



THE TORCHLIGHTERS

HEROES OF THE FAITH

Leader's Guide for the DVD

The William Booth Story



From Christian History Institute

L E A D E R



Table of Contents

Introduction to the Torchlighters Series	3
Synopsis of <i>The Torchlighters: The William Booth Story</i>	4
Teaching Plan for <i>The William Booth Story</i>	5
Session 1 - <i>No Compromise: Called!</i>	6-8
Session 2 - <i>No Compromise: Courage!</i>	9
Session 3 - <i>No Compromise: Commitment!</i>	10
Session 4 - <i>No Compromise: Continue!</i>	11-12
Letter to Parents	13
Supplementary Materials	
Key People in <i>The William Booth Story</i>	14
The Nineteenth-Century World of William Booth	15-16
Timeline of the Booths and The Salvation Army	17-18
Additional Materials	19
The Torchlighters Series	20
Answer Key for Select Student Pages	21

© Christian History Institute



Introduction to the Torchlighters Series

Torchlighter: *One who commits to serving God
and passing on the light of the Gospel,
even if the going gets tough.*

Kids today have no shortage of heroes. From Hollywood celebrities to music artists and sports figures, it would seem that there are plenty of heroes to go around. The heroes being offered by popular culture are teaching children that physical perfection, financial success, and fame are the most important goals in life. The morals and values presented by these heroes are often in direct opposition to the standards parents want to pass on to their children. So, while there is no shortage of heroes, there is a dreadful shortage of heroes worth emulating.

The *Torchlighters* video series offers children real heroes that they can depend on. These heroes have lived truly great lives marked by moral depth, strength of character, and an unswerving commitment to Christ. By sharing in their struggles and small steps of obedience, we are all challenged to live lives of faith. It is our sincere desire that as children get to know these “torchlighters,” they will be challenged to follow in the footsteps of the greatest torchlighter of them all, Jesus Christ.

Learn more about the mission behind this series and find more free resources at:

www.torchlighters.org



Synopsis of *The Torchlighters: The William Booth Story*

With the industrial revolution fully underway by the mid-19th century, many people in England enjoy a higher standard of living than has ever been known. Yet, in a hidden corner of London, a different story unfolds. In the down-and-out “East End” of London, some folks are hungry, desperate, and largely forgotten by the rest of the city. Children as young as six are already addicted to alcohol, while others scour trash cans for food. The only thriving businesses seem to be the bars where young and old come to drown their troubles or watch men fight for a meager wage.



The pub owners in London's East End prepare to kick William Booth and his followers out of their territory once and for all.

In 1865, the young, talented preacher William Booth happens upon this forgotten territory, where vice runs rampant. Booth stumbles along, astonished at the needs he sees and feels. Later that night William anxiously explains to his wife Catherine that he has found his life's mission. Declaring the hurting souls of East End as “our people,” William and Catherine dedicate their lives to serving those who need God the most.

But reaching the people of the East End with the Gospel will take more than determination and hard work! The suspicions of the people are a big challenge, but it's the opposition of the pub owners that brings the most conflict. This is their territory, and they will stop at nothing to defend it from these “intruders” who march in with Bibles and talk of faith.

Watch as William and Catherine follow the Lord on a remarkable journey, as one by one the folks of the East End respond in faith and join in the work of bringing God's redemption to their needy friends. The Booth's legacy continues to this day through the organization they founded, The Salvation Army.



Teaching Plan for *The William Booth Story*

No Compromise!

Follow these easy steps to get the most out of this episode of *The Torchlighters*!

1. PREVIEW *The William Booth Story* before showing it to your students. This will help you to recognize the major themes and teachable moments that occur throughout the video, while equipping you to answer student questions.

Our theme for this series is *No Compromise!* Four sub-themes will be explored:

- **Called!** God calls each of us to a unique task in His Kingdom. He gives us all we need to complete those things he asks us to do.
- **Courage!** It takes courage to leave behind our own comfort and go where God calls us.
- **Commitment!** When the going gets tough, God still uses us for good.
- **Continue!** Jesus asks for a lifetime dedicated to serving Him.

2. REVIEW the Supplementary Information. Become more informed on this true story by reading through “Key People in The William Booth Story,” “The Nineteenth-Century World of William Booth,” and “Timeline of the Booths and The Salvation Army,” beginning on page 14. On your DVD you will also find an informative 30-minute documentary, which is abridged from a more extensive documentary entitled *Our People: The Story of William and Catherine Booth*, available through www.visionvideo.com.

