



There is a huge battle going on that we each must personally face every day. Every day we are tempted to not love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Interferences and the cares of this world can take a great toll on our relationship with God. We are designed to love God with all of our heart, but we can't do this unless we have the proper focus on God. Loving and living for God must be our top priority.

A teacher of the law asked Jesus, of all the commandments which is the greatest? Jesus answered,

"The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. 'The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Mark 12:29-31

Jesus defines loving God as being the primary response He wants from us. He made us for a deep relationship with Himself.

To find the greatest joy in this life, loving God with all our heart should be our life mission statement. God will do everything to bring us to the place of putting Him first. He is so committed to helping us grow in love. He will take away all our options so that we move forward in our relationship with Himself. We often misinterpret His leadership in our lives because we don't understand what He is after. He is removing all the clutter in order to get at the core of our lives – an extravagant love relationship with Himself.

How do we make loving God our primary focus in this life? We ask him to help us.

"Lord, help me to set my heart to love and pursue You wholeheartedly as my primary focus in life."

"Lord, help me to fill my mind with Your Word and with those things that inspire love, so that I can freely receive Your love and express it fully."

"Lord, help me use my strength and resources of money, energy, talents, and influence in ways that express my love for you and help others to love you more."



Our National Vision
Wherever there is hardship or injustice
Salvos will live, love and fight
Alongside others

Time for you to Share

You have read responses from some members of the leadership team about what they have experienced during COVID-19 and where they have seen God in this time. **We want to hear from you about your experience and have some questions for you to answer.**

We have made it easy for you to answer these questions with an online survey at the following link...

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VW8TKBG>

You can email your responses to us or write them down and send them in the post. If you do not want your responses published in the newsletter please tell us

How has the lockdown impacted on me personally?

How has it changed my attitude to worship?

What have I found to be the most effective way to worship during this time?

What have I missed the most from not attending the 'meetings'?

When and where have I felt God's presence during this lockdown?

How has my 'engaging' with others changed?

Pray it Forward

'Pray it Forward' is a national prayer initiative, to encourage us to call on God as we re-imagine and redefine the way we serve and engage in mission following the coronavirus pandemic.

'**Pray It Forward**' is a call out to every Salvationist across the country to enter into a period of intentional prayer and prophetic listening from **31 May – 21 June**. We are seeking God's wisdom to inform and shape the way we deliver mission into the future. You will find resources on our website under the heading **Spiritual Growth/Prayer**.

Over these days, we want you to focus on praying for The Salvation Army as a national movement and in your specific local context.

- Pray for the opportunity to reassess and evaluate the stewardship of our resources.
 - Pray for new ways of delivering the God-given mission and ways to facilitate healthy Christian community.
 - Ask God to lead us in new ways of encouraging people in discipleship and faith pathways.
- Seek God's guidance for how you will serve him and be part of his mission in your own family, neighbourhood and workplace.

Prayer station resources

NSW/ACT Division have put together some virtual prayer stations that you can access during the Pray it Forward period. These can be found at <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/nswactdivision/prayer-stations/>

OPPORTUNITY FOR PRAYER

Uni students doing exams

Peace in the USA and around the world as people protest

People experiencing hardship from loss of jobs/income during Covid 19

Taurean, Rodney S, Don W. Marzly, Jayne

Adam, Lyndon D., Stephen & Darelle, Luke & Monique, Alan & Dulcie, Stuart & Joyce, Dirk & Glenda

SUNDAY SERVICES

Our weekly sermons and worship service is pre-recorded and available for viewing either from our Corps Facebook page or from our Corps website.

Links for Viewing

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BrisbaneCityTemple>

Or you can follow the link on the

Homepage of the Corps Website: <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/brisbanecity/>



Future Sunday Meetings

Many people have asked when will we be able to return on a Sunday. The Divisional Commander has issued a statement that no formal worship is to commence before Stage 3 easing of restrictions around July 10 at the earliest. After that date strict guidelines regarding numbers of people allowed in a space according to social distancing will need to be adhered to as well as strict hygiene procedures. Risk assessments will need to be conducted and both our building and people who enter it will need to adhere to the new guidelines and requirements. **Please continue to pray for leadership making decisions for the path forward both nationally and locally.**

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Have you thought about how you can continue to give your tithes and offerings during this time where you are not able to physically place them in the offering bag? You can make a direct deposit into the Corps Account. Bank Account details are

NAME: The Salvation Army BCT **BSB Number:** 034 004 **Account Number:** 810612

Self-Denial Update

Just a reminder you have till June 30, to give to the Self denial Appeal. you can do this digitally online at **selfdenial.info** and click on the red donate button and follow the steps.

DIRECT DEPOSIT payment can still be made into the Corps Account:

NAME: The Salvation Army BCT

BSB: 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>

Red Shield Appeal

Red Shield Appeal Challenge

The goal for our Corps zone is to raise **\$10 000** for the Red Shield Appeal. If you go to <https://digitaldoorknock.salvationarmy.org.au/t/brisbane-city-salvos> you will see a few people have signed up as fundraisers. They have either asked people for donations or created a team to collect donations. It is a big task for a few people to raise \$10 000 so the challenge is being put out there to everyone in the Corps to sign up and become a fundraiser or create a team asking people you know outside of the Corps to donate. A large percentage of the goal is given back to the Corps for mission so we are keen to reach our goal so that we are able to fund mission opportunities in 2020/2021

Will you accept this challenge?

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’^[a] ²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹ “It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’^[b] ³² But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

Matthew 5:27-32

Thank you

A number of people have been working behind the scenes to support the ministry of BCT during this stay at home time. We want to thank you for your commitment in terms of helping our children, youth and congregation stay connected with each other or by providing musical support that has been or will be used in coming weeks. It takes a team of people and we appreciate each one of you.



MENS GROUP

Save the date for Saturday July 4.

WOMEN SATURDAY @ 10AM

A weekly opportunity for women to catch up and encourage each other via zoom. Message Susan on 0438 556 432 for more information on how to connect.