly intercourse of the soldiers who surround him on every side, no matter how small the hall or how great the struggle in which the corps is engaged. He is constrained to say, ‘See how these Salvationists love one another!’

Look out for opportunities of befriending your comrades. This is not only your duty, but your privilege. . . . Bless your comrades, and your comrades will bless you.

The Founder Speaks Again, pgs. 88-90

**Christian fellowship
promotes spiritual growth.**

DAY

14

“... for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.” Matthew 10:20

There are a great many people on earth, and a growing number in Heaven, who have been converted through some personal word spoken by the lovers of Jesus at unexpected times and in unusual places.

The opportunities for this kind of usefulness are so numerous that they cannot be counted. They come to us every day, and to most of us many times a day. But, alas! how often they come and go unnoted and unimproved! This should not be. I want to ask you to take advantage of them.

I want you to feel that if you wear our blessed Uniform, or in any other way signify that you belong to The Army, people expect you to say something to them about eternal things.

Of course, opportunities will ever be occurring to you to speak to the members of your own family about their spiritual interests. But it is not those opportunities to which, at this moment, I refer, important as they may be. Neither am I asking you to avail yourselves of every chance of speaking to your Comrades on these subjects. I am asking for something more than this. I am urging you to seize every opportunity of putting in your word for Salvation with the ungodly people around you.

The Founder's Message to Soldiers, pgs. 82, 83

**The more you love Jesus,
the more you'll talk about Him.**

DAY

15

“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh.” 11 Corinthians 10:3

Wearing a long, yellow dressing gown and felt slippers, Booth paced back and forth in his bedroom dictating to G. S. Railton. “We are a volunteer army,” he said.

While Railton was writing this down, young Bramwell Booth leaned back in his chair and exclaimed, “Volunteer! I’m not a volunteer. I’m a regular or nothing!”

William Booth stood still for a long moment, a thoughtful frown on his face. Then he went up to Railton and, leaning over his shoulder, crossed out the word “volunteer,” and above it wrote “salvation.” The sentence now read, “We are a salvation army.” The effect of that phrase, “salvation army,” was so startling that Bramwell and Railton jumped out of their chairs. With glowing eyes Bramwell shouted, “Thank God for that!” And so the wonderful name that was to be known to hundreds of millions was born.

Up to this time military terms were only occasionally used. At home Booth was frequently called the “General,” for his real title, General Superintendent, seemed too long for the children. And once he had been introduced to a large congregation as the General of the Hallelujah Army.

The name, however, stuck; and soon military terms were being used throughout the organization. No longer was a revival advertised as a mere revival. Armies did not conduct revivals, they launched campaigns!

General Without a Gun, pgs. 59, 60

**God’s timing
is always right.**

DAY

16

*“Because Your lovingkindness is better than life,
My lips shall praise you. Thus I will bless
You while I live; . . .” Psalm 63:3, 4*

Jesus Christ said to His disciples, and through them He says to you, “In the world ye shall have Tribulation,” “If they have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you;” while Paul assures us that “all who will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” When you are a sufferer, when your burden of care and trouble increases, think upon the following:

God has promised to support you in your trials while you walk in the light; that is, while you do His blessed will. Some of the most beautiful and precious passages to be found in the Bible, describe the consolations which He promises to His Soldiers, while they are battling with the difficulties, persecutions, and sufferings of life. . . .

He promises you His support. “The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.”

He promises you the comfort of His Presence. “When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.”

He promises you victory. “God is faithful, Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.” “Nay, in all theses things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.”

Religion for Every Day, pgs. 138, 139

**God invites us to burden Him
with what burdens us.**

DAY

“... but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.”

Philippians 3:12

17

William Booth was busier than ever. He was on the eve of the 15-day International Congress of 1904, which was to be attended by crowds filling the Royal Albert and Exeter Halls, and the Crystal Palace. . . .

He had an important engagement within the hour: ‘the Rev. William Booth, Commander in Chief of The Salvation Army’, had been invited to Buckingham Palace to meet King Edward VII that day, June 24.

The interview ‘was of a most gracious and cordial nature’. The General was delighted to be able to speak of the work of his people in 49 countries. The King complimented him and asked how the churches viewed his work. ‘Sir,’ replied the 75-year-old warrior ‘they imitate me.’

The King was amused and requested him to write in his autograph album.

Some men’s ambition is art.

Some men’s ambition is fame.

Some men’s ambition is gold.

My ambition is the souls of men.

In those words William Booth summed up his life’s work.

Words of William Booth, pgs. 71, 72

**With God, you’re never
lost in a crowd.**

DAY

18

“And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God’s house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You.”

Genesis 28:22

There seems to be a mistaken notion very generally abroad as to the amount of money people give for religious work.