3. SELECT and PREPARE Teaching Material. Our four lesson plans lead children on a faith journey with the Booths, while incorporating scriptural lessons from the life of the Apostle Peter. Feel free to mix and match the material to best suit your group and the time available. All material is reproducible and designed to help children apply the teaching themes. NOTE: Special supplies are needed for activities in each session. Also, If you plan to conduct the interview as part of Session 3, give your guest plenty of advance notice.

4. VISIT www.torchlighters.org. The materials in this guide and the Student Pages are just the beginning. Visit our website for other free resources, such as unique ministry ideas, publicity posters, interactive Kids Zone, and the “Carry the Torch” theme song, craft and relay! If you are planning a teaching series based on *The Torchlighters*, consider using the theme song, craft, and relay as part of an introductory session focused on the question “What is a Torchlighter?”

Are you planning a *Torchlighters* showing or event?

Publicity is easy when you download free posters at

www.torchlighters.org



Session 1 – No Compromise: *Called!*

FOCUS: God created each of us in a unique and special way, and He calls us to important work in His Kingdom!

NO COMPROMISE BIBLE VERSE: “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10

PREPARATION: If possible, prepare your teaching space with a tent theme. You could set up a larger tent in your classroom or outside, display a small pup tent, or simply stretch fabric over your story area, to create a tent feel. Use your tent space for all Bible discussion times throughout this four-week teaching session.

BLANKET NAME GAME:

Materials needed: Two chairs and a blanket are needed for this activity.

Playing the Game:

1. Set up two chairs about 6 feet apart. Select two helpers and have them stand on the chairs and hold a blanket between them, as a wall dividing the space.
2. Divide your class into two teams, placing the teams on opposite sides of the blanket wall. Instruct them to go into a “huddle” a few feet away from the wall so the other team cannot see them.
3. Each team sends one person up to the blanket wall. This must be done silently so the other team does not hear who is sent.
4. Once the two representatives are at the wall, the blanket holders count to three and drop the blanket. The two people facing each other must now race to say each other’s names. The first one to correctly say the other’s name wins a point for their team.
5. Continue until each team member has had a turn.

ASK: Why is it sometimes hard to remember names, especially when asked to do it quickly? Have you ever been surprised by someone you don’t know that well remembering your name? How did that make you feel?

SAY: Jesus knows everything there is to know about each one of us and He always knows our name! Introduce Ephesians 2:10 as the theme verse for this week. SAY: Not only does He know us, but He made us and He has plans for each one of us to serve Him!

TENT TALK BIBLE TIME: Invite your students into the tent for Bible Time. *SAY: We are beginning a study on the life of William Booth, a faith hero who lived in England in the 1800s. William Booth often preached in a tent, so for this series, we will hold our discussion times in the tent! William Booth was called by God for a special purpose.*

TWENTY QUESTIONS: *SAY: I’m thinking of a Bible character who was also called for a special purpose. Let’s try a quick game of Twenty Questions to see if you can figure out who I’m thinking of! (Let various children ask questions and guess, until someone narrows in on Peter.)*



BIBLE STORY: SAY: *Peter was called for a very special purpose. Read or paraphrase the calling of Peter found in Matthew 4:18-20.*

DISCUSS: *What was Peter doing when he met Jesus? What did Jesus invite Peter to do? What was Peter's response? Do you think it was hard for Peter to leave his fishing nets and follow Jesus?*

THE POINT: God called Peter to serve Him and He calls you too!

ENGLISH TEA PARTY ACTIVITY:

Materials Needed:

1. Plain (or even stale) crackers and cups of water for 3/4 of the class. Scones or another baked good and hot or cold tea for everyone.
2. Slips of paper with either "Privileged" or "Poor" written on them (one per person, 3/4 or more should be poor, 1/4 or less privileged).
3. Rags or newspaper scattered on the floor for the "poor" group to sit on; Nice table cloth with flowers for the wealthy group (Add China, lace doilies, dress up clothes, etc. to enhance the tea party effect as desired).
4. OPTIONAL: Show a short video clip from either *Annie* or *Oliver* to give a taste of what life would have been like for the under privileged in 19th-century England.

Instructions

1. Students go to either the "privileged tea party" or the "poor" section.
2. Serve them the snack, showing obvious class difference in how they are treated. "Poor" kids must come to you and ask for a few stale crackers and water, while the "wealthy" get waited on and enjoy tea and sweets in an elegant way.
3. After the point is made, the whole group can be served the tea and scone while enjoying the DVD preview.

