

# SELF DENIAL '26

MOTIVATED BY

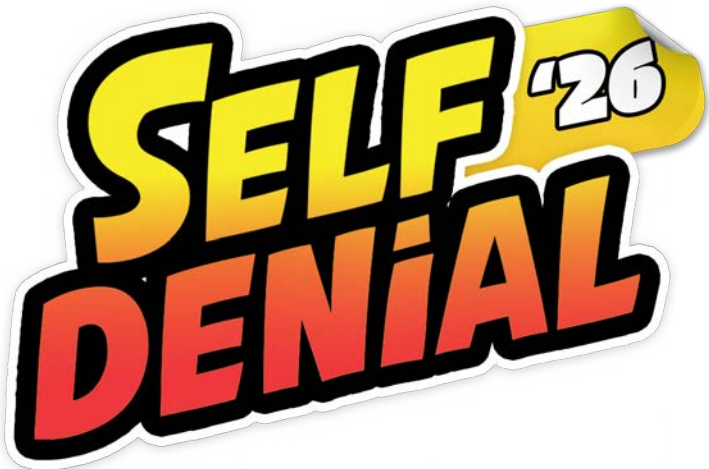
LOVE

kid zone



## LEADERS' GUIDE





# MOTIVATED BY LOVE

## AIM

Our aim is to engage the children in a fun and interactive program to give them an understanding of what a generous God we have, some of the amazing programs run by The Salvation Army and how we can help support these programs through the Self Denial Appeal.

This program is suitable for children 5-11 years of age. It is designed to support children's workers by providing easy-to-do, fun resources to encourage children to follow Jesus' example of living generously.

The material is presented through the Self Denial booklet, featuring the *Kidzone* characters, and short videos which will present weekly lessons and activities. To familiarise your class with the characters, give them copies of *Kidzone* magazine or visit the *Kidzone* website at <https://www.kidzonemag.com.au>. The characters are on the home page; click on the characters' faces for their profiles.

## HOW IT WORKS

Each week the booklet provides a comic featuring the *Kidzone* characters to explain the Self Denial Appeal and The Salvation Army programs in Malawi, Sri Lanka, Rwanda and Fiji. This complements the material presented in the videos.

This year's theme for the Self Denial Appeal is 'Motivated by Love'. Throughout the six weeks of the program, the children will get to know about Malawi, Sri Lanka, Rwanda and Fiji through crafts, recipes and activities provided in the booklet.

They will also watch short videos profiling the work of The Salvation Army in these countries and be encouraged to raise money to support these projects. Each child will be given a Self Denial Appeal money box to make, which they can then use to collect the money they have raised.

At the end of the six-week program, the children will be invited to bring in their money box

## Find videos and download files here:


Find the 2026 Self Denial Appeal kids Toolkit here: <https://my.salvos.org.au/toolkit/contributors/self-denial-appeal/collections/self-denial-2026-childrens-resources-and-videos/>

Find the 2026 Self Denial Appeal *Kidzone* material here: [kidzonemag.com.au/selfdenialkids2026](http://kidzonemag.com.au/selfdenialkids2026)




to give the money they have raised to support the people helped by Self Denial Appeal programs around the world.

## INTRODUCTION (5 mins)

 **POINT** out  
Shushanna's photo on  
**page 3** and read her  
introduction on **page 2**.

The collage features several children's magazines. The central magazine is '100%' with a cover story about a woman named Dandelion. To the left, there's a 'Contents' page with a 'Kidz' section. Below that is a 'Self Denial' magazine with a 'Kid Zone' section. To the right, there's another '100%' magazine with a cover story about a woman named Dandelion. The background is a light blue grid pattern.

[illegible][illegible]

 **WATCH** Shushanna introduce the SDA programs in Malawi, Sir Lanka, Rwanda and Fiji and the reason we raise money to help others. The video ends with the suggestion to share fundraising ideas, so move the children to the table set up with paper and the money boxes.

 **MAKE** the money boxes.

**Money box**

1. Cut out the money box template and glue the sides together. Make sure to glue the sides together with the glue sticks.

2. Glue the money box template to the back of the calendar.

3. Fill the money box with coins and paper money.

4. Use the money box to save money for your project.

**SELF DENIAL 2026**

**MOTIVATED BY LOVE**

**Care Tokens**

1. Cut out the care tokens template and glue the sides together. Make sure to glue the sides together with the glue sticks.

2. Use the care tokens to reward children for good behavior.

3. The care tokens can be used for a variety of activities, including:

- Reading a book
- Watching a video
- Playing a game
- Doing a craft
- Listening to music

**MEMORY VERSE** (3 mins)

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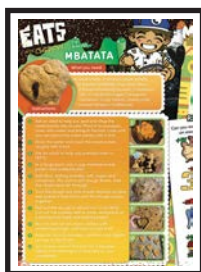
### BIBLE STORY EXTENSION:

**Even giving a little can have a huge impact, such as the young boy who gave Jesus his lunch – which was used to miraculously feed thousands of people (Matthew 14:13-21). This story shows how children's giving can make a difference.**

**Jesus also honours generous giving**, even when what is offered doesn't seem like much. Luke 21:1-4 tells us: 'Jesus looked up and saw some rich people putting their gifts to God into the Temple collection box. Then he saw a poor widow put two small copper coins into the box. He said, "This poor widow gave only two small coins. But the truth is, she gave more than all those rich people. They have plenty, and they gave only what they did not need. This woman is very poor, but she gave all she had to live on."



