

Cub Scout Character Development

Developing the Character of the Cub Scout

Scouting, from Tigers, through all levels of Cub Scouts, to Boy Scouts and beyond, is a character development program. It is the long-standing idea of a Game with a Purpose. The Game is the fun we have in all our activities. The Purpose is to place the ideals of Scouting -- the Promise and Law for the Cub Scouts -- in their hearts to be with them throughout their lives.

There are many methods that we can use in Cub Scouts to implement this purpose:

Association with adults who demonstrate the Scout ideals

Doing Good Turns and service projects

Using the "Ethics in Action" exercises in Den meetings.

In an unobtrusive manner, develop the spiritual life of the Cubs

This section of the Pow Wow Book presents material to help you in Cub Scout Spiritual Development. There are activities in this section similar to the Ethics in Action exercises, which will help your Scouts learn how to think about their choices and responsibilities. It is proper for adult leaders and Cub Scouts to pray at times, and reflect on their relation to the world around them. Thus, there are sections of invocations, prayers, songs, readings, and benedictions. These may be used for Den or Pack meetings, and can be used to build a Scouts Own. The Scouts Own is a time set aside for reflection, usually on Sunday morning of a family or Webelos campout. Within this section, the Scouts Own is described and there are examples given.

The Founder wrote:

"The scout, in his promise, undertakes to do his duty to his king and country only in the second place; his first duty is to God. It is with this idea before us and reckoning that God is the one Father of us all, that we scouts count ourselves a brotherhood despite the differences among us of country, creed, or class. We realize that in addition to the interest of our particular country, there is a higher mission before us - namely, the promotion of the kingdom of God; that is, the rule of peace and goodwill on earth. In the Scouts, each form of religion is respected and its active practice encouraged, and through the spread of brotherhood in all countries, we have the opportunity of developing the spirit of mutual goodwill and understanding.

"There is no religious side of the movement. The whole of it is based on religion that is, on the realization and service to God.

"Let us, therefore, in training our Scouts, keep the higher aims in the forefront, not let themselves get too absorbed in the steps. Don't let the technical outweigh the moral. Field efficiency, backwoodsmanship, camping, hiking, good turns, jamboree, and comradeship are by all means not the end. The end is character with a purpose.

"And that purpose, that the next generation may be sane in a insane world, and develop the higher realization of service, active service of love, and duty to God and neighbor.

"Our objective in the scout movement is to give such help as we can in bringing about God's kingdom on earth by inoculating among the youth the spirit and the daily practice in their lives of selfish goodwill and cooperation."

-- Robert S. S. Baden-Powell

An Introduction to Spiritual Development

It is altogether proper to begin the development of character in our Cub Scouts, through spiritual development. Spiritual development within the organization may take on the aspects of a particular religion, faith or sect, depending on the circumstances. This is where the sponsoring organization may or may not take on a significant role in this development. In general, we accept these principles of spiritual development.



- To develop an inner discipline and training
- To be involved in corporate activities
- To understand the natural world around them
- To help to create a more tolerant and caring society
- To discover the need for prayer and worship

Spiritual Development Activities

Wisdom (To develop an inner discipline and training.)

Activity 1 - Game - Blind Pirate. An individual Scout is selected to be the blind pirate. He is blindfolded and sits in the middle of the floor cross-legged. A bell or bunch of keys or anything noisy is placed in front of him. One at a time Scouts who are sitting around cross-legged in a circle try to get up, sneak out, take the bell and return to their places without making a sound. The 'pirate' tries to point to the individual that is moving. If he succeeds they change over.

This game like many others often played in Scouts develops a particular discipline. It might be worth spending five minutes at the end of the game or at the end of the evening discussing how they felt having to keep silent for long periods.

Activity 2 - Project - Keep a diary for a week. If you have the facility, produce an eight-page diary covering one week for each Scout. (Two sheets of paper folded with the days and perhaps the dates). Get them to keep as accurately as they can an hour by hour time table of what they have done for the week: time they went to bed, got up, started breakfast, finished breakfast, left for school, got to school, etc.

Then at your next meeting (it might be helpful to have calculators) analyze how much time has been spent on each of a number of activities during the week. You might make a list like sleeping, eating, at school, doing homework, watching TV, Scout activities, etc. Produce league tables, or bar charts or whatever the troop wants. Finally consider what this shows about priorities, inner discipline, etc.

Activity 3 - Project - What influences you? Ask them to conduct a survey during the week using questions like:

- What makes you decide which TV programs to watch?
- Who or what influences what you wear? How you spend you money? Your aims in life?
- Who or what influences the things you think are right and wrong?

For some it may be enough for them to consider this for themselves. Others may be able to get a few answers from friends and family. Collate the answers. Then discuss who or what they follow. Discuss why they follow who or whatever and how this affects their life. Do they think that this will change as they get older?

Activity 4 - Game - The waiting game. Provide a bucket half full of water and a large denomination coin in the bottom. (This one could cost you!) Give each person a penny to drop in to try to cover the large coin. It is almost impossible. The trick takes time and patience. Discuss the need for patience, and when and why it may be appropriate.

Activity 5 - Who am I? There are millions of people in the world, we are all unique, and all are citizens of the world. Get the scouts to write a page or draw a poster about themselves and the gifts that they have. Write a prayer based on this information.



Work (To be involved in corporate activities.)

Activity 1 - Project - Produce a picture story. This can be done over Den meetings. Each Den needs access to a camera. Each should be provided with one roll of film and a photograph album.

The Scouts then need to select some story. This could be from the Bible or other Holy Book or a favorite story or a story written by themselves. The next step is to produce a storyboard as they will have seen in comics or on TV, being careful that they have a fixed number of photographs on the roll. Then set up and take the photographs. Get the photos developed at a fast outlet. Finally they can put the pictures into the album with appropriate words alongside.

Activity 2 -- Team work. Many activities can be used to illustrate teamwork. Provide each Den with a list of things to find out. Such as:

- What number of bus stops at the bus stop nearest the Den meeting place?
- What are the names of all the streets around the block where the Den meets?
- How much does a fish sandwich combination meal cost at McDonalds?
- What is the phone number of the nearest supermarket?

Then leave them to get on with it and have a cup of tea. The teams which all rush round together will not do as well as those who plan and divide up the task. Discuss the benefits of planning, teamwork, using the strengths and weaknesses of the team, etc.

Activity 3 - Friends. What is it that makes someone a friend? Encourage the Scouts to think about friendship by thinking of something friendly to do for a new Scout?

Activity 4- Money. Ask the Scouts to keep a record of how they spend their pocket money, what they spend it on and how much they save, etc. Encourage them to discuss as a Den how much should be spent, saved or given away?

Activity 5 - Helping others. As a Pack think of an organization which you could help and explain their work at a Pack meeting. Consider what you might do, as Dens or as a Pack, to help this organization.

Activity 6- The Scout Family. How does everyone work together to form Scouting? Explain to the Den the structure of local Scouting. Why are the young people the most important?

Activity 7 - Sport. Have the Scouts design a poster showing lots of team games. Then ask the Scouts why they take part in games and write the answers around the pictures.

Wonder (To understand the natural world around us.)

Activity 1 - A blindfold meal. At a planned outing, such as a Den picnic, get everyone to eat a simple meal or undertake a simple activity blindfolded. Care needs to be taken that no one gets burnt or hurts him or herself. Afterwards encourage the Scouts to consider how wonderful their gift of sight is. This could develop into a discussion on the idea that there are different types of blindness. Blindness to the needs of others, blindness to the world that we live in, blindness to the obvious existence of God.

Activity 2 - Deny a sense. Undertake some game or activity without using an essential sense. As in #1 above it could be blindfold or without talking, or with one hand tied behind your back or with fingers taped together, or legs tied together, etc. Perhaps each Scout could be denied a different sense. Later discuss how hard it is to do without and how wonderful these senses are.



Activity 3 - Project - Think Rubbish. If you are at a camp, or meeting place, see what can be done to collect different types of rubbish (glass, metal, paper) in different containers and then dispose of them in your local recycling system.

Welcome (To help create a more tolerant and caring society)

Activity 1 - "What is the cost?" Have ready a selection of every day items such as a Mars Bar, an audiocassette, a pair of socks and so on. You also need to know how much each of these items cost to buy. Then play a game of "The price is right". Produce your items one at a time. Get each Scout to suggest "What is the cost?" Each Scout takes it in turn to start. No one is allowed to say the same price as some one else. Two points for being exactly right one for being the closest. Then move on to part two.

Produce a sheet of paper for each Scout, headed up with one of the following or similar:

- What is the cost of learning to play the piano?
- What is the cost of keeping up a friendship?
- What is the cost of owning a dog?

Activity 2 - Game - Helping the blind man. The Den selects a member to be blindfolded. Once the blindfold has been put on set up a very simple slalom course with chairs. The Den then has to steer their blind man through the course by shouting instructions. Afterwards get them to say how it felt, (dependence, frustration, fear, etc.). If you wish, this discussion could move on to the problems blind people have, or perhaps faith, and the faith that blind people have to put in guide dogs, etc.

