



SPECIAL DAYS

PREPARATION

- → Ask members to bring objects that remind them of an occasion when they recall God being especially been good or faithful to them
- → Cut card into bookmark sizes and provide pens / felt tips/ craft materials
- → Prepare to show the video clips 'Reviewing the situation' and 'You hold it all together'
- → Fill a bag with everyday objects; you may also wish to provide pens and paper
- → Print question sheets for each member and provide pens
- → You may wish to provide a prize(s) for the quiz

Additional resources

'Reviewing the situation' quiz

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

Whenever there is an ending, there is also a new beginning. New beginnings can be very exciting and present us with amazing opportunities - but they can also be a little bit scary!

ACTIVITIES

BOOKMARKS

Give each member a bookmark-shaped card and encourage them to create their own bookmark including the text 'Be strong and courageous' from Joshua 1:6.

QUIZ

Do an observational quiz. Play the video of the song 'Reviewing the situation' from the 1968 musical *Oliver!* and encourage members to watch closely!

Hand out the guiz guestions, to be answered by individuals or in teams.

Afterwards play the clip again, pausing at the appropriate times to give the answers; the answer sheet has a guide to times. You could give a prize to the winner ... or the member most engaged in the quiz!





Alternatively you could play a clip from a favourite movie (2-3 mins) and prepare your own question sheet.

MEMORY GAME

Pull out your everyday objects from your bag one at a time for a few seconds each. Then see how many can be recalled by the group. Alternatively give time for each person to write down or note on their mobile how many things they can remember.

SHARE

You may wish to integrate this activity with the Bible reading/thought. Members may have brought along objects that remind them of an occasion when God has been especially good or faithful to them in the past. Ask them to share with the group the story behind the object.

For example:

- A hospital bracelet or a medical appointment card (surviving illness or surgery)
- * An award or certificate (God-given ability or support of God through others)
- * A wedding ring or gift (God provided a good partner or has helped on your journey of life together

BIBLE READING/THOUGHT

☐ Joshua 1:1-6 *NIV*

We are at the beginning of a new year, and this brings us the opportunity to learn from the past by reviewing the year that has gone before. We can learn much from our successes but often we learn much more from our mistakes.

When it comes to our faith in God, we can take great comfort from the promise that God has given each one of us - that he will never leave us or forsake us.

The truth is, we do not enter the future alone - God is with us! Neither do we step into the unknown empty-handed; we have the confidence our faith in God gives us.

When Moses died, it was the end of an era for the Israelites. It was time for a new leader to take on his mantle and lead the children of Israel into the promised land.

Joshua, Moses' assistant, became the new leader and was probably a bit scared at the prospect and fearful of what the future may hold. But God spoke to him and told him not to be afraid. God told Joshua that as he had been with Moses, so he





would be with him. This was not only the promise of God's presence but also the promise of his power.

God had been faithful to Moses and the children of Israel in some scary and difficult days. He had always proved to be more than equal to any challenge. He had rescued them time and time again. He had been patient and generous in so many ways. The message to Joshua was to remember this and draw strength and confidence from the promise that this same God would be just the same for him as he stepped into his unknown future.

SHARE

You may wish to let people share their stories of God's goodness and faithfulness at this point ... and after each story say these words, 'As God has been with (name) so he will be with you!'

As we look back and see how good and faithful God has been over this past year, let it be a means of strength and courage as we step out into our own unknown.

We may not know the future, but we can know and so trust the one who holds the future!

REFLECTION

Finish with a time of reflection with the video, 'You hold it all together' by Better than Kings.

SONGS

- □ SASB 378 'Lord, I come before your throne of grace (What a faithful God)'
 - Watch the lyric instrumental video by Kelston Stanford Salvation Army or the lyric duet video by Droitwich Spa Salvation Army.
- ☐ SASB 522 'Standing on the promises of Christ my King'
 Watch the lyric instrumental video by St Albans Salvation Army or the lyric video by Squirrel 24.
- ☐ SASB 64 'The splendour of the King (How great is our God)'
 Watch the lyric video by Songs4Praise&Worship featuring Darlene Zschech.
- □ SASB 26 'Great is your faithfulness'
 Watch the lyric instrumental video by Kelston Stanford Salvation Army or the lyric video by Maranatha! Music





WEBSITE AND CONTACT DETAILS

Connect website: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/connect

• Family Ministries website: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/families

• Emails: familyministries@salvationarmy.org.uk

Facebook: @sarmyfmTwitter: @ukifamily

Instagram: safamily_ministries



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QUIZ

Reviewing the situation quiz

- 1. Is Fagin wearing a hat at the beginning of the clip?
- 2. What action does Fagin first perform at the beginning of the clip?
- 3. How many main characters appear in the clip, and can you name them?
- 4. What does the owl do just before Fagin retrieves his safe box from inside the wall?
- 5. How many candles are lit by the hole in the wall in which Fagin's safe box is hidden?
- 6. What colour is Fagin's coat?
- 7. What does Fagin do as soon as he leaves the building and closes the door?
- 8. What famous London landmark appears behind Fagin as he's walking on the wooden walkway?
- 9. Under which arm is Fagin carrying his safe box?
- 10. What colour are Fagin's fingerless gloves?
- 11. Where does Fagin sit when he re-enters the building after being outside?
- 12. What is hanging over the stairwell in Fagin's lodgings?
- 13. What is the first item Fagin takes out of his safe box?
- 14. What is the total number of items Fagin takes out of his safe box?
- 15. What is Fagin wearing at the end of the clip that he wasn't wearing at the beginning?





QUIZ ANSWERS

Reviewing the situation quiz

1. Is Fagin wearing a hat at the beginning of the clip?

(00:00) No

- 2. What action does Fagin first perform at the beginning of the clip? (00:02) He clutches at his throat
- 3. How many main characters appear in the clip, and can you name them? (00:14) Three: Oliver, Dodger and Fagin
- 4. What does the owl do just before Fagin retrieves his safe box from inside the wall?

(00:22) It winks at him

5. How many candles are lit by the hole in the wall in which Fagin's safe box is hidden?

(00:34) One

6. What colour is Fagin's coat?

(00:55) Green with a black collar

- 7. What does Fagin do as soon as he leaves the building and closes the door? (01:51) A shushing / be quiet gesture
- 8. What famous London landmark appears behind Fagin as he's walking on the wooden walkway?

(02:02) St Paul's Cathedral

9. Under which arm is Fagin carrying his safe box?

(02:06) His left arm

10. What colour are Fagin's fingerless gloves?

(03:12) *Brown*

11. Where does Fagin sit when he re-enters the building after being outside? (03:34) At the foot of the stairs





- 12. What is hanging over the stairwell in Fagin's lodgings?
 (04:18) The Union flag often called the Union Jack
- 13. What is the first item Fagin takes out of his safe box?
 (04:30) A brooch / a breast star from the Order of St Michael and St George
- 14. What is the total number of items Fagin takes out of his safe box? (04:28 04:47) Four
- 15. What is Fagin wearing at the end of the clip that he wasn't wearing at the beginning?

(04:54) A crown