

# **As a soldier in The Salvation Army...**

## **“Therefore” steps study**

Also as a small AA-sized group, we collectively work through one of the 'Therefore' steps (A through I) in the 'As a Soldier in the Salvation Army' workbook. (material listed below)

We expect that every soldier will have done and/or be actively doing this. All of our recruits have sponsors and are a part of the small groups.

The theory for working through the GOD IN ACTION steps with a mentor is that people will learn to engage theology within a mentorship relationship and then engage life through a theological lens.

The theory for working through the 'Therefore' steps A through I in the 'As a Soldier in the Salvation Army' workbook together as a group is that the 'therefores' are all related to a person's behaviour as a Christian soldier in community, therefore we should encourage one another by holding each other accountable in community. (People, of course, can also look further into these with their sponsors).

*The “As a soldier in The Salvation Army “Therefore” steps study” produced by Captain Michael Ramsay at the 614 Warehouse Mission, Toronto, of The Salvation Army.*

## **As a soldier in The Salvation Army:**

- A. I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to His leading in my life, growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible. I will make the values of the Kingdom of God and not the values of the world the standard for my life.
- B. I will uphold Christian integrity in every area of my life, allowing nothing in thought, word or deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral.
- C. I will maintain Christian ideals in all my relationships with others; my family and neighbours, my colleagues and fellow salvationists, those to whom and for whom I am responsible, and the wider community.
- D. I will uphold the sanctity of marriage and of family life. I will be a faithful steward of my time and gifts, my money and possessions, my body, my mind and my spirit, knowing that I am accountable to God.
- E. I will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the non-medical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult and all else that could enslave the body or spirit.
- F. I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged.
- G. I will be actively involved, as I am able, in the life, work, worship and witness of the corps, giving as large a proportion of my income as possible to support its ministries and the worldwide work of the Army.
- H. I will be true to the principles and practices of The Salvation Army, loyal to its leaders, and I will show the spirit of salvationism whether in times of popularity or persecution.
- I. I now call upon all present to witness that I enter into this covenant and sign these articles of war of my own free will, convinced that the love of Christ, who died and now lives to save me, requires from me this devotion of my life to His service for the salvation of the whole world; and therefore do here declare my full determination, by God's help, to be a true soldier of The Salvation Army.

**A. As a Soldier in The Salvation Army, I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to His leading in my life, growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible. I will make the values of the Kingdom of God and not the values of the world the standard for my life.**

As a soldier in The Salvation Army...

**1. I will be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to His leading in my life,**

a. Who is the Holy Spirit?

b. What does it mean to be responsive to His work?

c. What does it mean to be obedient to His leading?

d. What will you personally do to ensure that you will be responsive to the Holy Spirit's work and obedient to His leading in your life?

**2. I will be growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible.**

a. What is grace?

b. What does it mean to grow in grace?

c. What is worship and how do you grow in grace through worship?

d. What is prayer and how do you grow in grace through prayer?

e. What is service and how do you grow in grace through service?

f. How often do you read your Bible and how do you grow in grace through Bible reading?

e. What will you do to facilitate growing in grace through worship, prayer, service and the reading of the Bible?

**3. I will make the values of the Kingdom of God and not the values of the world the standard for my life.**

- a. What is the Kingdom of God?
- b. What are the values of the Kingdom of God?
  - a. How can we find out more?
- c. What is 'the world'?
- d. What are the values of the world?
- e. What is a standard?
- f. What does it mean that something is the standard for your life?

**B. I will uphold Christian integrity in every area of my life, allowing nothing in thought, word or deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral.**

As a soldier in The Salvation Army...

**1. I will uphold Christian integrity in every aspect of my life**

- a. What is a Christian?
- b. What is integrity?
- c. What does it mean to uphold Christian integrity?
- d. In what areas can a soldier not uphold Christian integrity?

**2. I will allow nothing in deed that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral.**

- a. What is an example of deeds that are worthy and unworthy?
- b. What is an example of deeds that are clean and unclean?
- c. What is an example of deeds that are true and untrue?
- d. What is an example of deeds that are holy and profane?