Activity 3 - Helping Others. Encourage the Scouts to adopt a grandparent. This works well if three or four are "allocated" to each grandparent. They will soon realize that visits are greatly appreciated.

Activity 4 - Communication games. There are large number of games such as charades and Pictionary which are basically about communication. Spend time thinking about those who find communicating difficult. This could lead on to considering the issues of distrust and social unrest and the theory that much of it is based on a lack of understanding of others.

Activity 5 - Illness. Have any of the Scouts been in hospital? Ask the Scouts to think of how they, as a Patrol, can help to make young people happier in hospital. Ask a nurse or doctor, or a patient for guidance.

Activity 6 - Sign Language. Learn a few words, letters of the alphabet and then try to communicate messages. Are there any times when this form of communication would be useful?

Living Space

Take four Scouts out to the front and stand them at the four corners of a square 8 feet by 8 feet. Take four others from the group and tell them to sit down inside the square. See how much - or little - space there is left. Make the point that more than half the population of the world lives in huts and shacks little larger than the 8-foot square and, some, in smaller spaces. See how much of the ordinary things of living - dressing, sleeping, cooking, eating and so on can be done in the tiny space. And the promise we make as Scouts is to make it possible for people who have to live like that to be able to live better, freer lives.

-- from "God. Are you still in there?"



Worship (To discover the need for prayer and worship)

Activity 1 - Hope. Ask the Scouts to write down their hopes. Draw five footsteps and ask them to identify five things they will need to do to realize their hopes. Discuss with them how easy or difficult this will be.

Activity 2 - God is love. What is love? Ask the Scouts to identify what love is and how people express love. The word 'love' is widely used. Encourage the Scouts to think about love in its widest sense: Love for friends, family, animals, and activities in addition to boy/girl friends.

Activity 3 - World Faiths. Many other Faiths involve food a great deal in certain ceremonies. Ask the Scouts as a Patrol, to find out about a traditional religious meal from a particular Faith. Have them prepare some or all the meal and allow the other Patrols to try some.

Activity 4 - Scouts Own. Have the Patrols prepare a short Scouts Own on a theme. Remember that this does not have to be in a traditional format. Discuss how you think a short Scouts' Own should be run, then do it.

Activity 5 - Sunrise. Encourage the Scouts to plan an overnight hike or walk in order to be in a suitable place to watch the sunrise. Try to make the venue as spectacular as possible to fully appreciate the experience.



Prayers

Thanksgiving for Scout Brotherhood

O Lord, we give You thanks for the gift of Scouting. We thank You for the wisdom and foresight of our Chief, whose first camp on Brownsea was the forerunner of our Brotherhood. We thank You for the enthusiasm and self-sacrifice of those, his immediate followers, to whom the early guidance of our movement was entrusted. Above all, O Lord, we thank You that You have permitted us, Your servants to take our share in the service of the boyhood of our country; and for all the inspiration and happiness that Scouting has brought into our own lives.

We ask for Your blessing on our Chief, upon the boys whom we are privileged to lead, and upon the Brotherhood of Scouts throughout the world.

May we go forward re-dedicated to this, Your service, and in humble gratitude for Your many mercies.

Grant this, O Lord, for the sake of Your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

-- Brownsea Island, April 1927, Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

A Scout is a Friend to All

Fill us, O Lord, with Your spirit that we may observe Your command, "Love one another, even as I loved you." May we know the love that sees only the good and is patient and forbearing; that grows stronger when difficulties increase; and that overleaps the barriers of class, of creed, and of country. Help us to love the neighbor we know so that we may learn to love our fellow men whom we have not seen. Strengthen the bond between Scout and Scout in our Group, in our land, and throughout the World. So may we further the coming of Your Kingdom of goodwill and love; following the example of Jesus Christ. Amen

Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

To Be Scoutlike

Grant to us, Lord, the spirit to think and to think and to do always such things as be Scoutlike; that we, who cannot do any good thing without You, may by

You be enabled to live according to our Promise and Law; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

Thanks for the Beauty of Children

We give thanks for the beauty of children and their joy in all beautiful things, for their mirth and laughter, and for the joy and light they bring into the world, for their enthusiasm, their abounding energy and their love of the heroic and adventurous, for their candid generous trust in those around them, and for their quick response to calls of love and service. Amen.

-- Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

For Harmony Amongst Ourselves

Father, we pray for harmony; as we seek to preserve in our Scouts the natural spirit of mutual good will, help us to show them a true example. Grant that the relations between all Scouters may ever be those of hearty cooperation and true affection. Let no class, race or policy divide us. Let personal ambition be far from us, and may we ever regard it as our chief privilege to serve You in this holy labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

-- Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

Leadership

O Lord, grant that we may so carry out in our lives the spirit of the Scout Law that we may teach it to others by living it ourselves. Grant also, O Lord, that we may understand the true meaning of Service for others, and humbly follow the great example of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

The Quest of Beauty

O God, who has made the world so full of beauty, keep us, from the evil which the sin of man has brought into it. Teach us to love whatever is beautiful and true and good in nature, in art and in the lives of men; strengthen us that we may accept all the activity of life as a gift from You and enable us to be fellow-workers with Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts



Live Together in Love and Joy and Peace

O God, who has joined us together in the fellowship of our Troop, teach us to live together in love and joy and peace. Help us to guard our Honor and to live loyal to You, our leaders and all our friends; that, with gallant and high-hearted happiness, we may strive for the setting up of Your Kingdom in the world; through Him who loved us and gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

For Our Country

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, bless our country that it may be a blessing to the world. Grant that our ideals and aspirations may be in accordance with Your will, and help us to see ourselves as others see us. Keep us from hypocrisy in feeling or action. Grant us sound government and just laws, good education and clean lives, justice in our relations with one another, and, above all a spirit of service which well abolish pride of place and inequality of opportunity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

For Courage and Strength

O God help us always to be of good cheer. Let us not be disheartened by our difficulties. Let us never doubt Your love or any of Your promises. Give us grace to be encouragers of others, never discouragers. Let us not go about with sadness or fear among men, but let us always make life easier, never harder, for those who come within our influence; for the sake of Jesus Christ

Amen.

Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

A Closing Prayer

May the blessing of Almighty God rest upon us and upon all our work; may He give us Light to guide us, Courage to support us, and Love to unite us, now and evermore. Amen.

Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

Benediction

May the Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious to us; the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon us and

give us peace, this day (or night) and for evermore. Amen. (Adapted from the Aaronic Blessing, Bible, Numbers 6, 24.)

Prayers For Use In The Brotherhood of Scouts

Prayers for Peace from Westminster Abbey

O God, the Father of all mankind, strengthen, we pray thee, all who are striving after true brotherhood and who are working for righteousness and peace. Guide the hearts and minds of rulers and statesmen, that they may seek first thy kingdom and the establishing of justice and freedom for all peoples, both great and small. Amen

Lord, make us instruments of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy; for thy mercy and for thy truth's sake. Amen

For the Joy of the Year

Our Lord and creator,

We thank You today for the beauty of our world.
For sunshine and flowers,
Storm-cloud and starry nights,
For the first radiance of dawn
And the last glow of sunset.

We thank you for physical joy,
For clear water to swim in,
For the fresh smell of rain on dry ground,
For hills to climb and work to do together.

Make our hearts wide open to these gifts,
And help us to live in thanksgiving to You,
Our Lord and our creator.

Prayer of Thanks Giving

We thank you today
For the adventure of Scouting,
For the unselfishness of parents,
For the patience of teachers
And for the encouragement of friends.

Prayer of Thanks for the Founder

We give thee thanks, O Lord, for our Founder's life of service and for his gift of Scouting to the world. Help us to hold firmly to the Law, which he gave



us for guidance, and so to understand more fully thy will. Inspire us to find a way of life, in which the youth of all nations may find unity and true brotherhood.

Amen.

God of the Open Air

God of the open air, we kneel reverently in this temple not made with hands.

The tall pines lift our thoughts above us to the Source of all this beauty.

The singing of the feather-throated choir puts a melody in our hearts, a song of joy and praise and trust.

All the discordant notes of the world are muted; all the problems of life are forgotten.

We are filled with an inner peace and know that here we have found Thee.

As we leave this hallowed spot, may the reality of Thy presence go with us to give us courage and strength for our daily tasks.

Amen.

-- Dorothy Wells Pease

God of the Sea

God of the sea, the winds, the tides, we praise thee for the greatness of thy power and the certainty of thy laws. We see careless picnickers throw their litter to be carried far out into the sea by the outgoing tide, but the next morning it lies stranded on the beach where the high tide has left it.

So it is, our Father, in our lives. We throw out a careless word, an unkind thought, and it comes back to us in resentments and friendlessness. A selfish act, a yielding to temptation, or a deed left undone comes back as a haunting memory, another's failure, or a missed opportunity.

Help us, Our Father, to cast only good upon the waters that good may come back with the tide. Amen.

