

Dear Leader



In the coming weeks, you will undertake a great responsibility — the preparation of the hearts and minds of young people to accept active roles in the corps as junior soldiers in The Salvation Army. For some of the children it will not only be an introduction to the beliefs, practices, and mission of The Salvation Army, but it will be the first time they really understand what it means to give their lives to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Junior soldiership is both a privilege and responsibility. It is important that the children and parents understand what is involved. The preparation course will be most effective if the parents have a sound understanding of the program and what is expected of the children who elect to become junior soldiers.

The preparation course is an elementary course. It is designed to help children learn — not only the words, but also the meaning of — the Junior Soldier Promise. They will also learn basic information about The Salvation Army.

There are a number of suggested activities for each lesson; it is your job to study these, and from them, develop the material which you feel will best meet the needs of your particular group. Keep in mind the ages of the children in the group, their individual abilities, and the objectives for the specific lesson. Within the lesson, bold text is to be spoken aloud. The material presented is to be considered as a “help” and a guide, not a directive. **Please remember that the course is not designed for you, the leader, to use all of the material in one session.**

The activity sheets are designed to help the children review and apply the truths of the lesson. The sheets are geared for three age groups and are identified as follows:

- **Grades 1 and 2 are titled “Worksheet 1,”**
- **Grades 3 and 4 are titled “Worksheet 2,”**
- **Grades 5 and 6 are titled “Worksheet 3.”**

Children who are faster may want to complete all three activities if time allows. Remember these sheets are not to be used as a substitute for the lessons.

Included in this material are post cards (that coincide with the lesson). Mail these to the children each week. These will help to keep the parents/guardians aware of what the children are being taught.

A prayer list sheet is also included. Using this will help you to be aware of the needs of the children and help you to pray specifically for those needs.

It might be helpful to get a snapshot or school photo of your recruit. Photographs are not for publication unless approved in writing by parent/guardian.

Blessings in your ministry to prospective junior soldiers!

Junior Soldier Curriculum Committee

Young People's Pastoral Care Council Information:

Junior Soldier Sergeants are members of the Young People's Pastoral Care Council which meets quarterly to oversee pastoral care of corps young people. The responsibilities of the Young People's Pastoral Care Council in regards to junior soldiers includes upkeep of the junior soldier rolls, recommendations of junior soldiers to become senior soldiers, and ensuring visitation of absentees.

Course Shopping List:

Bibles	bowl of candy such as jelly beans (must have red, white, dark [black], gold, and lime green colored ones)	bubbles (or liquid dish soap and glycerin) and wands
pencils, pens, crayons/markers	plastic spoons and knives per child	bar of Ivory Soap® per child
cans of soup, various food (real or play), and shopping bag/cart	fabric crayons and plain t-shirt for each child	washcloth per child
bowl with some kind of food — chips, candy, etc.	cardboard	squirt guns (one per team)
poster board (prepared separately with the memory verses and Pledge to the Salvation Army flag)	iron and pins	suitcase or bag, items for vacation, map
paper fasteners (brads), tacks or pushpins, and large paper clips	whiteboard/chalkboard or white paper hung on the wall, chalk or markers, and an eraser	clear contact paper
card stock paper, white construction paper, newspaper, and butcher paper	paper plates	<i>The Salvation Army Year Book</i>
paste or glue, tape, scissors, hole punch, masking tape and stapler	paper signs (stop, yield, one way, etc.)	world map
blocks	leather cording (2 feet per child)	felt (blue, red, yellow)
yarn, string, ribbon, or cord	beads (red, white, dark [black], gold, and lime green)	
blindfolds and items for obstacle course	plates smeared with food	
Super Jenga®	picnic basket and supplies	
	basin of water	



Membership

- After a month or more of consistent attendance at the corps, a young person may be recruited for junior soldiership, providing he or she is not a member of any other church.
- The child may not be less than 7 years of age or older than 13 years of age. A prospective junior soldier may attend the preparation course at the age of six and one half, if so desired, but may not be enrolled until his or her 7th birthday.
- Prospective junior soldiers must be approved by the Pastoral Care Council (formerly Census Board) before they are enrolled as junior soldiers.

Preparation

- Visit the home of the prospective junior soldier and obtain the permission of the parent/guardian for the child to become a junior soldier. Explain what becoming a junior soldier means and the commitment required. Also explain the preparation process to the parent/guardian and involve them in the commitment their child is making.
- There should be at least one preparation course planned for each year, with more held as needed.
- Be sure to include the following during the preparation course:
 - Make every effort to assure that the child has personally received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.
 - Help the child to understand the promises he or she is about to make.
 - Prepare the child to accept both the privileges and the responsibilities of junior soldiership.

Preparing for Junior Soldiership

Preparing for Junior Soldiership

Post Cards

- Post cards, following each lesson and corresponding worksheets, can be sent to your prospective junior soldiers to reinforce the week's lesson. To send these cards simply:
 - Copy the post cards on white or colored card stock paper;
 - Cut the pages in quarters;
 - Write a personal note on the blank side;
 - Address card to student;
 - Place correct postage on the upper right corner;
 - Send in the mail!
- There is also a post card to send *BEFORE* the children are enrolled as junior soldiers. Send it to them as a reminder of their important day. Be sure to include the date, time, what they are to wear, etc.