- e. What is an example of deeds that are honest and dishonest?
- f. What is an example of deeds that are moral and immoral?
- g. How can you ensure that you keep your deeds are worthy, clean, true, holy, honest and moral?

**3. I will allow nothing in word that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral.**

- a. What is an example of words that are worthy and unworthy?
- b. What is an example of words that are clean and unclean?
- c. What is an example of words that are true and untrue?
- d. What is an example of words that are holy and profane?
- e. What is an example of words that are honest and dishonest?
- f. What is an example of words that are moral and immoral?
- g. How can you ensure that you keep your words worthy, clean, true, holy, honest and moral?

**4. I will allow nothing in thought that is unworthy, unclean, untrue, profane, dishonest or immoral.**

- a. What is an example of thoughts that are worthy and unworthy?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. What is an example of thoughts that are clean and unclean?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- c. What is an example of thoughts that are true and untrue?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- d. What is an example of thoughts that are holy and profane?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- e. What is an example of thoughts that are honest and dishonest?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- f. What is an example of thoughts that are moral and immoral?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- g. How can you ensure that you keep your thoughts focused on that which is worthy, clean, true, holy, honest and moral?

**C. I will maintain Christian ideals in all my relationships with others; my family and neighbours, my colleagues and fellow salvationists, those to whom and for whom I am responsible, and the wider community.**

**1. I will maintain Christian ideals.**

- a. What is a Christian?
- b. What is a Christian ideal?
- c. What is the importance of maintaining Christian ideals?

**2. I will maintain Christian ideals in all my relationships with others; my family and neighbours, my colleagues and fellow salvationists, those to whom and for whom I am responsible, and the wider community.**

- a. What is the value and an example of upholding Christian ideals with:
  - i. Family
  - ii. Neighbours
  - iii. Colleagues
  - iv. Fellow Salvationists
  - v. Those to whom I am responsible
  - vi. Those for whom I am responsible
  - vii. The wider community



**D. I will uphold the sanctity of marriage and of family life. I will be a faithful steward of my time and gifts, my money and possessions, my body, my mind and my spirit, knowing that I am accountable to God.**

As a soldier in The Salvation Army...

**1. I will uphold the sanctity of marriage and of family life.**

- a. Define marriage.
- b. What is 'sanctity of marriage' and how does one uphold it?
  - i. What if one is single or in some other sort of arrangement?
- c. What is family life?
- d. What is the sanctity of family life and how does one uphold it?

**2. I will be a faithful steward of my time and gifts,**

- a. What is a steward and what does it mean to be a faithful steward?
- b. For whom are we acting as a steward?
- c. How can one be a faithful steward of one's time?
- d. What are one's gifts?
- e. How can we be a faithful steward of our gifts?

**3. I will be a faithful steward of my money and possessions,**

- a. To whom do our money and possessions belong?
- b. How do we best manage these on His behalf?
- c. Are there things that we will do differently in the future?

**4. I will be a faithful steward of my body, my mind and my spirit,**

- a. To whom do my body, mind, and spirit really belong?
- b. What would be the best way to manage a body for God?
- c. What will I do to better manage my body for God?
- d. What would be the best way to manage a mind for God?
- e. What will I do to better manage my mind for God?
- f. What would be the best way to manage a spirit for God?
- g. What will I do to better manage my spirit for God?

**5. I am accountable to God**

- a. What does it mean that we are accountable to God for all of the aforementioned?
- b. How does this knowledge effect our actions in relation to all of the above?

**E. I will abstain from alcoholic drink, tobacco, the non-medical use of addictive drugs, gambling, pornography, the occult and all else that could enslave the body or spirit.**

As a soldier in The Salvation Army...

**1. I will abstain from alcoholic drink,**

- a. What does this mean?
- b. Why do you think that a Salvation Army Soldier would do this?

**2. I will abstain from tobacco,**

- a. What does this mean?
- b. Why do you think that a Salvation Army Soldier would do this?
- c. Is there anything else in our country and culture that might be covered by this pledge?