-Dorothy Wells Pease

We Thank Thee

We thank Thee

For flowers that bloom about our feet;

For tender grass so fresh and sweet;

For song of bird and hum of bee;

For all things fair we hear and see,

Father in heaven, we thank Thee!

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Camping in the Snow

Lord, we are camping in the snow today;
We may fear the cold,
But we trust that your Spirit
Will guide and warm us.

Beaver Prayer

The air we breathe, the friends we meet,
The walk to use our eyes and feet,
The things around us make us say,
Thank you, God, for each new day!
-- From Scouting (U.K.) magazine

A Scout's Prayer

We have hiked along life's pathway,
Our packs upon our backs,
We have pitched our tents and rested
Here and there along the tracks.
We have used our compass wisely
To guide us on our way
And hope to reach the campsite
Of our Great Chief Scout some day.

We have tried to be trustworthy -
Kept our honor high and clean,
We have been as loyal as any
To our Country and our Queen.
We have done our best at all times -
Kept our Promise - been prepared,
And hope our good deeds please Him
When at last our souls are bared.

We have lightened others' burdens,
With our smiles along the way,
We have kept our hand in God's hand,
Walked beside Him day by day.
And when our span of life runs out,
We'll make this gentle plea -
May we sit around His Campfire
At the Final Jamboree.

-- from "Scouting in New South Wales"

Prayer for Peace

God, make me an instrument of Your Peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;



Where there is darkness, light;
 And where there is sadness, joy;
 That I may seek to console, rather than to be
 consoled,

To understand rather than to be understood,
 To love rather than to be loved:
 For it is in giving that we receive,
 In self-forgetfulness that we find our true selves,
 In forgiving that we are forgiven:
 God, make me an instrument of Your Peace.

-From the organizers of "A Million Minutes
 of Peace"

Sioux Prayer

Ho! Great Spirit, Grandfather, you have made
 everything and are in everything. You sustain
 everything, guide everything, provide everything, and
 protect everything, because everything belongs to you.
 I am weak, poor and lowly; nevertheless, help me to
 care, in appreciation and gratitude to you and for
 everything.

I love the stars, the sun and the moon, and I
 thank you for our beautiful mother, the Earth, whose
 many breasts nourish the fish, the fowls and the
 animals, too. May I never deceive Mother Earth; may I
 never deceive my people; may I never deceive myself;
 and above all, may I never deceive you.

Thanks Be to God

Thanks to God for things we see,
 The growing flower, the waving tree,
 Our mother's face, the bright blue sky
 Where birds and clouds go floating by;
 Thanks be to God for seeing.

Thanks to God for things we hear,
 For sounds of friends who laugh and cheer,
 The merry bells, the songs of birds,
 For stories, tunes, and kindly words;
 Thanks be to God for hearing.

-- from Hazel Tagg

Beaver Prayer II

Now, before I run to play,
 Don't let me forget to pray
 To God who keeps me through the night
 And wakes me up with morning light;
 Help me, Lord, to love you more
 Than I have ever loved before,

In my work and in my play;
 Thank you, God, for another day.
 - 8th Belleville Beavers

Lord We Thank You

Lord, we thank you for this day.
 Help us to do our best every day,
 And forgive us when we slip.

Teach us to be kind to other people
 and to help them at all times
 Bless our parents and teachers and leaders
 and all the members of Scouting

Bless us, Lord in your love for us
 Help us to be better Scouts
 And let us do our best for you

Amen

We Thank You Lord....
 For the lives of Lord and Lady B.P.
 For all the fun and adventures we have in Scouting
 For the worldwide brotherhood of Scouts
 For the beauty of the world and all the marvelous
 things
 You have made in nature
 For keeping us fit and well and happy
 For our homes, our parents, and all who look after
 us

Please help us...

To be good sportsmen, fair and honest in work as
 in play and in everything we do.
 To find ways of serving you by helping other
 people as best we can
 To be worthy of our uniform and loyal to our
 promise,
 Behaving as true brothers to all mankind
 To look after your creation and keep this world as
 lovely a place as you intended it to be
 To help all children who are not so lucky as we,
 Especially those who are hungry or lonely, sick or
 sad
 To be loving and caring as we grow older and to do
 our
 Best to repay your blessings in every way we can.
 Thanks to Hazel Addis, Scouting (UK.)



Jamaican Camp Grace

Lift up your hearts;
 Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks
 For this our bread;
 Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks
 For these our friends;
 Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks
 For this our camp;
 Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks

we are lost, please find us. When we cry out, please
 hear us - in the name of the One who said, "Lo, I am
 with you always." Amen

-- From "Meditation" by Bruce Miles,
 Presbyterian Record March 1985

For this our world;

Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks
 We thank the Lord;
 Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks

Lord's Prayer

(Translated from Chinook)

Our father who stayeth in the above
 God in our hearts be Thy name,
 God Thou Chief among all people
 God Thy will upon earth
 As in the above.
 Give us every day our food;
 If we do evil,
 Be not Thou very angry, and if
 Anyone evil towards us
 Not we angry towards them
 Send away far from us all evil.

Canoeing Prayer

Lord, we will be canoeing today;
 We shall be very busy;
 If, during the course of the day
 We forget about you,
 Please don't forget about us.

Beaver Prayer III

Thank you God, who loves us,
 For every happy day,
 For trees and grass and flowers and sun,
 For friends to share our games and fun,
 Thank you God, we love you.
 Amen

Guide us Through and Out

Our Father, who art in heaven and who art on
 earth, even journeying with your people, thank you for
 being faithful and for never abandoning us. When we
 are in the wilderness, guide us through and out. When



Songs

Michael Row the Boat Ashore

Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia,
Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia.

Jordan's River is chilly and cold, Alleluia,
Kills the body but not the soul, Alleluia.

Jordan's River is deep and wide, Alleluia,
Meet my mother on the other side, Alleluia.

Gabriel, blow the trumpet horn, Alleluia,
Blow the trumpet loud and long, Alleluia.

Brother, lend a helping hand, Alleluia,
Brother, lend a helping hand, Alleluia.

Michael's boat's a gospel boat, Alleluia,
Michael's boat's a gospel boat, Alleluia.

Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia,
Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia.

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found;
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fear relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come.
'Twas grace that brought us safe this far,
And grace will bring us home.

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found;
Was blind, but now I see

This is my Father's World

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears,
All nature sings and 'round me rings
The music of the spheres
This is my Father's world.
I rest me in the thought,
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
His hand the wonders wrought.
This is my Father's world. The birds their carols raise;
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world.
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

Scout Vespers

Softly falls the light of day,
As our campfire fades away.
Silently, each Scout should ask,
"Have I done my daily task?"

"Have I cared and have I tried,
Can I guiltless sleep tonight?
Have I done and have I dared,
Every thing to be prepared?"

Kum Ba Ya (Traditional)

Kum ba ya, My Lord, Kum ba ya.
Kum ba ya, My Lord, Kum ba ya.
Kum ba ya, My Lord, Kum ba ya.
Oh Lord, Kum ba ya.

Some one's crying Lord, Kum ba ya.

Some one's laughing Lord, Kum ba ya.

Some one's shouting Lord, Kum ba ya.

Some one's praying Lord, Kum ba ya.

Kum ba ya, My Lord Kum ba ya.



Kum Ba Ya -- The Scout Law Version

Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout's trustworthy Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is loyal, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is helpful, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout is friendly, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is courteous, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is kind, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout's obedient, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is cheerful, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is thrifty, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout is brave, Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 A Scout is clean, Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 A Scout is reverent, Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

God Bless America

God Bless America, land that I love
 Stand beside her, and guide her,
 Through the night with the light from above,
 From the mountains, to the prairies,
 To the ocean, white with foam,
 God bless America, my home sweet home.
 God bless America, my home sweet home.

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
 Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was
 meant to be.
 With God as our Father, brothers all are we.
 Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
 With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
 To take each moment and live each moment in peace
 eternally!

Let there be peace on earth
 And let it begin with me.

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the Beauty of the Earth, For the Beauty of the
 skies
 For the love which from our birth, over and around us
 lies
 Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
 This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour, of the day and of the
 night
 Hill and vale, tree and flower, sun and moon and stars
 of light
 Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
 This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's
 delight
 For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and
 sight
 Lord of all to Thee we raise,
 This our hymn of grateful praise

Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken, Like the first morning,
 Blackbird has spoken, Like the first bird,
 Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
 Praise for them springing fresh from the word.

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
 Like the first dew fall on the first grass
 Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
 Sprung in completeness Where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
 Born of the one light Eden saw play!
 Praise with elation, Praise every morning,
 God's recreation of the new day!



America the Beautiful
 O beautiful for spacious skies
 For amber waves of grain,
 For purple mountain majesties
 Above the fruited plain
 America! America!
 God shed his grace on thee,
 And crown thy good with brotherhood
 from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for patriot dream
 That sees beyond the years
 Thine alabaster cities gleam,
 Undimmed by human tears!
 America! America!
 God shed His grace on thee,
 And crown thy good with brotherhood
 from sea to shining sea!