Enrollment

- The parent/guardian of the prospective junior soldier must sign the enrollment certificate. By this signature, the parent/guardian agrees that the child may become a junior soldier.
- The prospective junior soldier signs the Junior Soldier Promise certificate during a time of commitment after the preparation course is completed.
- Once the prospective junior soldier has been accepted by the Pastoral Care Council (Census Board), see that the Promise and the roll sheet are filled out completely and endorsed with the proper signatures. Ask the young person to sign on the line on the back of the roll sheet.
- The Junior Soldier Enrollment Service should be planned as a special time of public commitment. This ceremony will challenge parents and friends, as well as soldiers of the corps, to consider their own spiritual condition.
- Make every effort to have the junior soldiers' parent/guardian present and seated in a place of honor.

Preparing for Junior Soldiership

- Conduct the enrollment under the flags, making sure to explain Army terminology. Take care that all present understand what the junior soldier is promising to do in service to Jesus Christ, and that he or she is becoming a soldier in God's army.
- Be sure the Promises are framed, either before or after the ceremony, and urge the children to display them prominently in their homes.
- One suggestion is to have each enrollee read the Promise publicly and then sign it while on the platform. If possible, have the Promise recited from memory.
- Ask a senior soldier to serve as a prayer partner for each new junior soldier. Before the public enrollment, introduce the prayer partners to their junior soldiers. Prayer partners may be invited to the last preparation course class. During the ceremony, explain the prayer partner program, and have each stand behind his or her junior soldier.
- Give a challenge to the prayer partners to do their utmost to support and encourage the junior soldier in his or her Christian growth.
- Another suggestion would be to ask all active junior soldiers to be ready to come forward following the enrollment to extend the hand of fellowship to each new junior soldier.
- The Enrollment Certificate for this program can be found on the CD-Rom available through your territorial youth department.

Follow-up

- Immediately following the enrollment, begin involving the new junior soldiers in Training Junior Soldiers classes. Encourage attendance at Sunday school and worship services. Emphasize the stewardship of time, talent, and treasures, and encourage them to participate in the full ministry of the corps.
- Pray for each junior soldier on the rolls.

Junior Soldier Promise

Having asked God
for forgiveness,
I will trust Him
to keep me good.



Because Jesus is my Savior
from sin, I will be
His loving and obedient child
and will try to help others
to follow Him.

I promise not to use
intoxicating drink,
harmful drugs and tobacco.

I promise to pray,
to read my Bible, and,
by His help, to lead a life
that is clean
in thought,
word and deed.

Name: _____

Birth Date: _____ Grade: _____

Please fill in the circles when completed:

- Young person has indicated that he or she has accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord.
- Young person is not less than 7 years old or more than 13 years old.
- Young person has indicated an interest in becoming a junior soldier and parent/guardian has given permission.
- Prospective junior soldier has been approved by the Pastoral Care Council (Census Board).
- Young person has completed preparation course "Totally His."
- Young person has indicated an understanding of The Salvation Army doctrines and agrees to accept them as a pattern for living.
- Young person has signed the Junior Soldier Promise.
- Enrollment certificate has been signed by a Y.P. local officer, the corps officer, and prospective junior soldier.
- Enrollment certificate has been framed.
- Proper Junior Soldier uniform has been obtained for prospective junior soldier.
- Enrollment date has been set and the service planned.
- The corps officer has properly entered the information in the Combined Corps Roll Book, and the junior soldier has signed the reverse side.
- The corps officer has recorded the information on the Master Roll Sheet and Corps Statistics Form.

Junior Soldier Enrollment Checklist

Leader:

Use this sheet as a checklist for preparation and enrollment.

Copy one for each child.

Junior Soldier Recruit Information



Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____
Birth Date: _____
Grade: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____
Parent/Guardian e-mail address: _____
Other Information: _____

Junior Soldier Recruit Information



Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____
Birth Date: _____
Grade: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____
Parent/Guardian e-mail address: _____
Other Information: _____

Junior Soldier Recruit Information



Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____
Birth Date: _____
Grade: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____
Parent/Guardian e-mail address: _____
Other Information: _____

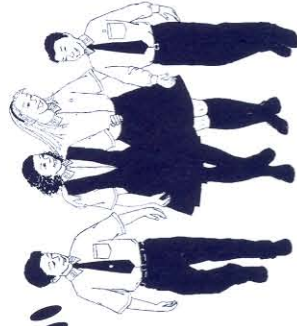
Junior Soldier Recruit Information



Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____
Birth Date: _____
Grade: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____
Parent/Guardian e-mail address: _____
Other Information: _____



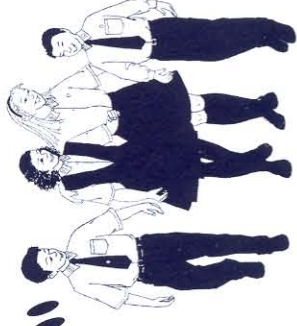
**The time has come
for YOU to be...**



...enrolled as a junior soldier!



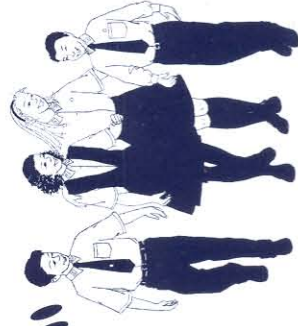
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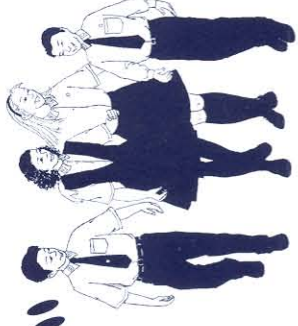
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Place
Stamp
Here

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