**MAKE:** To make the mbatata on **page 8** in class you will need to pre-prepare the sweet potato dough. Take disposable plates, flour to dust the plates and rolling pins and cookie cutters for the children to use to make their cookies. You will need to have access to an oven to bake them; an air fryer could also be used.



Malawi is our first stop for the Self Denial Appeal 2026, so let's find out about this nation.

 **READ** out or invite some of your class to read out Traveller's column on **page 7** to learn some facts about Malawi.



Traveller is Kidzone's jet-setting character who will be giving us lots of information about the countries featured in the Self Denial Appeal.




 **READ** the comic on **page 6** with Oliver & CK.


 **READ** the column on **page 7** about Mercy and a Salvation Army program that helps girls like her stay in school.



**VIDEO** (3 mins)

 **WATCH** Shushanna as she tells the class about how the program and how it has helped girls stay in school and get an education.


**COOKING** (10-12 mins)

 **GIVE** each child a piece of mbatata dough on a plate sprinkled with flour. Follow the recipe from steps 6-8 (**page 8**). When the cookies are baked and cooled, you can enjoy eating them together or the children could take them home.



 DO the puzzles on page 9.



 **CHAT** about what your class has done to raise money to put into their Self Denial money boxes. Bring out last week's brainstorming sheet – did anyone try any of these? Does anyone have other ideas to add?

 **READ** out the memory verse on **page 3** together.



**BIBLE STORY EXTENSION:**


**Girls are important to God.** In Bible times (like some countries still today), girls often didn't go to school or have the opportunity to learn from teachers like Jesus. But Jesus wanted everyone to learn about God's kingdom. In the Bible we hear how he welcomed women like Mary and Martha to come and listen to him (Luke 10:38-42).

**Chat** about how Martha was working away while Mary sat and listened to Jesus, and how it may have been unusual for Mary not to be busy serving Jesus and the disciples. Discuss how Jesus wanted them to learn about God and how he encouraged Mary – and Martha – to spend time listening to him.



## A stylized graphic with the text "SELF DENIAL '26" in a bold, comic book font. "SELF" is in yellow with a black outline, "DENIAL" is in red with a black outline, and "'26" is in white with a black outline. The text is slanted upwards to the right.


**BEFORE YOUR CLASS:**

 **HAVE** all the supplies you will need to make the water filter on **page 12**. This is a great activity for the children to watch or help you with some of the steps. Older children could do this experiment in pairs.



## INTRODUCTION (5-7 mins)


This week, the Self Denial Appeal is focusing on Sri Lanka, so let's learn a bit about this nation on [page 11](#) of our magazine with Traveller.

 **READ** out or invite some of your class to read out Traveller's column.




 **LOOK** at the comic on **page 10** with CK & Faith.



 **READ** the introduction on the left-hand column on **page 11** to hear Rangana's story.




**VIDEO** (3 mins)

 **WATCH** Shushanna tell us about Rangana and how The Salvation Army's filtration plants make a huge difference to people's lives.

### ACTIVITY (10 mins)


 **MAKE** the water filter on **page 12**.



 **READ** the explanation on how the filter works and the Bible message on **page 12**.


 DO the puzzles on page 13.



 **CHAT** about what the kids have done to raise money to put into their Self Denial money boxes this week.



**MEMORY VERSE** (3 mins)

 **READ** out the memory verse, 1 Corinthians 16:13-14, together. This is on **page 3**. Can anyone say it without looking at it?



### BIBLE STORY EXTENSION:

**Water is essential for life.** We found out this week how The Salvation Army's water filtration plants have made such a huge difference to people's lives.

**Jesus knew that everyone needs water to live – just like we need him (living water) to have eternal life. Jesus explains this when he meets the woman at the well (John 4:1-14.)**



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TALK about some people in the Bible who worked hard at their jobs – David (shepherd), Joseph (carpenter) and the disciples – what was the job many of them had? Remind the children of the time Jesus visited them on the beach after his resurrection (John 21: 1-13).





[illegible]

(Prompts: capital cities, animals, food, climate, flag colours)

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The collage features several elements: a cartoon character on the left, a newspaper clipping titled 'How the school is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the school' in the center, a photograph of a group of people in the top right, and a small inset image of a person in the bottom right.

**Everything The Salvation Army does is motivated by the love of God to help people around the world. And everything Jesus did when he was on Earth was motivated by love, such as healing people: the man who was paralysed (Luke 5:18-25), blind man (Mark 8:22-26), Jairus' daughter (Luke 8:43-48), but especially when he died on the cross for our sins, so that we could have eternal life (John 3:16).**