PREVIEW: SAY: *William Booth was a preacher in England in the middle 1800s. He listened to God and wanted to obey what God asked him to do. As it turned out, God called William into the worst part of London where people were living in great poverty and without hope. William began reaching out to the people with the Word of God, but some became angry and tried to drive William out of their neighborhood. Let's watch a short video clip of part of the story.*

SHOW the first few moments of the DVD, up to the Torchlighters logo. Explain that next week the class will see the entire video to learn all about William's story.









TEA BAG INVITATIONS: Use extra tea bags as small invitations the children can use to invite others to your special Movie Day next week. Use tags on p. 8. Fold the tags on the dotted line and staple to the tea bag strings.

CLOSING PRAYER: *Lord, we thank you that you created each of us with unique gifts to serve you. Help us to seek your will and to follow wherever you lead, even if it is out of our comfort zone. Amen.*



Tea Bag Tags

Copy this page and have students complete the tags. Attach to tea bags to create a unique invitation. Encourage students to use their invitations to invite others to class to see the DVD next week.

<p>When: _____ Where: _____</p> <p>Come to our Movie Day!</p>	 <p>The William Booth Story</p>	<p>When: _____ Where: _____</p> <p>Come to our Movie Day!</p>	 <p>The William Booth Story</p>
<p>When: _____ Where: _____</p> <p>Come to our Movie Day!</p>	 <p>The William Booth Story</p>	<p>When: _____ Where: _____</p> <p>Come to our Movie Day!</p>	 <p>The William Booth Story</p>
<p>When: _____ Where: _____</p> <p>Come to our Movie Day!</p>	 <p>The William Booth Story</p>	<p>When: _____ Where: _____</p> <p>Come to our Movie Day!</p>	 <p>The William Booth Story</p>
<p>When: _____ Where: _____</p> <p>Come to our Movie Day!</p>	 <p>The William Booth Story</p>	<p>When: _____ Where: _____</p> <p>Come to our Movie Day!</p>	 <p>The William Booth Story</p>



Session 2 – No Compromise: *Courage!*

FOCUS: In this session, children will view *The William Booth Story* and consider how God calls us to have courage to leave behind the comfortable.

NO COMPROMISE BIBLE VERSE: “Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go!” Joshua 1:9

GREET: As children arrive, try greeting them with a British accent. “G’day Sir, G’day Mum!” As more and more students arrive, everyone can join in the fun.

CALLED TO SERVE WORD SEARCH: Review how we are all called by God for a purpose. Use p. 3 in the Student Guide to have students create their own word search based on this concept. Kids can race to do the puzzles they create or trade to work on later.

INTRODUCE THE VIDEO: SAY: *William Booth was a preacher in England in the 1800s. He and his wife Catherine were called by God to serve people who were not welcomed in the established churches of that time. The Booths followed God’s call, even when they were in danger. As you watch, look for times when William needed courage.*

SHOW the 30-minute program *The Torchlighters: The William Booth Story*.

STUDENT QUESTIONS: Allow students time to process the video and ask questions about flow and content. ASK: *When did William and Catherine need courage to follow God?*

FURTHER DISCUSSION: Lead discussion using appropriate questions from the “Dig into the Story” and “Dig Deeper” sections (pp. 4 and 5 in the Student Pages).

TENT TALK BIBLE TIME: Invite students into your tent area for Bible Time. Introduce Joshua 1:9 as today’s verse. Review last week’s story of Peter being called by Jesus. SAY: When Peter decided to follow Jesus he was in for a real adventure! Let’s check in with Peter after he had followed Jesus for a while. Read or paraphrase Matthew 14:22-29, the story of Peter walking on water. DISCUSS: Do you think Peter showed courage in this situation? Would you have the courage to step out on the water? What do you think Peter learned from this experience?

PARENT LETTER: Distribute this letter to help parents understand the lessons you are sharing in class (p. 13 in Leader’s Guide).

PRAYER: *Lord, we will need courage this week to do the right thing in following You. When we are afraid or lacking in faith, please give us courage to walk in your ways and go where you lead. Amen.*

PLANNING AHEAD: For next week’s session, invite a guest to share their faith story. If possible, this should be a dramatic life-changing story.



Session 3 – No Compromise: *Commitment!*

FOCUS: When we persevere through tough times, God can use our difficulties to make amazing things happen.

NO COMPROMISE BIBLE VERSE: “Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God’s will.” Hebrews 10:36

PLANNING: Invite someone who has experienced a dramatic faith transformation to share his/her story. This might be someone who has experienced addictions or another difficult life experience. The guest should come prepared to share his or her faith journey. **ALTERNATE IDEA:** Invite a representative from a local Salvation Army Post or other ministry to share about the organization’s work in the community. Modify the questions appropriately.