Kum bah yah (A religious version)

Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
 Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
 Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
 O Lord, Kum bah yah

Someone's waiting Lord, Kum bah yah
 And debating Lord, Kum bah yah
 Contemplating Lord, Kum bah yah
 O Lord, Kum bah yah

Someone's teaching Lord, Kum bah yah
 Someone's preaching Lord, Kum bah yah
 Someone's reaching Lord, Kum bah yah
 O Lord, Kum bah yah

Someone's learning Lord, Kum bah yah
 Someone's burning Lord, Kum bah yah
 Someone's turning Lord, Kum bah yah
 O Lord, Kum bah yah

Someone's praying Lord, Kum bah yah
 And obeying Lord, Kum bah yah
 And they're staying Lord, Kum bah yah
 O Lord, Kum bah yah

Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
 Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
 Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
 O Lord, Kum bah yah

Church in the Wildwood

There's a church in the valley by the Wildwood.
 No lovelier place in the dale,
 No spot is so dear to my childhood,
 As the Little Brown Church in the vale.

CHORUS:

O, come, come, come, come,
 Come to the Church in the Wildwood,
 O, Come to the church in the dale.
 No spot is so dear to my childhood,
 As the Little Brown Church in the vale.

How sweet on a bright Sabbath morning,
 To listen to the clear ringing bells;
 It's tones so sweetly are calling,
 O, come to the church in the vale.

On Top of Old Smokey (Scout Version)

On top of Old Smokey, all covered with snow,
 I learned a great lesson, all people should know.
 I met a Scoutmaster, a helper of youth,
 He was roaming God's mountain, in search of the
 truth.

He told me he'd found it, in the red sunset's glow;
 In the voice of the thunder, in the touch of the snow.
 His truth was quite simple, as plain as could be,
 I'll never forget what, that Leader told me.

Do your duty to God, to the red, white, and blue.
 To all others be helpful, to thine own self be true



Inspirational Readings and Short Subjects

The Golden Principle

Blessed are those who prefer others before themselves. -- Baha'i Faith

Hurt not others in ways that you would you yourself would find hurtful. -- Buddhism

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. --Christianity

This is the sum of all duty: treat others as you yourself would be treated. -- Hinduism

No one of you is a believer until you desire for another that which you desire for yourself. -- Islam

In happiness and suffering, in joy and grief, regard all creatures as you would regard your own self. -- Jainism

What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor. -- Judaism

Be not estranged from another for God dwells in every heart. -- Sikhism

Human nature is good only when it does not do unto another whatever is not good for its own self. -- Zoroastrianism

The Scout Beatitudes

Blessed are the Scouts who are taught to see beauty in all things around them...for their world will be a place of grace and wonder.

Blessed are the Scouts who are led with patience and understanding... for they will learn the strength of endurance and the gift of tolerance.

Blessed are the Scouts who are provided a home where family members dwell in harmony and close communion...for they shall become the peacemakers of the world.

Blessed are the Scouts who are taught the value and power of truth...for they shall search for knowledge and use it with wisdom and discernment.

Blessed are the Scouts who are guided by those with faith in a loving God...for they will find Him early and will walk with Him through life.

Blessed are the Scouts who are loved and know that they are loved...for they shall sow seeds of love in the world and reap joy for themselves and others.

The Deck of Cards (Tex Ritter Version)

"Friends, this is Tex Ritter with a strange story about a soldier boy and a deck of cards. During a North African campaign a bunch of soldier boys had been on a long hike, and they arrived in a little town called Casino. The next morning being Sunday several of the boys went to church. A Sergeant commanded the boys in church, and after the Chaplain had read the prayer the text was taken up next. Those of the boys who had a prayer book took them out, but this one boy only had a deck of cards, and so he spread them out. The Sergeant saw the cards and said, 'Soldier, put away those cards.' After the services were over the soldier was taken prisoner and brought before the Provost Marshall. The Marshall said, 'Sergeant, why have you brought this man here?' 'For playing cards in church, sir.' 'And what have you to say for yourself, son?' 'Not much, sir,' replied the soldier.

'The Marshall said, 'I hope so, for if not, I shall punish you more than any man was ever punished.' The soldier said, 'Sir, I have been on a march for about six days, and I had neither Bible nor Prayer Book, but I hope to satisfy you, Sir, with the purity of my intentions. With that the boy started his story. 'You see, Sir, when I look at the Ace it reminds me that there is but one God. The deuce reminds me that the Bible is divided into two parts; the Old and New Testaments. And when I see the trey I think of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. When I see the four I think of the four evangelists who preached the Gospel. There was Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. And when I see the five it reminds me of the five wise virgins who trimmed their lamps. Ten of 'em; five who were wise and were saved; five were foolish and were shut out. And when I see the six it reminds me that in six days God made this great heaven and earth. And when I see the seven it reminds me that on the seventh day God rested from His great work. When I see the eight I think of the eight righteous persons God saved when he destroyed this earth. There was Noah, his wife, their three sons, and their wives. And when I see the nine I think of the lepers our Savior cleansed, and nine of the ten didn't even thank Him.



When I see the ten I think of the Ten Commandments God handed down to Moses on a tablet of stone. When I see the King it reminds me that there is but one King of Heaven, God Almighty. And when I see the queen I think of the Blessed Virgin Mary who is Queen of Heaven. And the jacks or knaves it's the devil. And when I count the number of spots on a deck of cards I find three hundred sixty-five the number of days in a year. Fifty-two cards, the number of weeks in a year. Four suits, the number of weeks in a month. Twelve pictures cards, the number of months in a year. Thirteen tricks, the number of weeks in a quarter. So you see, Sir, my pack of cards serves me as a Bible, almanac, and prayer book.' Friends, I know this story is true, because I knew that soldier."

-- Thanks to J. Phil Gilbreath

Sermons We See

by Edgar A. Guest

I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one any day;
I'd rather one should walk with me than merely tell the way.
The eye's a better pupil and more willing than the ear;
Fine council is confusing, but example's always clear;
And the best of all the preachers are the men who live their creeds,
For to see good put in action is what everybody needs.

I soon can learn to do it if you'll let me see it done;
I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue too fast may run.
And the lecture you deliver may be very wise and true;
But I'd rather get my lessons by observing what you do.
For I might misunderstand you and the high advice you give,
But there's no misunderstanding how you act and how you live.

When I see a deed of kindness, I am eager to be kind.
When a weaker brother stumbles and a strong man stays behind
Just to see if he can help him, then the wish grows strong in me,
To become as big and thoughtful as I know that I can be.
And all the travelers can witness that the best of guides today
Is not the one who tells you, but the one who shows the way.

One good man teaches many, men believe what they behold;
One deed of kindness noticed is worth forty that are told.
Who stands with men of honor learns to hold his honor dear,
for right living speaks a language which to everyone is clear.
Though an able speaker charms me with his eloquence, I say,
I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one, any day.

Understanding

Happy is the man who finds wisdom,
And the man who gets understanding,
For the gain from it is better than gain from silver,
And its profit is better than gold.
She is more precious than jewels,
And nothing you desire can compare with her. Long life is in her right hand;
In her left hand are riches and honor
Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
And all her paths are peace.



She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her;
 Those who hold her fast are called happy. The Lord by wisdom founded the earth;
 By understanding he established the heavens; By His knowledge the deeps broke forth,
 And the clouds drop down the dew.
 My son, keep sound wisdom and discretion;
 Let them not escape from your sight,
 And they will be life for your soul
 And adornment for your neck.
 Then you will surely walk on your way securely
 And your foot will not stumble.
 If you sit down, you will not be afraid;
 When you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.
 Do not be afraid of sudden panic, or of the ruin of the wicked, when it comes;
 For the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught.
 --Proverbs 3:13-26

Servants

The true servants of the Gracious GOD are the following:
 Those who walk upon earth with humility and when they are tempted by the evil ones, they respond: Peace;
 Those who pass the hours of the night in prayers and standing before the Lord;
 Those who pray: Lord turn away from us the punishments of hell, for it is a heavy torment, it is indeed an evil dwelling place;
 Those who are neither extravagant nor stingy in spending, but keep a balance between the two;
 Those who repent and believe and do good deeds.
 --From the Koran, Al-Furqan, Part 19, Chapter 25

The Spirit Lives

The Spirit lives; there is no doubt,
 Within the heart of every Scout,
 The hope lives on, the dreams survive,
 The Scouting spirit is alive!

In England, many years ago,
 There lived a man who sought to sow
 The seeds of brotherhood of man,
 And there the spirit first began.

The Scouting spirit spread about
 To nations east, west, north and south,
 And soon, on every land and shore,
 Young men were taught the Scouting Law.

We camped and learned of nature's ways,
 We gloried in our youthful days,
 We ventured where all others feared,
 Because we knew we were prepared.



The world has changed as years went by,
Society's values went awry,
And many ask, "What is the worth
of Scouting on this wretched earth?"

But each new Scout who learns our law
Brings with him hope, and much, much more;
Each generation of Scouts gives
The proof that Scouting's spirit lives.

The treasured values of the past
Still guide Scouts of today; they last
In spite of changes that we see
Around us in society.