Oh! if like the Israelites of old and like many beautiful, generous souls of modern times they would follow the Old Testament plan of giving a tenth of their income to extend the Kingdom of Christ on the earth, what a blessing it would be to the Army, to the world, and to themselves!

I know that in objecting to this plan it is said, ‘Ought we not to give our all to our Lord who gave His all for us?’

Certainly we ought. Everything we possess should be on the altar, and first and foremost in the offering should be ourselves as ‘living sacrifices’.

But then home and family and the like have their claims upon us which must be met. As the Apostle wrote: ‘If any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, . . .’ But it will greatly help a just apportionment of our possessions if, before we begin drawing on our income for ourselves, we arrange for our Lord to have His share of the same, and resolve that that share shall be at least a tenth of the whole.

Try this . . . , my comrades, and you will find it profitable and pleasant for this world, and acceptable to God, . . .

The Founder Speaks Again, pgs. 79, 82

**Your standard of giving is more important
than your standard of living.**

DAY

19

*“That good thing which was committed to you,
keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.”*

11 Timothy 1:14

Everyone knows that on going into the Battle of Trafalgar, Lord Nelson hoisted at his masthead the signal, “England expects every man to do his Duty.” That sentence has been memorable ever since.

You have probably heard the story of the man who complained to his minister that he had four miles to walk to his Church. “Oh, my dear fellow,” said the Parson, “you must not grumble at that. You have an opportunity every Sunday morning of preaching a sermon four miles long.” He meant that all the people along the road he travelled had an example before their eyes which said, “Why don’t you go to Church? Why don’t you do your Duty?”

When you pray, when you sing, when you suffer without repining, when you carry one another’s burdens, when you warn sinners, when you give your money; in short, whenever you do any good act, you say by your action to those around you, “Go, and do likewise. Do your Duty! Do your Duty!”

The Esteem of those around you, and in many cases your own earthly profit, will be promoted by your doing your Duty. . . . They will say: “That man is not governed by what is pleasant, or easy, or profitable to himself at the moment, or even by what will gratify other people. He means to do his Duty.”

Religion for Every Day, pgs. 172, 175

**Following Jesus is not always easy,
but it’s always right.**

DAY

*“But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities; . . .”*

Isaiah 53:5

20

I am in Jerusalem, at the very heart of the scenes for ever hallowed by my Lord and Master’s life, sufferings and death. . . .

With indescribable feelings I have knelt in the Garden of Gethsemane, ascended the hill called Calvary, and worshipped with solemn awe on the very ground where stood the Cross of shame on which my Lord purchased, by His broken heart, abundant sovereign saving grace to meet the needs of the whole human family.

I have looked into the empty sepulcher, where, cold in the arms of death, my Saviour lay, and have wonderingly beheld the mount from which He ascended to the Father, triumphant over sin and death and hell, to plead the cause of the world He had so gloriously redeemed.

As my eyes have rested upon these sacred scenes, again the old question has suggested itself, Why all this suffering? Why did He live? And for what did He die? And then, I have remembered the answer which came from his own blessed lips: ‘The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.’

. . . The blessing of Heaven be with all those who love and serve our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth.

The Founder Speaks Again, pgs. 160, 161

**God loves each one of us as if there
were but one of us to love.**

DAY

21

“If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.” Galatians 5:25

A soldier who knows that he sincerely loves God, and that he is living in obedience to Him, has an inward assurance that God will care for him, whatever troubles may arise. Whereas one who feels that he has malice, hatred, pride, love of the world, and other wrongs hidden away in his secret soul, and who knows that he is daily neglecting his duty to his family or to himself, to his corps, or the poor sinners around him, can no more have a bright hope that God is going to make him a happy future, than the sinners can expect that they are going to have Heaven at the end of a sinful life. He may hope for it, but it will be like the hope of the hypocrite, certain to be destroyed.

But when the soul has the witness of the Spirit and of a consistent life, to the possession of inward purity, it can look forward with confidence to victory over every foe, deliverance out of every sorrow and, in the end, glory and honour, immortality and eternal life.

Have these blessed experiences any charm for you, my comrades?

The Founder Speaks Again, p. 25

**If you adore Christ as your Savior,
you won't ignore Him as your Lord.**

DAY

22

“By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.”

1 John 4:13

A sanctified life means a gentle, tender spirit; it means a fearless, undaunted zeal; it means the accompanying manifestation of the Holy Ghost. It is the prelude and condition and assurance of the enduement of power; and, my brethren, the realization of the blessing is—**THE CONDITION OF THE PERPETUAL INDWELLING OF GOD.**

You often sing “Abide with me;” and you want Him not for a transient hour, but as an *abiding* guest. He is so far already the beloved of your soul that His presence makes your paradise, and where He is is heaven. My brethren, if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we shall have fellowship with Him, and He Himself has said, “If any man will keep My words, My Father will love him, and We will come unto him and make our abode with him.” With Him you have all things and abound, all things for present and future, for yourselves and your families and your people; the full equipment and qualification and guarantee of success in the great work of pulling down the kingdom of Satan and establishing and extending the kingdom of God.