WELCOME: Welcome your guest and introduce him or her to your class.

GOD’S WAY MAZE: Use the worksheet on p. 6 in the student guide to lead children to consider how God’s ways are different than the ways of man. Refer to the answer key on p. 22.

NEW LIFE INTERVIEW: Give your special guest an opportunity to share his or her story of life-changing faith. Allow time for student questions and interactions, using the suggestions found on p. 7 of the Student Pages to get things started.

TENT TALK BIBLE TIME: Introduce today’s verse, Hebrews 10:36. *SAY: Let’s see what is happening in our friend Peter’s life. Share the story found in Acts 4:1-4 of Peter’s commitment to share Jesus, even after being arrested. ASK: Why would Peter continue to tell about Jesus after he was arrested? What good came from Peter’s commitment?*

CALLED TO THE WORLD: *SAY: We’ve learned a lot about William Booth in the last few weeks. God used him to reach the needy people in the East End of London. But what happened after that was really amazing! William’s efforts grew into a ministry called The Salvation Army. Use p. 8 of the Student Pages to explore the ongoing worldwide impact of the Salvation Army. DISCUSS: Sometimes we can feel overwhelmed when we hear of problems in our world, but with God’s help, even one person can make a difference.*

PREPARE FOR SERVICE NEXT WEEK: Next week your class will put their faith into action. Plan ahead by choosing a meaningful service project that you can accomplish together. Introduce the project now, getting kids excited about this opportunity to express their faith. If children should bring in supplies or donations, then be sure to send that information home today. Ideas for service projects are included on p. 12 of this guide.

PRAYER: *Lord, we all know of people who are going through a really hard time. Even some of us are experiencing tough things. Right now we want to pray that each one will come to know you and that your love will help them through all their trials. Amen.*

NOTE: Refer to the answer key on p. 22 for answers to selected student pages.



Session 4 – No Compromise: *Continue!*

FOCUS: Our journey with Jesus lasts a lifetime, and we need to keep serving Him every day.

NO COMPROMISE BIBLE VERSE: “Be confident of this, He who began a good work in you will carry it on until the day of Christ Jesus!” Philippians 1:6

TERMS FOR THE TROOPS: Use the worksheet on p. 9 in the Student Pages to discuss the language that The Salvation Army developed to strengthen their identity. Use this time to review the story as needed.

TENT TALK BIBLE TIME: Invite the class into the tent for one final lesson on Peter. Introduce Philippians 1:6 as this week's Bible verse. *SAY: We've been looking at how the Apostle Peter lived a life of "No Compromise." Let's check in one more time to find out what came next for Peter. Share the story of Acts 9:36-42 as a glimpse into Peter's ministry years. ASK: How did Peter's ministry spread as he worked in faith? (See verse 42). It takes a lot of stamina to work for an extended time in a given ministry area. How do you think Peter was able to stick with the work for so long?*

FAITH IN ACTION: Introduce the service project you've planned for the class to do. Lead them through this time, helping each student feel connected and important in their role of service. This project should be the main focus of your class time today. See our list of ideas on p. 12 if you need help. As you finish the project, take time to pray for those who will be blessed by your work.

BIBLE SWORD GAME: *SAY: William Booth loved the Bible verse that says the Word of God is a sword. Today we will play the "Bible Sword game" to sharpen our verse-finding skills and Bible knowledge. All these verses will have something to do with the William Booth story.*

SUGGESTED VERSES: Matthew 5:44 Mark 9:41 I Corinthians 10:24
 Ephesians 6:10 I Timothy 4:12 James 1:22

PLAY: Each child needs a Bible. Students hold their closed Bibles over their heads while seated. The leader reads a verse reference and says, “GO”! Students race to find the verse and then stand when they have it. The winner reads the verse for all to hear.

OPTIONAL: Have students explain how the verse relates to the theme “No Compromise!”

INSPIRATION TO CONTINUE: Use “Catherine Says” and “William Says” on pages 10 and 11 in the Student Pages to uncover two quotes of inspiration for the journey.

PRAYER: *Lord, you have made each one of us special, and you have called us to live without compromise. Help us always to have courage and commitment to serve you. Amen.*

NOTE: Refer to the answer key on p. 22 for answers to selected student pages.



Service Project Ideas

1. Salvation Army Style Collection!

Work with your church to set up a time when your class can share what they have been learning and collect funds for a local Salvation Army. Use buckets and bells, just like The Salvation Army does. This could be done by visiting adult classes or in the church lobby before or after services. Be sure to communicate with leaders and get permission! Funds can then be directed to The Salvation Army post of your choice. **Optional:** Have a few students use quirky instruments in a “praise band.” The army was known for their bands! Homemade kazoos or simple rhythm instruments would be great fun.