And still, adventures filled with fun
Await today's Scouts, every one;
In them that spirit, born of old
May yet transform this sorry world.

And so we say without a doubt,
That in the heart of every Scout
The hope lives on, the dreams survive,
The Scouting spirit is alive!

-- By G.K. Sammy, former Scout of 31st Trinidad, dedicated to the Naparima District Scouts, who attended the XV World Jamboree, 1983

Success

Success is in the way you walk,
The paths of life each day;
It's in the little things you do
And in the things you say.
Success is not in getting rich
Or rising high to fame;
It's not alone in winning goals
Which all men hope to claim.
It's being faithful to your friends
And to the strangers kind,
It's in the children whom you love
And all they learn from you;
Success depends on character
And everything you do.



The Rule of Three

Three things to govern: Temper, tongue and conduct.
 Three things to cultivate: Courage, affection and gentleness.
 Three things to comment: thrift, industry, and promptness.
 Three things to give: help to the needy, comfort to the sad, and appreciation to the worthy.

Count That Day Lost

If you sit down at set of sun
 And count the acts that you have done,
 And, counting find
 One self-denying deed, one word
 That eased the heart of him who heard;
 One glance most kind,
 That fell like sunshine where it went-
 Then you may count that day well spent.
 But if, through all the livelong day,
 You've cheered no heart, by yea or nay-
 If, through it all
 You've nothing done that you can trace
 That brought the sunshine to one face-
 No act most small
 That helped some soul and nothing cost-
 Then count that day as worse than lost.
 -George Eliot

Today's Thought

I am but one,
 But I am one;
 I can't do everything,
 But I can do SOMETHING;
 What I can do,
 I ought to do,
 What I ought to do,
 God helping me,
 I WILL DO.

Native American Commandments

Treat the Earth and all that dwell thereon with respect.
 Remain close to the Great Spirit.
 Show great respect for your fellow beings.
 Work together for the benefit of all Mankind.
 Give assistance and kindness wherever needed.
 Do what you know to be right.
 Look after the well being of mind and body.
 Dedicate a share of your efforts to the greater good.
 Be truthful and honest at all times.
 Take full responsibility for your actions.



Great Spirit, give us hearts to understand;

Never to take from creation's beauty more than we give;
Never to destroy only for the furtherance of greed;
Never to deny to give our hands for the building of earth's beauty;
Never to take from her what we cannot use.

Great Spirit, give us hearts to understand;

That to destroy earth's music is to create confusion;
That to wreck her appearance is to blind us to beauty;
That to callously pollute her fragrance is to make a house of stench;
That as we care for her she will care for us.

We have forgotten who we are.
We have sought only our own security.
We have exploited simply for our own ends.
We have distorted our knowledge.
We have abused our power.

Great Spirit, whose dry lands thirst,
Help us to find the way to refresh your lands.

Great Spirit, whose waters are choked with debris and pollution,
Help us to find the way to cleanse your waters.

Great Spirit, whose beautiful earth grows ugly with misuse,
Help us to find the way to restore beauty to your handiwork.

Great Spirit, whose creatures are being destroyed,
Help us to find a way to replenish them.

Great Spirit, whose gifts to us are being lost in selfishness and corruption,
Help us to find the way to restore our humanity.

Source: Earth Prayers by Glenn Welker

Prayer of Saint Francis Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace!
That where there is hatred,
I may bring love
That where there is wrong,
I may bring the spirit of forgiveness
That where there is discord,
I may bring harmony
That where there is error,
I may bring truth
That where there is doubt,
I may bring faith
That where there is despair,
I may bring hope



That where there are shadows,
 I may bring light
 That where there is sadness,
 I may bring joy.
 Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort,
 than to be comforted
 To understand,
 than to be understood
 To love,
 than to be loved.

For it is by self-forgetting that one finds.
 It is by forgiving that one is forgiven.
 It is by dying that one awakens to
 Eternal Life.

The Earnest Promise of a Scout

The Scout Oath or Promise is a tool to help encourage each Scout to set goals for himself crystal clear, specific goals in sharp focus, definite objectives that will expand through the years as he lives as an enthusiastic Scout, as his character develops and unfolds.

"On my honor," the Scout says, and the words of the phrase help him to focus upon the importance of his personal integrity. His earnest desire to live on a high level is strengthened and reinforced.

--Walter MacPeck, from The Scout Oath in Action

Different Approaches to God

You see many stars at night in the sky but find them not when the sun rises, can you say there are no stars in the heaven by day? So, O man! Because you behold not God in the days of your ignorance, say not that there is no God. As one and the same material, water is called by different names by different peoples, one calling it water, another calling it eau, a third aqua, and another pani, so the one Satchitananda, the everlasting intelligent-bliss, is invoked by some as God, by some as Allah, by some as Jehovah, by some as Hari, and by others as Brahman.

As one can ascend to the top of a house by means of a ladder or a bamboo or a staircase or a rope, so divers are the ways and means to approach God, and every religion in the world shows one of these ways. Different creeds are but different paths to reach the Almighty.

-- Sri Ramakrishna from Searching, p.76

A Strong Combination

The statement of the Oath and the adjectives that make up the Law cover any possible description of a well-adjusted human; and, if a whole nation ever reached halfway for these goals, it would be approaching Utopia. The concept of honor and the description of courage are vital ideas, almost lost by the wayside in this age of expediency and behavior analysis.

Here is a mixture of common sense and high ideals - for every citizen, not just every Scout. God bless Scouting.

-- Hugh Downs, from The Scout Oath in Action,

Not A Man's Footprint

A man was crossing the desert with an Arab guide. Day after day the Arab never failed to kneel on the burning sand and call upon his God. At last one evening, the man said to the Arab, "How do you know there is a God?" The guide fixed his eye upon the scoffer for a moment, and then replied; "How do I know there is a God? How did I know that a camel and not a man passed last night? Was it not by the print of his hoof in the sand?" And pointing to the sun whose rays were fading over the horizon, he added, "That footprint is not of man."



Reverence

Reverence to God and reverence for one's neighbor and reverence for oneself as a servant of God, is the basis of every form of religion. The method of expression of reverence to God varies with every sect and denomination. What sect or denomination a boy belongs to depends, as a rule on his parents' wishes. It is they who decide. It is our business to respect their wishes and to second their efforts to inculcate reverence, what ever form of the religion the boy professes.

--Robert Baden-Powell, Aids to Scoutmastership, p.38

Peace and Brotherhood (readings from the Koran, of Islam)

"O mankind! We created you from a single (pair) of a male and female, and made you into Nations and tribes, that you may know each other (not that ye may despise each other)...." [49:13]

"And their Lord hath accepted of them, and answered them: 'Never will I suffer to be lost the work of any of you be he male or female; Ye are members, one of another...'1 (3:195]

"The Believers are but a single brotherhood; so make peace and reconciliation between your two (contending) brothers; and fear God that ye may receive mercy." [49:10]

"And hold fast, all together, by the rope which God (stretches out for you) and be not divided among yourselves; and remember with gratitude God's favor on you " [3:103]

"They ask thee concerning orphans. Say: 'The best thing to do is what is for their good; if ye mix their affairs with yours, they are your brethren; ..." [2:220]

"But the god fearing shall be amidst gardens and fountains: 'Enter you them, in peace and security!' We shall strip away all rancor that is in their breasts; as brothers they shall be upon couches set face to face." [15:45]

Pure Thought

All that we are is the result of what we have thought: it is founded on our thoughts; it is made up of our thoughts. If a man speaks or acts with an evil thought, pain follows him as the wheel follows the foot of the ox that draws the carriage.

All that we are is the result of what we have thought: it is founded on our thoughts; it is made up of our thoughts. If a man speaks or acts with an evil thought, pain follows him, like a shadow that never leaves him.

'He abused me, he beat me, he defeated me, he robbed me' -- in those who harbor such thoughts hatred will never cease. For hatred does not cease by hatred at any time; hatred ceases by love -this is an old rule.

The world does not know that we must all come to an end here; but those who know it their quarrels cease at once.

Buddhist Buddha from Sharing, p.20

Good Neighbor and Sharing

Not long ago there was a severe drought in one part of India and in one village the water tanks went dry. There was no water for the crops and it looked as if they must fail. This would be disaster, for the failure of the harvest might mean starvation.

One man in the village had water -- a farmer who owned the only well. But he was afraid that if he allowed the whole village to use his well, there might not be enough water for his own crops. And yet he felt that, as a good neighbor, he should be willing to share what he had. In despair he asked God what he should do; and then he waited for the answer. It came. The thought came into his mind as clearly as if God had actually spoken to him. 'As long as your heart does not dry up with selfishness, the well will not dry up.' So he gave the water and there was enough for everyone.

-- Hindu from Sharing, p.30



People of All Colors

I was born with a bronze skin, and I like it. Some of my friends were born white or black or yellow. They were not consulted. But that's all right. There are yellow roses, white roses and red roses, and the fragrance of the one is about as nice as another. I hope my children will live in a world where people of all colors can sit and work together.