**3. I will abstain from the non-medical use of addictive drugs,**

- a. What does this mean?
- b. What is the difference between medical and non-medical use?
- c. What are some things that may be included in this category?
- d. Why do you think that a Salvation Army Soldier would do this?

**4. I will abstain from alcoholic drink,**

- a. What does this mean?
- b. Why do you think that a Salvation Army Soldier would do this?
- c. Is there anything else in our country and culture that might be covered by this pledge?

**5. I will abstain from gambling?**

- a. What is gambling?
  - i. Is betting money on which horse will win a race gambling?
  - ii. Is betting money which stock will perform better on the stock market gambling?
  - iii. Is playing cards for a 'pot of money' gambling?
  - iv. Is playing cards without betting gambling?
  - v. Is wagering a quarter gambling?
  - vi. Is playing a game of chance for coffee or who pays the bill gambling?
  - vii. Is playing a game of chance without a wager of any kind gambling?
  - viii. Is betting on a sports game gambling?
  - ix. Is it gambling to buy scratch tickets and scratch them?
  - x. Is it gambling to buy scratch tickets you didn't buy?
- b. Why do you think that a Salvation Army Soldier would do this?

**6. I will abstain from pornography,**

- a. What does this mean?
  - i. What is pornography?
- b. Why do you think that a Salvation Army Soldier would do this?

**7. I will abstain from the occult,**

- a. What is the occult?
  - i. Tarot cards?
  - ii. Horoscopes?
  - iii. Astrology?
  - iv. Ouija boards?
  - v. Séances?
  - vi. Certain music?
  - vii. Certain movies?
  - viii. Other?

- b. Why do you think that a Salvation Army Soldier would do this?

**8. I will abstain from all else that can enslave the body.**

- a. What else can enslave the body?
- b. What does this mean?
- c. Why do you think that a Salvation Army Soldier would do this?

**9. I will abstain from all else that can enslave the spirit.**

- a. What else can enslave the spirit?
- b. What does this mean?
- c. Why do you think that a Salvation Army Soldier would do this?

**F. I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, endeavouring to win others to Him, and in His name caring for the needy and the disadvantaged.**

As a soldier in The Salvation Army...

1. I will be faithful to the purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army; what are some reasons God raised up The Salvation Army?
2. What is the Good News of Jesus Christ?
  - a. What does 'Christ' mean?
3. What does it mean to win others to Jesus?
  - a. How can we do this?
4. What does it mean to do something in someone's name? In Jesus' Name?
5. Who are the needy and disadvantaged?
  - a. How do we care for the needy and disadvantaged in Jesus' Name?

**G. I will be actively involved, as I am able, in the life, work, worship and witness of the corps, giving as large a proportion of my income as possible to support its ministries and the worldwide work of the Army.**

1. What does it mean to be actively involved in something s you are able?
2. What is the corps?
3. What is the life of the corps and how can I be involved in it?
4. What is the work of the corps and how can I be involved in it?
5. What is the worship of the corps and how can I be involved in it?
6. What is the witness of the corps and how can I be involved in it?
7. What does it mean that I will give as large a portion of my income as possible to support its ministries and the worldwide work of the Army?



**H. I will be true to the principles and practices of The Salvation Army, loyal to its leaders, and I will show the spirit of salvationism whether in times of popularity or persecution.**

1. What are the principles and practices of The Salvation Army?
2. Who are the leaders in The Salvation Army?
3. What does it mean to be loyal to its leaders?
4. What is the *spirit of salvationism*?
5. How can I show my loyalty to the Army in times of popularity and persecution?

**I. I now call upon all present to witness that I enter into this covenant and sign these articles of war of my own free will, convinced that the love of Christ, who died and now lives to save me, requires from me this devotion of my life to His service for the salvation of the whole world; and therefore do here declare my full determination, by God's help, to be a true soldier of The Salvation Army.**

1. What is a covenant?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What does it mean to do something of your own free will?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Are you convinced of the love of Christ, who died and now lives to save me?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Are you willing to devote your life to Jesus' service for the salvation of the whole world?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Are you determined, by God's help, to be a true soldier of The Salvation Army?