2. Goodies to Go!

Make and decorate cookies to take to a local soup kitchen. Bring large cookies for the children to frost and decorate in class. Cookies can be wrapped individually, and students can attach a note or greeting. Talk with a local soup kitchen for more ideas.



3. Can Do!

Hold a canned food drive for a local food pantry. Collect cans, boxes and other necessities and then sort the items in class and deliver to the pantry.



4. Out and About!

Volunteer as a group in a soup kitchen or a Thrift Store for a few hours. Be sure to call ahead so they will be expecting you.



Dear Parents,

Today in Sunday school, your child viewed a *Torchlighters* DVD depicting the life of William Booth, the founder of The Salvation Army. We are in the midst of a teaching series based on William's life. Our theme is "No Compromise!"

In 1865, William and Catherine Booth became aware of the hurting people in London's East End. There they found society's outcasts, living on the edge of poverty and in the throes of life-crippling vice. Together the Booths determined to do all they could to reach these folks with the good news of God's Kingdom. When progress was slow and danger at hand, the Booths pressed on in faith, eventually bringing great change to the East End, as many of its inhabitants embraced life-changing faith in the Lord.

In William Booth, children find a hero who put aside personal comfort and security in order to reach the down-and-out people of his day. William's work continues to have an impact worldwide through the work of The Salvation Army, the organization he founded. We hope this experience of learning through one of God's heroes of faith is meaningful for your child. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,



Key People in *The William Booth Story*

WILLIAM BOOTH (1829-1912) – Born into a family of laborers with little faith connection, William Booth did not have the same upbringing of other preachers of his day. As a young teen William was apprenticed as a pawn broker to help support the family. Soon after Booth was converted in a Wesleyan revival meeting. Booth quickly embraced evangelism as a life calling. Ordained first by the Weslyans and then the Methodists, Booth finally chose the life of an itinerant preacher. His ministry among the poor of London's East End blossomed into the worldwide ministry of The Salvation Army.

CATHERINE BOOTH (1829-1890) – Raised in a Methodist family, Catherine was largely home educated. She met William at a meeting in 1851 and found common ground, as they had both been expelled from the Wesleyans for their Methodist Reform views. Catherine's controversial views became well known after the publication of her pamphlet, *Female Ministry: Woman's Right to Preach the Gospel*, published with full blessing of her husband. Catherine was instrumental in recruiting and training women for the work of The Salvation Army.

ELIJAH CADMAN (1843-1927) – Born in Coventry, England, Elijah went to work as a chimney sweep when he was only six years of age and began drinking around the same time. Cadman was converted at age 21 after listening to a street preacher in Rugby. He moved with his wife and children to London and joined Booth's Christian Mission where he was eventually known as "Commissioner Cadman." Cadman campaigned for The Salvation Army in the West Indies, South Africa, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Scandinavia, Germany and elsewhere.

PETER MONK (birth and death unknown) - Peter Monk, the Irish prizefighter, met Booth in the street on July 26, 1865. After winning a fight the next day, he went to Mile End Waste where Booth was preaching. He wrote that "the blackguards of Whitechapel" were mocking Booth and shouting at him, so Monk took off his coat and "in two minutes they were as quiet as lambs." Monk was converted and wrote, "I got up from my knees ready to die for that man." He became Booth's bodyguard. (*The General: William Booth* by David Malcolm Bennett, Xulon Press, 2003)

GEORGE SCOTT RAILTON (1849-1913) – Railton was born in Scotland, the son of Methodist missionaries. Having returned from the mission field of Morocco, Railton wrote to Booth in 1872, offering to join the Christian Mission (soon to be renamed The Salvation Army.) He served as Booth's secretary, became acting editor of *The Christian Mission Magazine* and was eventually appointed General Secretary. He later established Salvation Army missions in the United States and West Africa.

JAMES FLAWN – Flawn worked at the tent mission where Booth first preached in 1865. After joining the "Army" Flawn was put in charge of catering in the International Training College for Salvation Army workers.



The Eight Booth Children and The Salvation Army

BRAMWELL BOOTH (1856–1929) – Bramwell worked with his father from the 1865 founding of The Christian Mission. He was first Chief of Staff and later succeeded his father as General of the Army. His increasing poor health and arbitrary decisions resulted in his forced resignation in 1929, just four months before his death.

BALLINGTON BOOTH (1857–1940) – Ballington moved to the U.S. and Canada as Colonel and training officer. He and his wife became American citizens and resigned from the Army. For 43 years he led The Volunteers of America. He wrote the lyrics and music for “The Cross Is Not Greater” in 1892.

