

# —[HOMEPAGE]—

*For families of junior soldiers*

## THIS WEEK'S TOPIC:

### How We Get Our Generals

## MEMORY VERSE:

**Psalm 4:3 (NIV)**

"Remember that the Lord has set his faithful people apart for himself. The Lord will hear me when I call out to him."

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

## PARENT POINT:

Talk to your child about the characteristics of a good leader. Pray for the leaders of our country, your child's school, The Salvation Army, and other leaders your child has contact with.



**TODAY IN JUNIOR SOLDIERS,** the children began a four-week unit about the Generals of The Salvation Army. The Salvation Army is an international movement with an international leader, a General. The Army consists of many soldiers, lieutenants, captains, majors, colonels, and commissioners, but only one General. The General's office is at International Headquarters in London, England. It's from this location that the General gives leadership to this remarkable organization.

William Booth was the first General of The Salvation Army. His son, Bramwell Booth, became the second General. William Booth appointed him. Following that appointment, a High Council was formed to elect all Generals. The High Council still selects the General today. The High Council consists of the Chief of the Staff, active commissioners, and leaders of territories or commands from all over the world.

The members of the High Council set up guidelines that they follow when selecting the new General. The High Council spends much of their time in prayer, seeking God's will for the selection of the international leader of The Salvation Army. Following a time of prayer, the members of the High Council nominate people they think are good candidates for the office of General. The people nominated must make a speech before the council members, and answer questions. Again, the council members pray and ask for God's guidance. Each member votes by secret ballot. Sometimes more than one round of voting is necessary. After each round of voting, the ballots are burned. On the final vote, the person with an absolute 2/3 majority becomes General-elect.

Before announcing the name of the General-elect to the soldiers and officers of The Salvation Army, the General-elect makes a speech to the members of the High Council, and signs the Deed of Acceptance stating that they accept the office of General of The Salvation Army. The first High Council met in 1929 to elect the third General, General Edward Higgins. The High Council has elected all succeeding Generals. The 18th High Council met in 2013 to elect the 20th General, General André Cox.

## INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME

This lesson helped junior soldiers become familiar with the first two Generals of The Salvation Army, William Booth and Bramwell Booth. The junior soldiers learned about the formation and purpose of the High Council, the body that elects the General.