



## I WANT TO TELL YOU ...

### MISSION PRIORITIES

#### PREPARATION

- Ask members to prepare to share something of their personal testimony or a Bible verse or a song that is special to them
- Ask members to request in advance the songs they would like included in this session
- Arrange to share cake and drinks together - perhaps ask members to bake and bring cake, ensuring ingredients lists are provided and any known food allergies are catered for
- Collect a variety of newspapers for good news stories - be sure to check out [The Happy Newspaper](#)
- Prepare to share some online good news stories eg [uplifting stories](#) from [bbc.co.uk](#) or some [happy news](#) from [bbc.co.uk/newsround](#)
- Print or order copies of [Who is this Jesus anyway?](#) leaflet, with extras for members to take home
- Prepare to share the songs SASB 852 [‘I want to tell what God has done’](#) from Clydebank Salvation Army and [‘Tell the world of his love’](#) by The Trina Belamide Network

Please be aware of food allergies.

#### INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

‘At the heart of The Salvation Army’s mission is a passion to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. This is not an optional extra. The Salvation Army only does what it does because our inspiration and vision come from people’s ongoing relationship with Jesus. We know the difference our relationship with God makes in our lives and we don’t want anyone to miss out.’

[Salvationist.org](#)

In this session we will explore what it means to share the good news of Jesus and how we can get involved. We may be confident in speaking out and sharing our faith or we may find we are more comfortable with other more practical ways of demonstrating God’s love. That’s fine! We are all members of God’s beautifully diverse and precious family, and we all have our part to play in telling others about him.



## ACTIVITIES

### HAPPY NEWS

Hand out the newspapers and ask members to look for good news stories to share with the group. You may also wish to share some online news stories too eg [uplifting stories](#) from [bbc.co.uk](#) or [happy news](#) from [bbc.co.uk/newsround](#)

### Thought

Although the daily news might seem full of injustice that saddens us and maybe makes us feel hopeless, there is always goodness and kindness if we look for it!

### SHARE

Enjoy a 'Worship party' to celebrate the good news of Jesus! Invite members to share something of their testimony - what God has done or is doing for them in their lives, or something about who first told them the good news of Jesus. Alternatively, they might like to share a favourite Bible verse or song.

Incorporate members' suggested songs and ask group members to share why these songs are important to them.

You may like to use SASB 852 '[I want to tell what God has done](#)' by Clydebank Salvation Army (3:40) and invite members to share their testimony between each of the verses.

### EXPLORE

Explore the [Who is Jesus?](#) resources on [Salvationist.org](#). Give copies to each member plus extras to take home and consider who they might share the leaflet with in the coming weeks.

Discuss together your top tips for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others.

## BIBLE READING/THOUGHT

Isn't it wonderful to receive good news! Positive stories and events are something to celebrate and smile about. What is the best news you've received so far this year? Maybe share it with the people sitting nearby so they can rejoice with you. Good news is great. It's something that, on the whole, we like to share with others - we pick up the phone or post on our social media about it - and it brings a smile to our faces.

# Connect



The story told in the Bible is one of good news. Right at the beginning of creation we are told that after God had created the world and everything in it, he declared it was 'good'. Then things got even better! Having saved the best till last by creating humankind, creation was now described as being 'very good'. As it should be. Fit for purpose. News to be celebrated! And despite all our human disobedience and messiness, God continued in relationship with human beings, even sending his own son, Jesus Christ, to share the good news of salvation, redemption and restoration with us all.

When we celebrate Christmas, a real good news story, the angels described it as such to the shepherds.

📖 'And there were shepherds residing in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you **good news** that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the city of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

'When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

(Luke 2:8-15)

When they heard the good news, the shepherds were unable to stay where they were, to remain as they had been. Their response was to go and see what it was the angels were talking about, a decision that resulted in them being maybe the very first people, outside of family, to encounter Jesus. And then they simply had to tell others about it too (Luke 2:17).

Isaiah 52:7 says this:

📖 'How beautiful on the mountains  
are the feet of those who bring **good news**,  
who proclaim peace,  
who bring good tidings,  
who proclaim salvation,

# Connect



who say to Zion,  
“Your God reigns!””

Isaiah the prophet, writing many years before Jesus was born, highlighted how important and special the messengers were who brought the news that God, Yahweh, had not abandoned Israel in the land of Babylon; he would bring salvation. To the exiles who had all but lost hope that they would ever be free again, the one who announced good news, peace and salvation was ‘beautiful’. ‘*Mebasser*’ is the Hebrew word used here for ‘[messenger of] good news’ which was translated into the New Testament Greek word ‘*evangelion*’ by the first Christians. This is where our word ‘evangelism’ comes from (and incidentally our word ‘angel’).

When Jesus started his ministry, we read in Luke 4:18-19 that he read from the scroll of Isaiah:

📖 ‘The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim **good news** to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

Jesus was to be the principal messenger of the **good news**, telling and showing others of his Father’s love.

The thought of evangelising to others, sharing the good news, might be something that comes naturally to us and brings us joy. Or we may be terrified by the prospect. Or most likely somewhere on the spectrum between these two extremes.

But it’s not something we do in our own strength. Our help comes from the Lord. As we listen to this lovely song, ‘Tell the world of his love’, pray and ask God to bring to your mind someone with whom you can share the good news and how to reach out to them.

## REFLECTION

Finish with a time of reflection by playing the song ‘[Tell the world of his love](#)’ by The Trina Belamide Network (5:17).



## SONGS

- ♪ SASB 852 'I want to tell what God has done'
  - [Brass lyric video](#) by Clydebank Salvation Army (3:40)
  - [Piano instrumental lyric video](#) by raszmies (4:20)
  
- ♪ SASB 254 'How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him [Our God reigns]'
  - [Piano instrumental lyric video](#) by The Salvation Army Songbook (3:06)
  - [Congregational lyric video](#) by Chet Valley Churches (3:35)
  
- ♪ SASB 264 'My Jesus, my Saviour'
  - [Soloist lyric video](#) by Regent Hall (3:21)
  - [Lyric video](#) by Light Generation (4:30)
  
- ♪ SASB 219 'God sent his son, they called him Jesus [Because he lives]'
  - [Official lyric video](#) by Celtic Worship (5:19)
  
- ♪ 'Hear the call of the Kingdom'
  - [Lyric video](#) by James Dean feat Keith & Kirsty Getty & Stuart Townend (3:37)

## WEBSITE AND CONTACT DETAILS

- Connect website: [www.salvationarmy.org.uk/connect](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/connect)
- Family Ministries website: [www.salvationarmy.org.uk/families](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/families)
- Emails: [familyministries@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:familyministries@salvationarmy.org.uk)
- Facebook: @sarmyfm
- Twitter: @ukifamily
- Instagram: safamily\_ministries



### Family Ministries

Having faith in the family

Providing intergenerational support, training and resources for

Children | Adults | Everyone