

DAY 4

React & Rebuild

Theme Verse: “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed. Yes, speak up for the poor and helpless, and see that they get justice.” Proverbs 31:8-9

DEVOTIONAL

READ: Parable of the Lost Coin.
Luke 15:8-10 NLT

What does it mean to be blessed? For a lot of people things like money, food, and homes come to mind. But, are these the only kinds of blessings? What about the people who don't have these? Does that mean that they are less deserving of blessings than the rest of us? Well, according to the book of Mathew the answer is no.

Material blessings can be here today and gone tomorrow. What Mathew 5:3-10 talks about are true blessings, things that will never run out. Blessings are a symbol of God's love, even when life seems hopeless, God is still with us. Blessings carry us through when we experience hard times.

Everyone deserves to be blessed.

Receiving blessings can motivate us towards blessing others. We are God's hands and feet entrusted with loving orphans, widows, the sick, and those who cannot support themselves.

Justin Vanderkloet ~ Grade 12

STINKY ISSUE

POVERTY

Did you know that nearly five million Canadians live in poverty? Looking at this same question from a different perspective shows us that **1 in 7** people struggle to afford life's basic necessities such as food, clothing and a place to call home. Poverty is a widespread issue across the country and the world. It's effects can be expressed in different aspects of a person's life, such as food security, health, housing, and more.

As we continue through our week, let's recognize together that poverty is a critical issue, that everyone should be granted the right of life's basic necessities, and that we should all have access to nutritious food, health care, education and economic opportunity.

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God's love isn't as complicated

as our discussions about It are.

Keep it simple - Love everybody.

No matter what.

—Bob Goff



5M

CANADIANS LIVE

IN POVERTY



1 in 7

PEOPLE CAN'T

AFFORD BASIC

NECESSITIES

DAY 4

CHARITY MAKING A
DIFFERENCE



Giving
Hope
Today

SALVATION ARMY

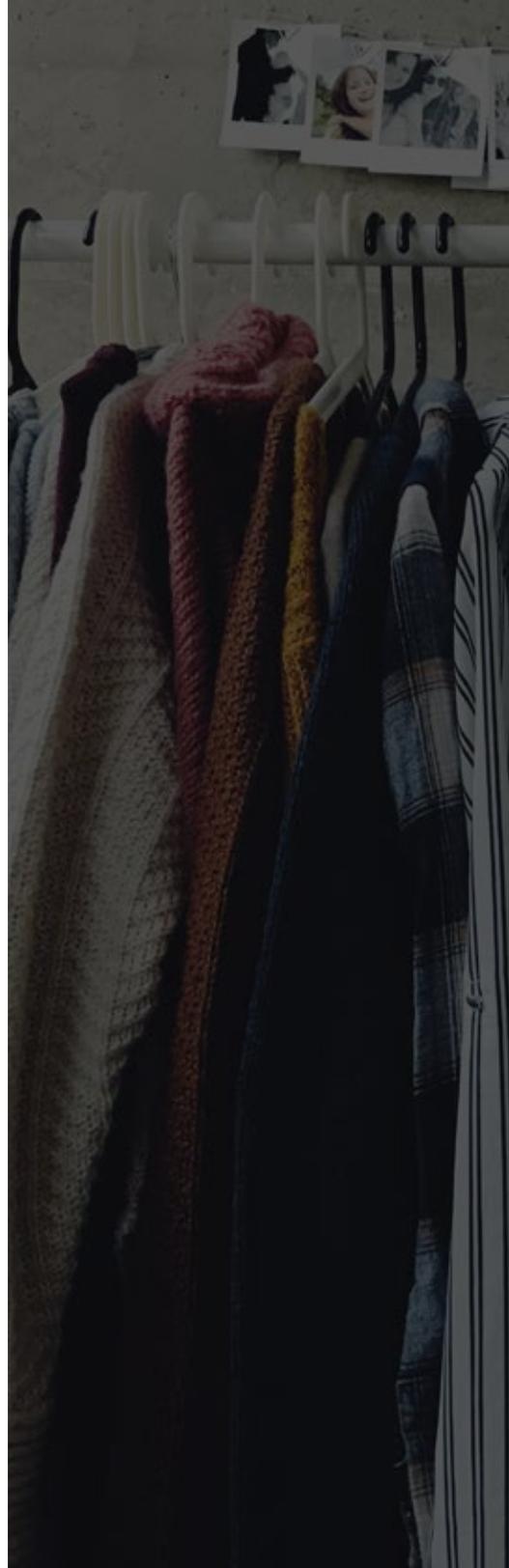
Thrift Store
181 King St W,
Brockville, ON
K6V 3R6
613-342-1616

FIND THE NEAREST SALVA- TION ARMY TO DONATE:

www.salvationarmy.ca/locator

The Salvation Army is passionately committed to eradicating poverty and caring for people who are struggling. One of the things we love most about this organization is their strong commitment to addressing the dehumanizing scourge of poverty and injustice in this world. The Salvation Army not only educates people about the effects of poverty, but they also equip and mobilize people to do something about it.

Almost 2 million people receive assistance from The Salvation Army each year across the country - many of which live below the poverty line.





This includes:

- The distribution of more than 28 million meals
- The provision of 5,724 shelter beds each night for vulnerable men, women and families, making up one-quarter of all shelter beds in Canada
- Practical assistance to more than 1,375,000 people with food and/or clothing

Let's partner together by bringing hope to the communities we live in.

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For some strange reason

God doesn't want to change

the world without us.

— Shane Claiborne

LOVE CHALLENGE

PURGE CLOSETS AND COLLECT CLOTHES

Imagine if ending poverty was as easy as gathering up your old clothes, and bringing them to your nearest Salvation Army. This may not entirely solve the complexity of problems surrounding poverty in Canada, but it certainly will make an impact.

For today's Love Challenge, we're giving to those in need by looking in our closets, rooting through our basements, and finding all those old clothes we thought we were going wear again, but never actually did. Let's dig deep into our closets, exercise those heart muscles, and start creating positive change in the lives around us. A little sacrificial giving will serve and bless people in ways you could never imagine. Let's free those clothes and make a Stink for Love!