KATE BOOTH (1858–1955) – Known as “la Maréchale” or “The Marshal,” Kate began preaching at age 15. In 1891 she took the mission to France and then Switzerland, but she was poorly received in both. Following her marriage and the birth of ten children, she and her family moved to the U.S., resigned from the Army and remained estranged from her father.

EMMA BOOTH (1860–1903) – “The Consul” was principal of the Officers' Training Home for women. She spent time in India with her husband and died at age 43 in a train accident while traveling in the U.S. Her funeral was held at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

HERBERT BOOTH (1862–1926) – Herbert served with his sister Kate in France and later worked in Australia. He was the first to use the “magic lantern,” an early prototype of the movie projector, to present early films in England. Herbert produced *Soldiers of the Cross*, featuring Christian martyrs and used for recruitment. He resigned from the Army in 1901 following a family dispute.

MARIE BOOTH (1864–1937) – Marie became an invalid at an early age but was given the rank of permanent Staff Captain.

EVANGELINE BOOTH (1865–1950) – Eva was involved in the work from a young age. By 15 years old she was selling the army's newspaper, *The War Cry*. Eva was highly trusted by her father, who was known to say, “Send Eva” whenever trouble threatened. In 1934 Eva was elected as the first female General of the Army.

LUCY BOOTH (1868–1953) – Lucy became a commissioner in the Army and served in India with her husband. She later served in France and South America. She wrote the song “Keep On Believing” for The Salvation Army.



The Nineteenth-Century World of William Booth

Queen Victoria reigned in Britain from 1837 to 1901. People lived and died, never knowing another sovereign, and this longevity gave to an entire era the name of Victorian. It was a time of relative peace in Europe, the *Pax Britannica*, marked by British control of most important maritime trade routes and expansion into world economic markets. By the beginning of the twentieth century, the British Empire extended over about one-fifth of the earth's surface and represented almost a quarter of the world's population.

The birth rate increased, and despite the emigration of nearly 15 million people, the population of England increased by over 50% in the latter half of the century. Meanwhile, the Industrial Revolution brought new job opportunities and improved living standards for all, except the unfortunate lower classes.

Politics were lively and in the hands of Whigs and Tories, characterized as Liberals and Conservatives by the middle of the century. A persistent point of conflict was the long-standing matter of Irish demands for "Home Rule," which would give the Irish more independence.

Ireland suffered the terrible losses of the Irish Potato Famine between 1845 and 1849. In 1848 and 1853, a cholera epidemic broke out in London when the polluted River Lea entered the city reservoirs. However, life in general continued to improve. In 1878, streetlights were to be seen in parts of London. The Great Exhibition of 1851, the first World's Fair, presented the newest innovations for the amazement of the public. The remarkable Crystal Palace, made of modular glass and iron, was at the hub of the fairgrounds.

Meanwhile, in London's East End conditions were deplorable. Overcrowding became even more of a problem when residents of other slums were cleared and forced to move to the East End to make way for such things as improved docks and new railway terminals. Here the working poor, including children, received meager pay for the lowest and most distasteful jobs. At the lowest end of the job spectrum were the "toshers," who scoured the sewers looking for anything of value. "Mudlarks" were children who searched the mud along the river for the same purpose. Entire families spent their days salvaging in the dustbins. Factory conditions, especially for little children, were appalling with no rest or safety measures provided.

Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist* (1837-1839) brought the social conditions of the poor to light. As social consciousness rose, many people answered the call to aid the poor. There were as many as fifty groups, both secular and religious, active in London when William Booth arrived on the scene. Their combined efforts helped to increase public awareness of the great need and would eventually improve the broad spectrum of people's lives.



On July 2, 1865, William Booth held his first evangelistic campaign in a London tent meeting organized by the East London Special Services Committee. Booth was the second choice to speak after another minister was taken ill. Booth preached in a large tent on the old Quaker burial ground in Whitechapel in the East End. After this first gathering, meetings were held in the tent on week-nights and Sundays without interruption until Sunday, August 20, when William Booth himself became ill.

Booth followed his call into the heart of the poverty-stricken East End, with the full support of his family. Reaching out to all in need, William and Catherine lovingly referred to the hurting people in East End as "Our People." The Booth children enthusiastically joined in the crusade, often going into the East End and working to reach the people. As their efforts began producing results, the Booths invariably brought the new converts into the fold, inviting them to also participate in the work. Those who felt forgotten and thrown away by society were given a new lease on life with a higher calling and purpose.



