



Generosity



Brisbane City Temple

29 March 2020

What would convince you (if you are not already convinced) to be a cheerful and generous giver?

John 3:16 For this is how much God loved the world—he gave his one and only, unique Son as a gift. So now everyone who believes in him will never perish but experience everlasting life.

In one of the most important verses in the entire Bible, we see that one of the attributes of God is that he is a generous God. If we desire to model the character of God, generous giving should characterize our lives.

People who live radically generous lives are completely convinced that God owns it all and that we are simply temporary managers. As long as you think you are the owner, you are always going to ask “How much of my money do I have to give?” But the person who believes that God is the owner asks, “God – how much of your money do you want me to keep?”

As we grow in our understanding of the riches of Christ’s grace and mercy, our hearts will fill up with gratitude. We will be compelled to do something to express that gratitude financially. God has given us everything we have, and He calls us to thankfully, cheerfully, release it back to Him. Nobody loves to give more than God. We can’t out give God. That’s not our purpose anyway. Remember the depths of God’s cheerfulness in giving to you! Think of yourself as on a mission for God. Be intentional in your giving and be sure you give what God wants, not just what you “make up” in your own mind.

Prayer

Glorious and generous God, I see your goodness all around: in the beauty of nature, in your provision for me, and in your gifts of grace. I want to respond with gratitude, joy, and generosity. Make me a cheerful and generous giver. Use generosity as a tool to make me more like you. In Jesus’ name, Amen.



Our National Vision

Wherever there is hardship or injustice

Salvos will live, love and fight

Alongside others

To transform Australia one life at time

With the love of Jesus

SELF DENIAL ALTAR SERVICE Sunday 29 March



We would like to invite you to participate in the self-denial altar service as a Corps family on Sunday. How - There will be a video you can watch- you will be emailed the details of this before Sunday When – 11:30am Sunday March 29

Our giving to the Self Denial Appeal is a practical way that we can show love. This Self Denial Appeal, The Salvation Army is showing love beyond in eSwatini, Papua New Guinea, Myanmar and Greenland. Funds raised through the Self Denial Appeal support the mission and community development work of The Salvation Army in developing countries around the world.

You can make your Self Denial financial gift by direct bank transfer to the BCT Corps. Our Bank Account details are:

NAME: The Salvation Army BCT **BSB Number:** 034 004 **Account Number:** 810612
CREDIT CARD GIFTS Here are the details for you to give via your credit card <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/donate/make-a-donation/donate-online/?appeal=selfdenial>

What happened last Sunday?

Sermon- some of you were able to watch and listen to a sermon by Scott. Each week we will provide a link to the sermons.

Livestream – some of you sat in the comfort of your lounge chairs and shared worship and teaching from other Corps or churches who were able to livestream their Sunday meeting.

Primary – while BCT Primary is staying at home and not able to meet together, the children were able to still do all the fun activities they would normally do with the teachers. Lyndon prepared a lesson which the parents could do with the children from the safety of their home. We look forward to hearing more news from the Primary over the coming weeks as they continue to meet each Sunday from their homes.

Kids Connection – at 9:30am the children sat in their own homes and did a virtual kid's connection. They were able to see each other and talk to each other using their computers. Elizabeth prepared an interactive lesson for the children to engage in, continuing to build and equip their spiritual life. We look forward to hear about kid's connection and what they are learning over the coming weeks as they meet in a different way.

Youth - Instead of doing their usual discipleship catch up at 9:30 Sunday at McDonalds, the youth caught up via zoom and were able to do their small group online.

Small group - a very small group (10) came to the hall – some not aware of the restrictions to public gatherings – and sat a safe distance away from each other. There was prayer, sharing, bible reading and encouragement given.

Spiritual Growth Tools -

There will be some new spiritual growth material available for you to use. These will be emailed or posted out to you each week.

- Spiritual Discipline –Stewardship
- S.O.A.P. Devotions

You may enjoy doing these alone or with others (over the phone or online)

Pastoral Care

Caring for others is a strength of many people and during this time we are drawing on that strength so that we can be pastorally caring for each other.

If you are happy to give someone a regular call during the week please let Barbara Brown know. We want to make sure that everyone is receiving some contact each week.

Half night of Prayer

What a great time we shared last Friday night— either in person at the hall or at our homes – praying for each other, our Corps, our community and the world.

Prayer is one of the most powerful weapons God has given us, and looking at the time we are experiencing now, it has never been more important for God's people to be on our knees. to God.

Prayer is an act of worship that glorifies God and reinforces our need for Him. Through living a life of prayer, we respond to Christ's work of salvation and communicate with the very source of and purpose for our existence.



This week 30-40 take away meals were given to people on Wednesday. Until regulations change, BCT will continue to provide food for the vulnerable each Wednesday between 12-1pm. We appreciate the volunteers under the coordination of Howard, who prepared and packaged the food.

Community Care

A card has been produced that will go into letter boxes of residential places around the CBD letting people know The Salvation Army BCT is here to help. We have a mobile phone that will be used specifically for this purpose and people can call to simply talk.

Hamper Delivery

The Salvation Army has received a request from the State Government Department of Communities to assist with the delivery of food and essential items to community members who are isolated and can't do their own shopping. These times are unprecedented challenges and the demand is confronting, but we are doing our best to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in our community.

 **Pamela's Retirement** - After more than 10 years, today is Pamela's last day working in the administration office for BCT. As a Corps we have appreciated her efficiency and her ability to handle many challenges all at once. She has also been vital in providing new officers information and keeping things happening when officers have been away. She will be greatly missed in the office, but is still a part of our Corps family which means we all get to continue sharing life with her. We pray that in retirement Pamela will find time to rest and to care for herself and to enjoy time with family. She has shared with us some thoughts about her time in this role.

What have you enjoyed the most? I've enjoyed the people who have dropped into the office for a chat many sharing their stories their joys and struggles. I have also been blessed, encouragement and supported by many over the years.

What has been the funniest thing that has happened? I remember a time when an important visitor popped in and our CO quickly put a slice of birthday cake behind his back and I glided by and took the plate from his hand unnoticed!

What will you miss? After working for 52 years, I think I'll miss the rhythm of the working day, it will be quite a strange experience. Retirement isn't the end, I will still be around, on my journey serving God with together with you.



We have an opportunity to pray for each other during the week. Verlie has been admitted hospital, Victoria is now home from hospital, Eunice, Scott and Corine, Sam, Georgie, Norman, Bevon and Marzley, Ray and Coral, Brittany, Lachlan, Russell and Fiona, Ron and Cheryl, John, Andrea and Warren, Joseph and Anna.

Transforming
our community
with the love of
Jesus 



We are keeping in contact with our mainly music families by providing a video of singing and dancing to watch weekly. Thank you to Marie and Damien, Lewis and Eleanor! [Where music makes memories!](#)



RED SHIELD APPEAL

**The Salvation Army's response to COVID-19
The Red Shield Appeal is not cancelled.**

The Red Shield Appeal: the Red Shield Appeal will be "revitalised" through new and innovative means such as online fundraising. Traditional face-to-face elements of the Red Shield Appeal will not proceed in 2020, which includes door knocking and community collection points.

To confirm, the Red Shield Appeal is not cancelled. Face-to-face elements of the Appeal will not be active this year, but there will be opportunity for teams to implement digital fundraising techniques.

Our services will likely be in extraordinary demand in the coming months as people experience the financial and social repercussions of this significant global event.

We will continue to seek every opportunity to alleviate suffering and give Hope where it is needed most.

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BCT Bible Message Podcasts

BCT Sunday Worship Bible

messages are available on

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/brisbanecity/>

