

# PASSPORT OUT OF POVERTY

## LEADER'S GUIDE

### INTRODUCTION

*Passport out of Poverty* is an interactive session for KS2 children (7-11 years). It is designed to help children learn more about how The Salvation Army is working with people around the world to overcome the challenges of poverty and injustice.

Journey through the Passport in small groups (2-3 children in each group) to give everyone an opportunity to take part.

### You will need:

- Printed *Stories* document (includes five stories – print A3 if possible, but A4 will also work)
- *Passports* (one per child)
- Stamps or stickers
- Pens or pencils
- Items for creative time (dependent on the activities you choose)

### SESSION OUTLINE (60 minutes)

- 1) Icebreaker Game or Song (5 minutes)
- 2) Introduction (10 minutes)
- 3) Passport Stations (20 minutes)
- 4) Creative Time (25 minutes)
  - Complete the identity page of the passport (5 mins)
  - Choose a craft/activity (20 mins)
- 5) Final Prayer



## SESSION PLAN

### 1) Icebreaker Game or Song (5 minutes)

Play a game (eg Stuck in the Mud or Human Knot) or sing a song (eg '[Feels Good \(Upbeat Song\)](#)' by Rend Co. Kids) that highlights working together/helping each other.

### 2) Introduction (10 minutes)

- What is International Development UK?
- What are poverty and injustice?
- Fair / Unfair Game
- Bible Reading Activity

### What is The Salvation Army International Development UK?

**Say:** The Salvation Army started in Britain more than 155 years ago, and it now exists in 134 countries all over the world.

The Salvation Army International Development UK helps communities around the world to lift themselves out of poverty and overcome the challenges they are experiencing. International Development UK is working for a world without poverty and injustice.

**Ask:** What is poverty?

*Invite people to discuss their answer to this question in pairs, then feed back to the group.*

Poverty: not having enough of something. There are lots of types of poverty, when you don't have enough food or water or the basics you need to survive, it means you are experiencing material poverty. People who are materially poor may be 'rich' in other ways, such as living in community and having good, strong relationships.



**Ask:** What is injustice?

*Invite people to discuss their answer to this question in pairs, then feed back to the group.*

Injustice: something that is not fair; when a person or people are treated badly or ignored.

### **Fair / Unfair Game**

*Divide the room – one side for 'Fair' and the other for 'Unfair'. Read the following statements and ask people to stand in the Fair side of the room if they think it is fair and in the Unfair side if they think it is not.*

1. You're not allowed to go to school because you need to get a job to earn money.
2. You are asked to clear the table after dinner.
3. You can't have a toilet break all day.
4. You are not allowed to eat burger and chips for every meal.
5. You have to walk five miles to collect drinking water, and then carry it home.
6. You are asked to pick vegetables from the garden for dinner.
7. You're not allowed to watch television until you have finished your schoolwork.
8. You can't drink water all day, even when it's a boiling hot day.
9. You have to share toys with others who also want to play with them.
10. You have to do all the cleaning in the house, cook meals, and take care of your siblings on your own.

**Say:** A lot of these things were unfair. Sadly, many people in the world today are struggling because they are stuck in unfair situations or are treated unfairly. The Salvation Army helps people all over the world to find ways to stop the injustices they are experiencing and live life in all its fullness.

**Bible reading activity: Micah 6:8 (*International Children's Bible*)**



**Say:** The Bible is full of verses that show us how God feels about his creation, and how the world should be. In Micah 6:8 there is an instruction about how God would like us to live. *(You could do some actions to help children remember these verses – shown in parentheses below. Demonstrate the actions the first time, then get everyone to join in the second time.)*

The Lord has told you what is good. *(Thumbs up)*

He has told you what he wants from you: *(Hand to your ear as if listening)*

Do what is right to other people. *(Link arms with another person)*

Love being kind to others. *(Make a heart with your hand and another person's hand)*

And live humbly, trusting your God. *(Hands on heart)*

Micah 6:8 *(International Children's Bible)*

**Say:** These verses show us that injustice, exploitation and poverty are not what God wants for us. We can see that God wants us to share the things that we have access to, to live in community, and to support and protect people who are vulnerable.

God really cares about people who live in poverty, and he cares about justice. Because these things are so important to God, we should take them seriously too.