Brethren, *be ye holy*, but be holy now.

Salvation Soldiery, pgs. 92, 93

**He is truly rich who is
satisfied with Jesus.**

DAY

23

“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace . . .” Ephesians 1:7

We Salvationists are always glorying in the death of Jesus Christ, and testifying to the benefits that have flown from it to mankind. Perhaps no text is more frequently quoted than the words of John, ‘The Blood of Jesus Christ, God’s Son, cleanseth us from all sin.’ And, perhaps, no song is more popular in our ranks than the one commencing:—

There is a Fountain filled with Blood,
Drawn from my Saviour’s veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains.

Not only do we glory in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as something that happened two thousand years ago, and wear the sign of it on our Uniform, but we glory in the belief that unnumbered multitudes of our fellow-creatures have been washed in the Fountain that was opened for sin and uncleanness when He died upon the cross. Nay, we go further than this, and triumph in the fact that His shed Blood has brought Salvation to our own hearts, lives, and homes.

This personal experience of Salvation has much to do with the desire of the true Salvationist, . . . It lays on our hearts the obligation to proclaim to the sons and daughters of men, so far as we have opportunity, the virtue and value of Christ’s Blood.

The Founder’s Message to Soldiers, pgs. 73, 74

**We sow the seed—
God produces the harvest.**

DAY

24

“... for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” *Luke 19:10*

“The Salvation Army,” he promised, “is going to continue to go ‘down.’ By this I mean that we are to continue to minister to those who are sunk in sin and wickedness. The danger which confronts nearly all religions and theologies is the danger to rise, to rise above the level of the men and women who have made them and whom they have made.

“We must delve down, down. Our mission, our work, is among the neglected class—the people who pay the \$5 and \$20 fines. Therefore, we must continue to go lower, to keep down, and not rise above the heads of those we seek to save. Our endeavor must be among those who are beyond the pale of the ordinary effort.

Let the theologians and the philosophers have their sacramental doings. With these things the Salvation Army has nothing to do. We have to stick to that half-damned crowd; we must lift them up and give them a chance at the better things. So long as the Army sticks to that, so long will it prosper; when it departs from this path, it is not desirable that it should live longer. There are plenty of other people to do the ceremonials.

William Booth in America, p. 194, R. G. Moyles

Rescue the perishing, duty demands it;
Strength for thy labor the Lord will provide;
Back to the narrow way patiently win them;
Tell the poor wanderer a Saviour has died.

**God's easy yoke does not
fit on a stiff neck.**

DAY

25

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.”

Colossians 2:6, 7

In striving to believe, dependence should not be placed upon such feelings as you are likely to think will follow or be associated with faith.

This is a mistake into which many people fall in their efforts to believe. The moment they start off to seek any blessing, the bestowment of which is made to depend upon their faith, they begin to look within to see if any feeling which seems to answer to the blessing they are seeking has sprung up in their hearts; and, discouraged at not finding the expected emotion there, they too often cease from their efforts to believe, and cry out, ‘Alas, for my heart of unbelief!’

But faith essentially differs from feeling. It is true that it is often so closely associated with feeling, or followed so closely by it, that it is not at all unnatural for it to be regarded as the same thing. But feeling is not the same; it is something very different. Faith produces feeling; faith is seldom exercised without feeling. Still, faith is something entirely distinct from it.

Believing usually goes ahead of feeling; and to expect feelings before the exercise of faith, is, as I used to say when a boy, sixty-five years ago, to put the cart before the horse. The law of faith is: first believe, and then feel.

The Founder’s Message to Soldiers, pgs. 147, 148

**True faith will obey
without delay.**

DAY

26

“By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments.” 1 John 5:2

My subject can be fittingly introduced by the words of our Saviour when He said: ‘Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.’

In a remarkable Meeting I held in one of the large cities of Japan, during my visit to that country, a dear woman came to the Mercy-Seat. She found forgiveness for herself, and went straight from the Registration Room to the place where she had been sitting; brought her two children to the Penitent-Form; and, kneeling between them, pointed them to the Saviour, whom she had just found.

While engaged in this work a Salvationist came along, and thinking she would be better able to lead the children into the Kingdom, offered her assistance; but, gently pushing her aside, the mother said: ‘Leave them to me; I am their mother.’

In this, the mother was perfectly right. The first obligation for the discharge of that duty was upon the mother’s heart, and she was qualified for its discharge before every other individual.