-- Native American Chief Walking Buffalo of the Stoney Indians from Sharing, p.35

Who Is Listening?

I saw two people walking, Talking with great animation, Both of them speaking at the same time. Could they hear each other, Or were they just talking and not listening? Would one say tomorrow:

"But I told you yesterday," And the other reply, "Did you? I don't remember that."

Beneath the chatter and the flow of clichés,
About the weather, the football and last night's TV,
Are people saying things that I do not want to hear?
Beneath the banter of lunch time,
Are cries for help drowned in the coffee?
Is there a scream I cannot hear
Behind the tired smiles and the shouts of
"See you in the morning?"

Friends talk, without hearing.
Committees talk, and no one listens.
Families talk, and no one pays attention.
The lonely weep, but their neighbors are deaf.
In the High Street, God himself speaks of His love.
Every day He offers eternal life,
But His voice is lost in the roar of the traffic.

Lord, forgive me that I choose not to hear
The voices that disturb me.
Help me to hear when someone sighs.
To notice a face, see the eyes,
To be aware, to be sensitive to the silent shout of a friend in need.
Teach me to hear between the words.
Open my inward ear so that I will hear Your voice
When You speak to me.
Remind me, again and again, that You are always listening
-- From "Pause for Thought: by Frank Topping, as found in Let Us Pray

A Friend

An Arab had 17 camels. When he died, he left half his camels to his eldest son; a third to his second son and a ninth to his youngest. Trouble is that 17 will not divide by two, three or nine. A friend heard about the problem and lent the boys a camel. That made 18. Half of 18 is 9; a third is 6; and a ninth is 2. $9+6+2 = 17$. So the friend got his camel back and the sons got what was right for each of them. A good Scout will always do what the friend did - whatever the cost - to make his neighbors happy. The promise is, of course, that if you sacrifice something (like an expensive camel) you will never lose and others might gain - which is the beginning of happiness. OK?

-- from "God. are you still in there?"



Graces

God Has Created A New Day

God has created a new day
Silver and green and gold.
Live that the sunset may find us
Worthy his gift to hold.

Hark To The Chimes

Hark to the chimes
Come bow your head.
We thank thee God
For this good bread.

If We Have Earned The Right

If we have earned the right to eat this bread
Happy indeed are we.
But if unmerited Thou gives to us
May we more thankful be.

Neath These Tall Green Trees

Neath these tall green trees we stand
Asking blessings from Thy hand
Thanks we give to thee above
For Thy help and strength and love.

Scottish Grace

Some have meat and cannot eat
And some have nay that want it
But we have meat and we can eat
And so the Lord we thanketh.

Wayfarer's Grace

[Suggested tunes: Doxology, "Praise God From Whom
All Blessings Flow", or "For The Beauty of the Earth"]

For all the glory of the way
For all thy protection night and day
For rooftree, fire, and bed and board
For friends and home
We thank thee Lord.

God Is Great

(Tune: London Bridge)

God is great and God is good
God is good, God is good
Let us thank him for this food
Alleluia!

Thank Thee

(Tune: Ruben, Ruben)

Thank thee, thank thee
Heavenly Father
For thy blessings we have gathered.
Give us strength and understanding,
Bless us now, oh Lord.
We pray.

Blessing Hymn

(Tune: Edelweiss)

Come dear Lord, be our guest
As we gather together.
May our heart glow with love,
Keep us close to you ever.

Friendship and joy may they
Bloom and grow.
Bloom and grow forever,
Bless our homes, bless our friends,
Bless our common endeavors.

Thank you God, for this day,
Bless all those who greet it.
May your love glow with peace,
May your love go forth from us.

Friendship and peace may they bloom and grow
Bloom and grow forever.

Bless our friends, bless our work
Bless each of us forever.



Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how great Thou art,
 You meet my every need,
 You quench my thirst,
 You guard my home,
 My soul and body feed.

Like The Pearl

(Tune: Pearly shells. echo each. line)

Like the pearl
 in the ocean
 Made by God
 from a grain of sand.
 Like the pearl
 may God's blessings surround me.
 Make a pearl
 from this little grain of sand.

May God Bless

(Tune: Oh dear what can the matter be.)

May God bless the boys at this meeting
 May God bless the food we are eating
 May God bless the ones who are leading
 May God bless Cub Scouts everywhere.

Orchard And Ocean

(Tune: Tell me why)

Orchard and ocean
 Farm and field
 We thank our maker
 For all they yield.
 For earth and water
 For flower and seed
 We thank you God
 in thought, word and deed.

Amen

A Amen, A Amen, A amen, Amen, Amen.
 HEAR THE LITTLE CHILDREN
 A Amen, STANDING AT THIS TABLE, A Amen
 ASKING FOR YOUR BLESSING
 Amen, Amen!

We Know, We Know

(Tune: Hi Ho Hi HO)

We know, we know,
 from whom all blessing flow
 We thank him then
 We say Amen
 We know, we know!
 (We know, We know, We know--
 Repeat 'til tired!)

World Hunger Grace

For food in a world where many walk in hunger,
 For faith in a world where many walk in fear,
 For friends in a world where many walk alone,
 We give Thee humble thanks, Oh, Lord.

Namaste

(Tune: THE MORE WE GET TOGETHER)

Namaste means thank you
 means thank you
 means thank you
 Namaste means thank you
 Namaste my Lord.
 For good food
 and good friends
 and feelings that don't end
 Namaste means thank you
 Namaste my Lord.
 (na/ma/stay)

Thank The Lord

(Tune: Teapot)

I am strong and healthy
 thank the Lord.
 I have bread, room and board
 I have good friends and family,
 God takes very good care of me.

He Hears

(Tune: On top of old Smokey)

My God is so great
 and I am so small,
 but it doesn't matter
 he hears when I call!
 He hears when I whisper,
 he hears when I shout
 he hears my "thank you"
 'cause I'm a Cub Scout.



Lord, God Of Power

(Tune: Down by the station)

Lord, God of power,
guide me every hour
Please bless this food
we're about to eat.

Forever And A Day

(Tune: My hat it has 3 corners)

My Lord God almighty,
bless us here today
grant that we will be worthy
forever and a day.

God Made The Mountains

(Tune: I love the mountains)

God made the mountains,
God made the rolling hills,
God made the flowers,
God made the daffodils,
God made the field of wheat,
for all the bread we eat,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
(repeat and fade out.)

May

(Tune: When Irish eyes are smiling)

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be at your back,
May good friends be there to greet you
And your table never lack.

May your life be filled with laughter,
and your heart be filled with song.
May God shine His light upon you,
As you live your whole life long.

God Is So Very Good

(Tune: Animal Crackers)

Fruit from the tree,
and from the vine.
Bread from the oven,
tastes diving.
Gosh, oh gee but I have fun,
Counting my blessings one by one.

God is so very good to me,
Sends me strength and energy,
Thank you God eternally.

Be Present

Be present at our table Lord
Be here and everywhere I go
His mercies bless and grant that we
May learn to live and die for Thee.

Spirit Eternal

(Tune: Pop goes the weasel)

God almighty, Father of all
God the Spirit Eternal
Bless us each, one and all
Spirit Eternal.
Bless the children gathered about,
Bless adults who lead them,
Bless the children 'round the world,
Please help feed them.

Before The Night

(Tune: After the ball)

Before this day is over
Before the night begins
Help me protect the planet
Be one of it's caring friends
I thank you for all your blessings
May I earn the right
To live in harmony with them
Before the night.

Merci Beaucoup

(Tune: Alluetta)

Merci Beaucoup Lord
God almighty.
Merci Beaucoup
thank you very much.
Chorus: Merci beaucoup
Merci beaucoup
Thanks to you
Thanks to you
oh, oh, oh



Hawaiian Grace

(Tune: Aloha Oy)

Aloha to God above
 Aloha a word that means
 I love you.
 Mahalo too means
 I thank you.
 Mahalo aloha to God.
 (Ma/ha/low)

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia,
 amen, amen.

For Health And Strength
 For health and strength
 and daily bread
 we praise Thy name oh Lord.

Another version:

For health and strength and daily food
 We praise thy name O Lord.
 Within this camp and all our days
 Thy presence we adore,
 We praise Thy name.
 We praise Thy name.
 We praise Thy name O Lord.

Jubilate Deo
 Jubilate Deo,
 Jubilate Deo,
 Alleluia.

Thanks To God

(Tune: Taps)

Thanks to God, for our food
 for our milk, for our stew, for our bread.
 God is joy, God is love
 Bow your head.

Gelobet
 Gelobet sei
 Gelobet sei
 Der herr mein Gott.
 Gelobet sei
 Gelobet sei
 Der herr mein Gott.

Gelobet, Gelobet, Gelobet sei.
 Der mein Gott.
 (translation: Praised be the Lord, my God.)

Gracias Señor
 Allelu, allelu, allelu, alleluia.
 Gracias señor
 allelu, allelu, allelu, alleluia.
 Gracias señor
 Gracias señor alleluia
 Gracias señor alleluia
 Gracias señor alleluia
 Gracias señor.