Under the banner of The Salvation Army, the work of the Booths eventually stretched around the world, continuing to impact countless to this day.



Timeline of William Booth and The Salvation Army

William (1829-1912) and Catherine Booth (1829-1880)

William and Catherine's World

1829: William born April 10 in Nottingham

1843: Death of father, a pawnbroker

1844: Converted at Broad Street
Wesleyan Chapel

1846: Adopts revivalist methods of James
Caughey

1849: Arrives in London to work as asst.
pawnbroker

**1829: Catherine Mumford born on January
17 in Derbyshire**

1844: Catherine's family moves to south
London

1846: Converted at home

1850: Expelled by Wesleyans

1851: William Meets Catherine

1854: William ordained by Methodist New
Connexion

1855: William and Catherine marry June 16

1857: William appointed to New Connexion
"Settled ministry"

1859: Catherine publishes *Female Ministry*, her
first pamphlet

1860: Catherine preaches her first sermon

1861: William resigns from New Connexion; he
and Catherine become itinerant evangelists

1865: Opening of Christian Mission in East
London. Preaching in London's East End
and at summer resorts

1829: Catholic Emancipation in England

1833: Beginning of the Oxford Movement

1837: Victoria becomes Queen; Martin Van
Buren inaugurated President

1840: Queen Victoria marries Prince Albert;
penny postage begins in Britain

1841: U.K. pop. 18.5 million (U.S. 17 million)

1844: YMCA founded

1846: Irish potato famine

1848: Marx's Communist Manifesto; revolu-
tions across Europe

1854: Spurgeon becomes pastor of New Park
Street Church 1854-56; Crimean War

1857: Indian Mutiny; Livingstone's *Missionary
Travels*

1859: Darwin's *Origin of Species*

1861-65: U.S. Civil War

1868: Gladstone prime minister

1874: Disraeli prime minister

1876: Bell invents telephone



William and Catherine Booth continued

The Salvation Army

- 1878: The Booths rename their Christian Mission a "Salvation Army"; first Salvation Army band is formed
- 1879: First edition of Army's *The War Cry*
- 1880: The Salvation Army begins official work in U.S. and Australia
- 1882: Negotiates with Church of England to make The Salvation Army a branch of the church
- 1883: The Salvation Army begins to help discharged prisoners, "fallen women," and drunkards
- 1885: Crusades against teenage prostitution; Army has 1,780 officers in U.K., 1,296 abroad
- 1888: First Salvation Army food and shelter outreach.
- 1890: William Booth publishes *In Darkest England and the Way Out*; Catherine dies of cancer on October 4
- 1891: The Army opens safety-match factory in East London
- 1898: William Booth prays before the U.S. Senate
- 1905: William Booth is awarded Freedom of the City of London
- 1907: William Booth receives honorary doctorate from Oxford
- 1912: William Booth dies on August 20; succeeded as Salvation Army General by his son Bramwell

William and Catherine's World continued

- 1878: Electric street lights introduced in London
- 1879: Henry George's *Poverty and Progress* published
- 1880: Gladstone prime minister
- 1886: London church attendance begins to decline; Irish Home Rule defeated
- 1888: London Girls' Match Strike; Jack the Ripper
- 1889: London Dock Strike
- 1890: Global flu epidemics
- 1893: Labor Party formed
- 1896: Billy Sunday begins leading revivals in the U.S.A.
- 1899–1902: Boer War in South Africa
- 1901: Queen Victoria dies; Edward VII begins reign
- 1910: Missionary Conference, Edinburgh



Additional Materials

DVDs (available from Vision Video at www.visionvideo.com or 1-800-523-0226)

- ***Our People: The Story of William and Catherine Booth and The Salvation Army*** — This is the story of how one couple took God's love to the poor. This DVD features 11 historians and storytellers, voice artists, period music, over 500 images, rare archival footage, and recordings from two Booth grandchildren.

Websites

- **www.torchlighters.org** — Visit our website to learn about upcoming episodes of Torchlighters. This is also a great place to give us your feedback and suggest heroes for future episodes.
- **www.salvationarmy.org** — This is the international website of The Salvation Army. Here you can learn about their history and worldwide initiatives.

Follow-Up Projects

- **The Salvation Army is active worldwide.** To learn more about their work in your area visit their interactive map at: **<http://www1.salvationarmy.org/ihq/worldmap/worldmap.html>**
Zoom in on your country and click to learn about specific efforts.

Give us your feedback: Christian History Institute values your input. If you have comments or recommendations on the *Torchlighters* series, please share them through our website at **www.torchlighters.org**.