Oh, that every mother and every father would accept this obligation for themselves!

Brother, Sister, Comrade, Friend, are you doing, your duty by the children? If not, start upon it to-day!

The Founder’s Message to Soldiers, pgs. 101, 105, 106

**The Creator hides secrets from sages,
yet He can be known by children.**

DAY

*“Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.
And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us
...” Ephesians 5:1, 2*

27

My comrades, here is our pattern. What are you living for? What is the deep secret purpose that controls and fashions your existence? What do you eat and drink for? What is the end of your marrying and giving in marriage—your money-making and toilings and plannings? Is it the salvation of souls, the overthrow of the kingdom of evil and the setting up of the Kingdom of God? I am not censorious. If I know my own heart, it is full of yearning for the happiness of all men, especially for yours, my comrades, who have vowed under our common standard to follow the Lamb whitersoever He goeth, . . . Have you the assurance that the ruling passion of your life is the same as that which brought Christ to the manger, led Him to fight the foul fiend of Hell in the wilderness, bore Him onward on the back of suffering and tears and ignominy and shame, sustained Him in drinking the cup of anguish and enduring the baptism of blood, bore Him through Gethsemane, nailed Him to the Cross of Calvary and enabled Him in triumph to open the gate of the Kingdom? Is this what you are living for?

. . . If any man have not the spirit of Christ, he is none of His, and the supreme purpose of Christ’s spirit was, and still is, and ever will be, to save the world.

My comrades, let us watch, and compare ourselves with our divine Model; so shall it be well with us, and so shall we have prosperity. *The Founder Speaks Again, pgs. 59, 60*

**Live today as if you will
stand before God tomorrow.**

DAY

28

“He shall pray to God, and He will delight in him, He shall see His face with joy, . . .”

Job 33:26

At San Francisco, Booth was asked to speak to a group of Chinese in Chinatown. . . . When he gave the invitation, many crowded forward to accept Christ. But sitting on a front seat was a huge Chinese who refused to move. He had been deeply stirred by the message and his large dark eyes were damp with tears, but he would not budge.

Finally an officer went to him and asked him to go forward.

The Chinaman shook his head sadly and sobbed, “Jesus Him blave man—me no blave man.”

“But look at Colonel Lawley; he came,” pled the officer, pointing to the singer on the platform.

The man replied, “Yes, he velly blave man—me no blave man.”

“But look at the general—he came.”

“Yes, the genel, he blave man too. Me no blave man.”

Booth heard this part of the conversation, went down, and extending his hand invited, “Come, my brother, you be brave, too. Come!”

The man responded immediately. He knelt at the altar while an officer explained the way of salvation from the Word. He prayed in Chinese for a moment, then he leaped to his feet and with a wonderful look of happiness on his face exclaimed, “Now me heap blave man!”

General Without a Gun, pgs. 83, 84

**Those who know Christ now will
sing His praises forever.**

DAY

29

“Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” 11 Corinthians 7:1

A few days before his promotion to Glory, the Founder was helped from his bed to a chair. His speech was failing. Bramwell, daughter Lucy and a nurse were giving close attention, ready to meet his every need.

‘Bramwell—the promises,’ he whispered. ‘The promises.’ Then someone prompted him by adding ‘of God’. That was the thought in the old man’s mind; and slowly, with great effort, he went on: *‘The promises—of God—are sure—are sure—if you will only believe.’* Almost every word was punctuated with a movement of the hand.

That immortal truth was William Booth’s last statement to the world. He had always depended on God. He had proved that His promises never failed. And he knew that God expected him to remain true to all his promises.

. . . The making of promises is still in the Army constitution—even for young people. When they become junior soldiers they promise ‘to pray, to read my Bible and, by His help, to lead a life that is clean in thought, word and deed’. And they can be sure—like William Booth—that God will be as good as His promise: ‘I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.’

Words of William Booth, pgs. 80, 81

**Those who have their hearts fixed on heaven
will hold loosely the things of earth.**

DAY

30

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Jeremiah 29:11

And now, comrades and friends, I must say goodbye. I am going into dry-dock for repairs, but the Army will not be allowed to suffer, either financially or spiritually, or in any other way by my absence; and in the long future I think it will be seen—I shall not be here to see, but you will—that the Army will answer every doubt and banish every fear and strangle every slander, and by its marvellous success show to the world that it is the work of God and that the General has been His servant. . . . While women weep, as they do now, I'll fight; while little children go hungry, as they do now, I'll fight; while men go to prison, in and out, in and out, as they do now, I'll fight; while there is a drunkard left, while there is a poor lost girl upon the streets, while there remains one dark soul without the light of God, I'll fight—I'll fight to the very end!

The Founder Speaks Again, p. 171

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

**A life lived for God
leaves a lasting legacy.**

