



SPECIAL OBSERVANCE SUNDAY

RALLY DAY



FALL 2020



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MISSION STATEMENT

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

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RALLY DAY

AIM OR INTENT OF MATERIALS:

Rally Day was traditionally used during Labor Day Weekend as a Back-to-School/start of the new program year celebration. Now many schools have opened in August and the program year has already begun. Rally Day can be used whenever appropriate for your corps. It can be used as part of a “Back-to-School” program for the community—such as a backpack give-away or a Rally Day for the whole corps. For either, offer refreshments.

We all want someone to notice how special we are, but sometimes we think we are better than others. The Bible tells us that we should have the same mindset of Jesus by humbly serving and loving others.

PROGRAM OUTLINE:

Opening Prayer

Song

Activity – “Think the Same” Game

Bible Lesson

Invitation & Prayer Time

Song

Closing Prayer

KEY PASSAGE:

Philippians 2:1-11; We should be like-minded with Jesus and other believers.

MEMORY VERSE:

Philippians 4:8 (NIV)—“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.”

ACTIVITY:

“Think the Same” Game – The teacher/leader will have a list of categories. In partners, the kids will need to say/shout the same answer as their partner in a given category. Can they both name a superhero? A movie princess? How about something that flies? The only way to score points is if the answers match. Teachers/leaders can opt to have each partner write their answer down and reveal it at the same time.

Possible categories:

- Ice Cream Flavor
- Superhero
- Fast Food Restaurant
- Leader at the corps
- A team sport
- A state that borders the ocean
- An animal people keep as a pet



BIBLE LESSON:

Intro

Have you ever had a friend who shared all the same interests and favorites as you? It can be fun to have friends who think the same way as we do. But sometimes it can be hard when we discover our differences; even though we know that no one is exactly the same as us. The Bible tells us that we are supposed to have the mind of Jesus.

That doesn't mean that we actually put His brain in our heads, but we are supposed to grow and work on thinking the way that Jesus does. To do this we should think about things that are true and noble and right and pure and lovely and admirable—like our memory verse said.

And when we begin to have the mind of Jesus, we begin to do things like Jesus. Jesus lived His life on earth teaching others, but He also loved others and even served others. Just like in the story of Jesus washing His disciples' feet. Even though Jesus was God, He chose to take the job of a servant by washing His disciples' feet.

Having the mind of Christ means that we don't do good things or things to help others to be noticed or celebrated. We do the things that Jesus would do because we love God and we love others.

Main Point

Today the Scripture passage talks about how we should be like-minded with other believers and all of us should have the mind of Christ. Jesus is God. He has all the power and authority of God. But rather than staying in heaven, Jesus chose to be born as a human baby on earth. On earth, Jesus lived as fully God and fully man. He lived a life that pleased God the Father. He relied on God the Father's power to live a sinless life in a human body.

On earth, Jesus taught people about God and showed them God's power by performing miracles. Jesus was insulted by people who thought they were righteous before God. The people that Jesus came to rescue put Him to death on a cross even though He was innocent.

Three days after Jesus died, He rose from the dead – He is alive. And now, He is exalted to the highest place, seated at the right hand of the Father. And someday everyone will bow before Jesus and know that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Drive It Home

When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we begin to change the way we think. It doesn't mean that our favorite color will change or that we will no longer love ice cream sundaes. Jesus wants to change us from the inside out. He wants to make us over into people who fix their thoughts on excellent and praiseworthy things. That doesn't mean we won't have difficult emotions like anger, fear and sadness – those are all part of us. But when we focus on God and fix our minds on Him, these emotions will not control us.

And even more, we begin to change so that we don't focus our thoughts and emotions only on ourselves. We begin to think about others, showing them God's love through humble service. When God transforms our mind to be like Christ, He makes us a light in this world. Just as joyful memories shine brighter than any other, our lives will be a bright light that reveals the love of Jesus. People will know that we are believers in Christ by the love we share. They will know by the kind words we offer and the little acts of kindness we do for others.



Discussion Questions:

- How did Jesus show love and service while He was on earth?
- When we have the mind of Christ what are some things that can be transformed?
- What are ways that you can humbly love and serve others?

Invitation & Prayer Time:

- Have you asked Jesus to be your Lord and Savior?
- What are some ways that you want to be more like Jesus?
- With which friends can you share Jesus?
- How can we pray for you today?

Simple Prayer:

Dear God,

Transform our minds so we can be like you and share your love with others.

In Jesus's name,

Amen

