

# [HOMEPAGE]

*For families of junior soldiers*

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC:

## God's Army: A Growing Army

MEMORY VERSE:

**Philippians 3:14 (NIV)**

"I move on toward the goal to win the prize. God has appointed me to win it. The heavenly prize is Christ Jesus himself."

The memory verse for the week is included on each HOMEPAGE. Help your child review it during the week.

PARENT POINT:

Ask your child to tell you about The Salvation Army in South Africa, Japan, and Brazil. Pray together for the men and women who serve in these countries today.



**TODAY IN JUNIOR SOLDIERS** the children continued the unit on standing firm under fire. Junior soldiers learned about the challenges faced by The Salvation Army as it grew into an international Army.

The Salvation Army grew rapidly. By 1879, the Army had spread throughout England, South Wales, Ireland, and was beginning to grow in the United States. By the early 1920s The Salvation Army was truly a global Army. Corps were opened in Great Britain, the United States, India, and Africa.

On March 4, 1883, The Salvation Army "opened fire" in Cape Town, South Africa. Major Francis Simmonds and his wife, along with Lieutenant Alice Teager, were the first Salvationists to preach in South Africa.

In 1886, The Salvation Army started social service work in Cape Town. The Salvation Army's first organized ministry to the African people began in 1888 in Natal.

In 1895, fourteen Salvation Army officers under the leadership of Colonel Edward Wright traveled from Britain, to Yokohama, Japan, to start The Salvation Army. The officers faced opposition at first, but soon the Army was underway. Mayor Yukio Ozaki, Mayor of Tokyo, translated the name "The Salvation Army" to "Kyu-Sei-Gun" which means "save the world army." The first Japanese Salvation Army officer was Gunpei Yamamuro. He's best known for his book, *The Common People's Gospel* which was published in 1899. In 1937, Commissioner Gunpei Yamamuro received the Order of the Founder.

The Salvation Army "opened fire" in Brazil on August 1, 1922. Pioneer officers Lieutenant-Colonel David Miche and his wife started the work in Rio de Janeiro. Because of national legislation, The Salvation Army in Brazil works under two names: The Salvation Army Church and The Salvation Army Social Work.

The Salvation Army is truly an international Army. Today The Salvation Army operates in 126 countries, spreading the message about God's love, and serving humankind in Jesus' name.

### INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME

This lesson taught junior soldiers about the beginning of The Salvation Army in South Africa, Japan, and Brazil. They understand that men and women made sacrifices to make The Salvation Army an international Army.