Good Morning God

(Tune: Morning is here)

Good morning God, this is your day
 I am your child, show me the way.

Everyday

(Tune: Camp town races)

Thank you God for all you do
 Ale-luya
 Thank you God for all you do
 Every single day.
 (contributed by Judy Hubbs)

Indian Taps
 Day is done (raise hands up)
 gone the sun (lower hands)
 from the lakes (arms stretch in front of you)
 from the hills (arms stretch upward and diagonal, like a hill)
 from the sky (arms reach up to sky)
 all is well (arms in front, bend at elbow toward you)
 safely rest (arms together cross in front of body--like folding your arms in front of you)
 God is nigh. (bow head on your crossed arms.)

Let Us Break Bread Together
 Let us break bread together on our knees
 Let us break bread together on our knees
 When I fall on my knees with my face
 to the rising sun,
 Oh, Lord have mercy on me.



God Our Father

(Tune: Frere Jacques)

God our father, God our father
Once again, once again,
we would ask thy blessing,
we would ask thy blessing
amen, amen.

Bless Our Food

(Tune: Edelweiss)

Bless our food, bless our friends
come oh Lord and sit with us.
Make our talk glow with peace
come with your love to surround us.

Friendship and peace
may they bloom and grow
bloom and grow forever.

Bless our food, bless our friends,
Bless our dear land forever.

Thank You For The World So Sweet

Thank you for the world so sweet
thank you for the food we eat
thank you for the birds that sing
thank you God for everything.

We Gather Together

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing
He chastens and hastens his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing cease them from distressing
Sing praises to his name he forgets not his own.

Mountain Meadows Grace
(Mountain Meadows is a resident camp in California)

We thank the Lord for the food we eat,
For camping fun and the friends we meet,
For the rushing streams and the calm cool breeze,
For lovely meadows and tall green trees.

A Grateful Heart

This happy meal will happier be
If we, O God, remember Thee

We thank you, God, for happy hearts,

For fine and sunny weather;
We thank you, God, for this our food,
And that we are together.

For every cup and plateful,
God make us truly grateful.

As we enjoy this earthly food
At this table you have spread,
We'll not forget to thank you, God,
For all our daily bread.

A Kindergartner's Prayer

Dear Lord, bless this food. Let children everywhere
have just as much to thank You for.
Please God, hear our prayer. Amen.
-- Thanks to Evette Ogden

A Blessing

For what we are about to do, may the Lord make us
truly responsible.
For what we are about to think, may the Lord make us
truly wise.
For what we are about to say, may the Lord make us
truly sensible.
For what we are trying to achieve, may the Lord
accept and bless our efforts.
-- Thanks to Sergio Laurenti

Bless This House

[Tune: Edelweiss]

Bless this house, bless this bread,
Come oh Lord and sit with us.
May our hearts grow with peace.
Come with your love and surround us.
Friendship and love may they bloom and grow,
Bloom and grow forever.
Bless our friends, bless us all,
Bless all Cub Scouts forever.

God Is Great, God Is Good, Alleluia

[Tune: Michael Row the Boat]

God is great, God is good, Alleluia
Let us thank him for our food, Alleluia.
By His hand we all are fed, Alleluia
Thank you Lord, for daily bread, Alleluia.



God Our Father

[Tune: Frere Jacques]

God our Father, God our Father.
Once again, once again,
Thank you for our blessings, thank you for our
blessings.
A-amen, a-amen.
Variation of third line: "We would ask thy
blessing"

Health and Strength

For health and strength and daily bread
We praise thy name, Oh Lord.

Peace Is

Peace is the bread we break;
Love is a river rolling.
Life is the chance we take
When we make this world our home.
Gonna make this world our home.



The Scouts Own

An Introduction to the Scouts Own

The founder of Scouting, Robert Baden-Powell, believed that Reverence and Duty to God should be an important part of the Scout Movement and of every Scout and Scouter. He originated the notion of Scout's Own ..."a gathering the Scouts for the worship of God and to promote fuller realization of the Scout Law and Promise, but supplementary to, and not in substitution for, regular religious observances." (Aids to Scoutmastership, p.38)

Let us first consider what Scouts' Owns are not.

- They are not Church Services, nor are they meant to be a substitute for them.
- They are not a structured liturgy like the Book of Common Order, etc.
- They are not a good opportunity for the Leader to bang home some truths with a little bit of God added for effect.
- They are not necessarily the Chaplains or Leaders' department or duty.

Given those guidelines, let's define what Scouts' Owns are. This is not what they ought to be - this is what they are; and if they do not fulfill one or more of these categories, they are not Scouts' Owns.

- They are an acknowledgment of God and his creation and ourselves as part of it, expressed in a way that all the faiths that Scouting embraces can share together.
- They are a pause in our activity to discover something deeper and more permanent in the things we are trying to achieve or learn or enjoy.
- They are a response to the Creator for the gift of life.

Which means, of course, they can be almost everything from a time of silence through a single sentence right up to a kind of service of worship that might include music and singing and stories and readings and prayers. In other words, although the next few paragraphs and pages suggest some material that could be useful for a Scouts' Own and end with a couple of outlines that might be useful for a colony/pack/troop/unit evening or in camp, there really is no "proper form."

For example, a group of Venture Scouts [older Scouts or high adventure group] may get to the summit of a mountain after a difficult or challenging rock climb and as they stand or sit down to recover and enjoy the view, one of them says, with feeling, "Thank God we made it!" and the others respond "Too right" (in context, another word for "Amen"), conscious or not, they have experienced a Scouts' Own, because they have recognized both their achievement and their growing because of it. The glory of a sunset and the breaking of the dawn; the sky at night, the hills by day and the flickering friendship round a camp-fire are absolutely natural settings for thinking -- sometimes silently, sometimes aloud -- about the power that is the beginning and end of everything and our human place in the complex order of the universe. And that's a Scouts' Own, without the need, even, for a mention of God by name -- only by implication. You see the point? A Scout's Own is really a spiritual experience that happens.

But sometimes, especially at the younger ages, it has to be underlined. So a game or an activity that has demanded effort in body or mind or in tolerance and team-work can, on the spot, be turned into a Scouts' Own with a thought and a "thank-you" for God -- no necessity for hymns or uniforms or readings. Of course, there is a place for a Scouts' Own with songs and readings -- when a time is set aside for God. Then it can be good to tell a story of adventure or challenge, where the people have relied on their faith -- whatever their faith -- in the Creator God to achieve their goal; and sing a campfire song or two about sharing and caring and serving. The song "Al lelu, alleluia, praise ye the Lord" can be fun, because, divided into two groups, one does the 'Alleluias' and the other the 'Praise ye the Lord' and whenever they are singing they stand and when not they sit. This is praise that is ordered chaos and fun. Maybe that's a good description of a true Scouts' Own.

And prayers. A lot of young folk today find prayer difficult, yet the best prayers come from them. The young Cub Scout who prays "Thank you God for making me" has hit the nail on the head that's a Scouts' Own in a sentence. So it is far better to let the young people make up their own prayers - maybe creating a Group book of prayers and use it, updating it year by year. As a Leader you will never quite match, for them, the depth of their own thinking.



Finally, having, hopefully, done away with the mystique surrounding and the necessity of formality or a formal structure for Scouts' Owns, we suggest you go and get on with them - and enjoy them!

An Outline Scouts' Own For a Formal Situation

The most useful structure is simple - it consists of an Introduction - with or without singing. The second element is the Story. There are hundreds of stories that would be suitable - stories about Baden-Powell or modern adventure and achievement. Something that can be illustrated by audience participation in some way is usually more effective but not absolutely essential. It could simply be a yarn read from a book - but better retold by the leader without the book! And the third element is the Devotional. Nothing complicated or fancy, just a drawing together of things that are eternal like love and beauty and truth and justice and peace - and a suggestion of the vital place that Members of the Scout Movement of all ages have in the winning and maintaining of them. Which is how we do our duty to the Creator Power (God) who is the beginning and the end of everything.

Without question, the best and most effective Scouts' Owns are constructed by Scouts themselves. Therefore it should be the practice to involve them in the preparation for the occasion as well as participation in it. You might have to tell the yarn or story; but it might be just as effective for you to give a group a theme and tell them to present it whatever way they feel would be most effective. They may well come up with songs, even things to be read, that you wouldn't have dreamed about, but for their peers it will make the point better than anything you can say.

So you might like to suggest themes like these:

- Caring for God's World and the people in it
- Working for Peace and Justice for everybody
- Making the best use of the life God had given to us
- How to cope with hurt or handicap

Of course there are more obvious themes like holidays, camp, Scouting, friendships, and adventure and so on. All of these have a Scouting significance. You might ask about the abstract - love, hope, beauty, wonder, despair, sadness, forgiveness. Or, why not take the bull by the horns and ask them to express in word, song and mime/drama what they understand about God, Creation, the Universe, themselves. The point is that, formal or not, it doesn't have to be professional - only honest. And it doesn't have to last half an hour - only as long as it takes to say what is necessary. Our bet is that you'll be pleasantly surprised by the things they come up with. And as we said before - enjoy it.

