**TESTIMONY**

**Cadet James Pegg**

Hello, my name is James, and I am a cadet of the Messengers of Grace Session here at the William Booth College, currently in my second and final year of training. In a few months I will be commissioned as a Salvation Army officer and will be sent to the community to which I have been appointed.

All of this is great, but it is nothing that I boast of nor take credit for. This is God’s work and his will and his purpose for my life.

A part of my story to how I got to this place comes from a time in my life when I needed to purposefully search for what God wanted me to do – the question of ‘What am I on this planet for?’ As a young man I was certain – almost convinced – as to where I thought my life was going. Or at least I thought I did. But a moment came when that certainty of what I thought I wanted was no longer as assured as it once was, and I had to navigate myself through a time of searching and questioning.

I realise now that this was preparation for God’s will in my life to be revealed. It came to a point during prayer and a time of searching that I prayed something along the lines of, ‘God, if you call me to something, I will do it.’ I look back at this point in my life as a moment of surrender, a moment when I effectively said, ‘Not my will but yours, God.’

In the days, weeks and months following that moment, things started to fall into place: a word from Scripture, a lyric from a song, a conversation with someone from the corps, all of it pointing towards spiritual leadership as a Salvation Army officer. It was God’s calling in my life, an undeniable calling. This calling on my life is the work of God, and he continues to call me to go deeper into relationship with him.

I pray as I journey into Salvation Army officership that I will continue to have those moments when I hear God prompting me to surrender my will and listen to his, and in some beautiful way his will becomes mine.

All glory to God!