



CLARENCE HOUSE

The centenary commemorations of the start of the First World War are a significant moment for us all to pause and remember the appalling sacrifices made by so many men, women, families and whole communities. Indeed, one of my own great uncles was killed in the Battle of Loos in 1915. I am delighted, therefore, that HOPE has brought together the churches, Christian ministries, and the military chaplaincies of all denominations to produce resources under the banner of "Greater Love". This is clearly a significant moment for the United Kingdom and, indeed, the Commonwealth and so I can only wish this initiative every possible success in its most laudable aims.

Charlie



CVM exists to connect men to Jesus and the church to men, working throughout the UK with churches, denominations and individuals to equip, encourage and resource them for evangelism to men.
cvm.org.uk

"Many churches will see a high volume of visitors (especially men) during the centenary of the First World War, whether on Remembrance Day, Armed Forces Day or at other special events. We believe that this pack will really help churches to mark the commemorations in a meaningful way and also point people to Jesus Christ."



Carl Beech, International Director, CVM

GREATER LOVE IS A TEAM EFFORT AND CVM WOULD LIKE TO THANK:

Roy Crowne (Executive Director, HOPE)
Armed Forces Christian Union
Ministry of Defence
Worcester Cathedral
Museum of Army Chaplaincy



GREATER LOVE

A RESOURCE PACK TO HELP CHURCHES COMMEMORATE THE FIRST WORLD WAR



INTRODUCTION

As a ministry, CVM is hugely excited to be producing this pack as part of the centenary commemorations of the First World War. The pack is designed for use on Remembrance Day and throughout the year in churches, men's groups, youth events, small groups and evangelistic guest meetings. It's designed to be a flexible resource which not only looks at the challenges of military life, but also points people to Jesus.

You will find exclusive testimonies on the DVD with some really honest and challenging content. Also included is a Gospel message filmed on location at the Menin Gate Memorial in Belgium where the Last Post is sounded every evening to express gratitude to those who gave their lives.

On our visit there, I was struck again by the massive loss of life. The Hall of Memory at the Gate contains the names of 54,896 unidentified Commonwealth soldiers. On completion it was discovered that it was too small to contain all the names, so another 34,984 were inscribed elsewhere... and that's just the unidentified soldiers... an estimated 16.5 million military and civilian deaths occurred during the conflict. **16.5 MILLION.**

Our mission at CVM is to see men come to know Jesus and have their lives transformed. Many men will visit churches on Remembrance Day so we hope that this pack will help you to lead them to God from whom comes the promise of eternal peace and an end to war.

As ever, let us know how it goes so that we can keep producing what you need to connect men to the Gospel.

Carl Beech
International Director, CVM



DVD FILMS

WOODBINE WILLIE AND THE MENIN GATE

(6:38 MINS)

The First World War saw massive losses of soldiers and civilians, but one man fought against the odds to share God's love in the trenches.



INTO THE UNKNOWN

(8:11 MINS)

JP has done tours in Afghanistan, leaving his family back at home not knowing what the future holds. He and Hayley, his wife, share how faith in God has helped them.



LIVING WITHOUT DAD

(7:09 MINS)

A family talks about life with a dad/husband away on tour of duty and having security in God through worrying times.



WHAT IF?

(5:00 MINS)

"We're immortal till God calls us home." A Chinook helicopter pilot talks about his life 'in God's hands'.



SEPARATE THOUGH CONFIDENT

(6:30 MINS)

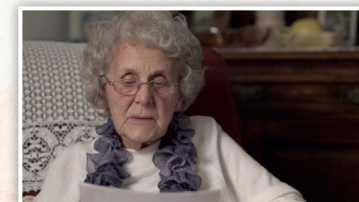
Steve and Helen share about their confidence in God despite Steve serving on a navy vessel thousands of miles away.



NO RIGHT TO OBJECT

(6:19 MINS)

The daughter of a WWI conscientious objector speaks of how her father's reliance on God helped him, as he faced the consequences of not taking up arms.



ALSO INCLUDED ON THE DVD

This is an Enhanced DVD, to access the additional content use it in your computer and navigate to the PDF-RESOURCES folder.

- » Church Service plans and tips
- » Children and Youth group ideas
- » Useful contacts
- » Sermon outlines
- » Prayers
- » Liturgy
- » Stories

Greater love has no one
than this: to lay down
one's life for one's friends.

(JOHN 15:13)