We're now going to journey through some of the different ways The Salvation Army is partnering with communities around the world to overcome poverty and injustice.

### 3) Passport Stations (20 minutes)

Journey through International Development UK's five areas of work. At each station:

- Read the story
- Answer the question in the passport
- Stamp the relevant space/icon in the passport



#### 4) Creative Time (25 minutes)

*After the children have journeyed through the stations, they can spend time on art and craft activities (depending on your group size, provide a few options for children to choose from). During this time, chat to the children about what they have learnt and if anything stood out to them from today's session. There are some discussion prompts to go alongside the suggested activities below. You may also like to include opportunities for the children to pray about the issues they have heard about today.*

- Complete the identity page of the passport (5 mins)
  - Children can use the space at the front of the passport to draw their profile picture and add their name and age.
- Choose a craft/activity (20 mins)
  - Choose three or four craft activities which relate to The Salvation Army's international focus areas (examples below)

#### **Awareness Bracelets**

You will need: beads, string, pens.

This activity could connect to Anti-Trafficking. Each colour bead could represent a different aspect of the issue (eg blue for raising awareness, red for spotting the signs, and green for hope).

*Talk about the importance of looking out for each other, about issues like human trafficking and trying to buy products that are made by people who are guaranteed a fair wage (eg Fairtrade, 'traffik-free').*

#### **Awareness Posters**

You will need: poster boards/card, pens, and other craft supplies as desired.

Create awareness posters with impactful slogans, facts and illustrations related to one of The Salvation Army's international areas of work. You could display the posters in the hall.

*Talk about the issue the child has chosen. Why did this stand out to them? What are they hoping will happen as a result of people seeing their poster?*



## **Build a Tower**

You will need: spaghetti, marshmallows.

Use spaghetti and marshmallows to build a freestanding tower.

*Talk about: In emergency situations and following disasters, people must work together, often using only resources which are available, to support and protect themselves.*

## **Decorate Biscuits**

You will need: biscuits (plain digestives work well), icing sugar, water, icing pens, sprinkles.

Decorate biscuits with a picture of something that stuck with you from today's session. Perhaps a tap, bucket or borehole to remind you of the clean water project in Malawi, a dove to represent freedom for people who have escaped human trafficking, or some toys to remind you of the children in Bangladesh who attend the kids club at The Salvation Army's centre. They could either eat the biscuit(s) or share with someone else.

*Talk about why the children chose to decorate the biscuit in the way that they did.*

## **Plant a Seed**

You will need: small biodegradable plant pots, soil, seeds, pens, art supplies to decorate the plant pots. Suitable seeds include sunflowers, lettuce or salad leaves, runner beans, poppies, sweet peas, and of course cress.

Decorate biodegradable pots, fill with soil and plant a seed in them. Remind the children to take them home, place them in a light place and water them regularly.

*Talk about the importance of sustainable farming, the impact of climate change on agriculture, and how planting trees is good for the planet. Can the children think of other ways to help look after our planet?*



## **Prayer Bunting**

You will need: Colourful paper or card (pre-cut into triangles or flags and hole-punched) string or ribbon, pens/pencils, stickers.

Write a prayer on each bunting flag and decorate it as desired. Children can pray for specific people, global issues, or anything on their hearts. Invite each child to do two or three flags, each one with a different prayer. You could hang the bunting in the hall as a reminder to keep praying for people around the world.

*Spend time together saying the prayers that the children have written on the bunting.*

## **Upcycled Bird Feeders (messy!)**

You will need: Natural unsalted ingredients such as bird seed mix, dried fruit (softened with water), breadcrumbs etc, a clean yoghurt pot, string and softened lard or dripping.

Create bird feeders from natural ingredients. Find detailed instructions online, eg from The Woodland Trust ([www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/01/how-to-make-a-bird-feeder](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/01/how-to-make-a-bird-feeder)).

*Talk about how climate change affects ecosystems, including the habitats of birds. Discuss the importance of biodiversity for food security and the impact that climate change is having on people who rely on growing their own food to survive. Can the children think of other ways to protect biodiversity?*

## **5) Final Prayer**

Dear God, thank you for creating this wonderful world filled with beauty and diversity. Help us to live in a way that promotes justice, kindness and compassion for everyone. May we work together to build a world where all people thrive and live in harmony with your creation. Amen.