The Torchlighters: Heroes of the Faith Series

Jim Elliot - Jim Elliot spends his youth preparing to share the Gospel with those who have never heard it. But nothing can prepare him for the dangers and challenges he faces in the jungles of Ecuador. Will Jim and his fellow missionaries ever be able to break through and carry a torch of faith to the remote Auca tribe, determined to attack all outsiders?

William Tyndale - In 16th-century England, translating the sacred Scriptures into English is William's calling. It won't be easy with the English government and the established church planted firmly against anyone who even speaks the Scripture in English. Follow this brave fugitive on a journey of faith as he works to complete his task.

John Bunyan - To stop preaching just to save his own skin is unthinkable for this hero. But, how will his work continue from the confines of a cold, hard prison, while his wife and blind daughter struggle to survive alone? Watch as John serves his Lord in the most trying of circumstances, and writes an all-time best seller, *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

Eric Liddell - This hero has committed his Sundays to worship and rest, and he intends to keep that commitment. But with all of Scotland begging him to run for Olympic gold, it will be difficult to stand firm. Watch as the fastest man in the world chooses to honor God rather than chase a gold medal. Then watch how God uses Eric to bring the Gospel to China.

Gladys Aylward - With war raging about her and soldiers closing in, the wounded missionary Gladys Aylward sets out on a 100-mile trek over the mountains to a safe haven. But it's not her own safety that concerns her, it's the safety and well-being of the 100 abandoned children in her care. Watch as Gladys' strength and faith are stretched to the limit, all for the sake of the children.

Richard Wurmbrand - In war-torn Romania, there is only one way for churches to get the protection of the government: give their support and allegiance to the ruling communists. Instead, Pastor Richard Wurmbrand chooses to speak up for Christ. When Richard's choice lands him in a communist prison, his faith and witness are tested to the limits. See how this Torchlighter's amazing story continues to impact the world today.

Perpetua - In the days of the Early Church, this young mother and new believer is imprisoned, charged with being a Christian, a traitor to the Roman gods. A simple offering of incense to the gods would set her free. Will she remain true to her new faith in Jesus?

Amy Carmichael - As she makes her rounds preaching in the countryside of India, Amy learns of the terrible plight of the temple girls. These girls are given to the temple "gods" at a very young age, never again to taste freedom. Though she is warned repeatedly, there is nothing she can do, but Amy will not give up. Can this determined missionary and her team work against entrenched customs and superstitions to free a special girl named Preena?

William Booth - This hero is determined to bring the life-changing Gospel to London's worst neighborhood, the East End. But when the local pub owners realize some of their best customers are becoming Christians, they hire big strong thugs to get rid of the preacher once and for all. Watch as William's ragtag band of followers marches into the East End with Bibles and Prayer as the weapons of choice. William's legacy lives on through The Salvation Army.

Samuel Morris - Since his father can no longer meet his captors' ransom demands, young Prince Kaboo knows he is to be tortured until death. But when a blinding light appears and the ropes that bind him fall away, a heavenly voice urges him, "Run, Kaboo, Run!" The dramatic events that follow lead the boy prince to take the new name "Samuel Morris." Nothing will stop Samuel from sharing his growing faith with all who will listen.

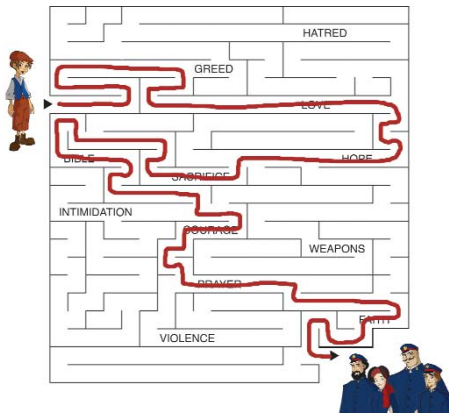


Visit www.torchlighters.org for resources and up-to-date information on new releases.



Answer Key for Select Student Pages

God's Way Maze, p. 6



Catherine Says, p. 10

"I don't believe in any religion apart from doing the will of God."

William Says, p. 11

"Some men's ambition is fame. Some men's ambition is gold. My ambition is the souls of men."

The Salvation Army Spreads around the World, p. 8

1. England
2. (answers may vary)
3. (answers may vary)
4. (answers may vary)
5. 1991
6. Honduras

Terms for the Troops, p. 9

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. General | 6. Knee drill |
| 2. Sword | 7. Taking Rations |
| 3. Troops | 8. The War Cry |
| 4. Fort or citadel | 9. Cadets |
| 5. Fire a volley | 10. Barracks |