And from our Founder:

Some Ideas on Scouts' Owns

For an open Troop, or for Troops in camp, I think the Scouts' Own should be open to all denominations, and carried on in such manner as to offend none. There should not be any special form, but it should abound in the right spirit, and should be conducted not from any ecclesiastical point of view, but from that of the boy. Everything likely to make an artificial atmosphere should be avoided. We do not want a kind of imposed Church Parade, but a voluntary uplifting of their hearts by the boys in thanksgiving for the joys of life, and a desire on their part to seek inspiration and strength for greater love and service for others.

A Scouts' Own should have as big an effect on the boys as any service in Church, if in conducting the Scouts' Own we remember that boys are not grown men, and if we go by the pace of the youngest and most uneducated of those present. Boredom is not reverence, nor will it breed religion.

To interest the boys, the Scouts' Own must be a cheery and varied function. Short hymns (three verses are as a rule quite enough-never more than four); understandable prayers; a good address from a man who really understands boys (a homely "talk" rather than an address), which grips the boys, and in which they may laugh or applaud as the spirit moves them, so that they take a real interest in what is said. If a man cannot make his point to keen boys in ten minutes he ought to be shot! If he has not got them keen, it would be better not to hold a Scouts' Own at all.

By Baden Powell
Printed in "The Scouter"
November 1928



Some Scouts Own Examples

All- Faiths Service For Worship In The Outdoors

CALL TO WORSHIP - Psalm 100: 1 - 3

``Make a joyful noise to the Lord, in all the lands.
 Serve the Lord with gladness. Come into His presence
 with singing. Know that the Lord is God.
 It is He that made us, and we are His;
 We are His people, and sheep of His pasture.''

OPENING HYMN - `AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL''

O beautiful, for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
 For purple mountains majesties, above the fruited plain,
 America, America, God shed his grace on thee,
 And Crown thy good with brotherhood,
 from sea to shining sea.

RESPONSIVE READING: - ``Canticle of the Sun''

- All: **O most high, almighty, Lord God, to you belongs praise, glory, honor and all blessing.**
- Leader: Praised be my Lord God with all his creatures, and especially, our brother, the sun, who brings us the day and who brings us the night; fair is he, and shines with a very great splendor; O Lord, he signifies You to us.
- Response: **Praise be my Lord for our sister the moon, and for the stars, which He has set clear and lovely in the heaven.**
- Leader: Praised be my Lord for our brother the wind, and for the air and clouds, calms, and all weather by which you uphold life in all creatures.
- Response: **Praised be my Lord for our sister, water, who is very serviceable to us, and humble and precious... and very clean.**
- Leader: Praised be my Lord for our brother, fire, through whom you give us light in the darkness; he is bright and pleasant and very mighty and strong.
- Response: **Praised be my Lord for our mother, the earth, which sustains us and keeps us, and brings forth grass and diverse fruits and flowers of many colors.**
- All: **Praise and bless the Lord, and give thanks to Him and serve Him with great humility.**

SONG: They That Wait Upon the Lord (in the songbook)



A Vietnam Buddhist Chant of Incense:

Burning incense spread to the four winds
slowly, swirls formed as a wise cloud.
Gathering here, we bow and pray,
Bring the beautiful garland to the altar!
Praying to the omnipotent, benevolent God of Mankind.
Deep in our humble heart, we seek the absolute truth
Which takes us out of the circle of suffering.

Silent Prayer:

After a moment, the leader says:

“Leader: O God, it is not easy to pray,
 And yet I pray that these few moments
 will somehow bring me closer to you”

HOMILY: "A Tell of Three Trees" - as retold by Angela Elwell Hunt

OFFERING - For the World Friendship Fund

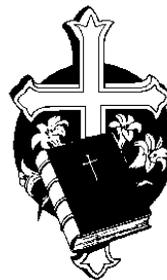
CLOSING HYMN - " God Bless America"

God Bless America, land that I love,
Stand beside her, and guide her,
Though the night, with the light from above,
From the mountains, to the prairies,
to the oceans, white with foam,
God Bless America, My home, sweet, home,
God Bless America, My home sweet home.

BENEDICTION - (spoken or sung to the tune: Edelweiss)

May the Lord, Mighty Lord, bless and keep you forever;
Grant us peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see His face, and His grace forever.
May the Lord, Mighty Lord, Bless and keep you forever.

Turn Troop back over to Senior Patrol Leader:



**Pack 92 Scouts Own Service,
April 14, 1996**

A Scout is Reverent.

A Scout is reverent toward God.
He is faithful in his religious duties.
He respects the beliefs of others.

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader:

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
For brethren to dwell together in unity.

Psalms 133:1

Scouts and Parents:

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.
I will be glad and exult in you;
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Psalms 9:1-2

Invocation

May the time be not too distant, O LORD, when all
your children will understand that they are brothers
and sisters, so that, one in spirit and one in fellowship,
they may be for ever united before you. Then shall
your kingdom be established on earth, and the word of
your prophet shall be fulfilled: "The Lord will reign for
ever and ever." Amen

-- From the Jewish Sabbath Service

OPENING SONG

America the Beautiful

O, beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties,
Above the fruited plain.
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

O, beautiful for patriots dream,
That sees, beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears.
America! America!

God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

RESPONSIVE READING

God is the Eternal One

Leader:

God is the Eternal One,
Who reigned before any being had yet been created;
When all was done according to God's will,
Already then God's Name was Sovereign.

Scouts and Parents:

And after all has ceased to be,
Still will God reign in solitary majesty;
God was, God is, God shall be in glory.

Leader:

And God is One,
Without compare,
Without beginning,
Without end;
To God belongs power and dominion.

Scouts and Parents:

And the Sovereign of all is my own God,
My living Redeemer,
My Rock in time of trouble and distress;
My banner and my Refuge,
My benefactor, to whom in anguish, I can call.

All:

Into God's hands I entrust my spirit,
Both when I sleep as when I wake;
And with my spirit, my body also:
God is with me, I will not fear.

"Adon Olam" ("God is the Eternal One").

An eleventh-century Hebrew prayer composed by the
Jewish poet and philosopher Solomon Ibn Gibirol.

A TRADITIONAL SCOUTING SONG

Kum- Ba- Yah

(The Scout Law Version)

Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout's trustworthy Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is loyal, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is helpful, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout is friendly, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is courteous, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is kind, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout's obedient, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is cheerful, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 A Scout is thrifty, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout is brave, Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 A Scout is clean, Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 A Scout is reverent, Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
 O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

Reading

The true servants of the Gracious GOD are the following:

Those who walk upon earth with humility and when they are tempted by the evil ones, they respond:

Peace;

Those who pass the hours of the night in prayers and standing before the Lord;

Those who pray: Lord turn away from us the punishments of hell, for it is a heavy torment, it is indeed an evil dwelling place;

Those who are neither extravagant nor stingy in spending, but keep a balance between the two;

Those who repent and believe and do good deeds.

>From the Koran, Al-Furqan, Part 19, Chapter 25

SILENT OBSERVANCE

May we observe a moment of silent prayer, each in his own faith.

A Thought for Scout Sunday

From Baden-Powell, Scouting for Boys

The old knights were very religious. They were always careful to attend religious services, especially before going into battle or undertaking any serious difficulty. They considered it the right thing always to be prepared for death. Besides worshipping God in church, the knights always recognized His work in the things which He made, such as animals, plants, and all scenery.

And so it is with peace scouts today. Wherever they go they love the woodlands, the mountains, and the prairies, and they like to watch and know about the animals that inhabit them, and the wonders of the flowers and plants.

No man is much good unless he believes in God and obeys His laws. So every Scout should have religion.

Religion seems a very simple thing: First: Love and serve God. Second: Love and serve your neighbor.

In doing your duty to God always be grateful to Him. Whenever you enjoy a pleasure or a good game, or succeed in doing a good thing, thank Him for it, if only with a word or two, just as you say grace at a meal. And it is a good thing to bless other people. For instance, if you see a train starting off, just pray for God's blessing on all that are in the train.

In doing your duty towards man, be helpful and generous, and always be grateful for any kindness done to you, and be careful to show that you are grateful. Remember again that a present given to you is not yours until you have thanked the giver for it.

While you are living your life on earth, try to do something good which may remain after you.

One writer says: "I often think that when the sun goes down the world is hidden by a big blanket from the light of heaven, but the stars are little holes pierced in that blanket by those who have done good deeds in this world. The stars are not all the same size; some are big, some are little, and some men have done great deeds and others have done small deeds, but they have made their hole in the blanket by doing good before they went to heaven."

Try to make your hole in the blanket by good work while you are on earth.

It is something to be good, but it is far better to do good.

BENEDICTION

Interfaith Service

Randy Neufeld

INVOCATION

Be merciful to me, O God, Be merciful,
for I have taken refuge in You.
In the shadow of Your wings,
will I take refuge
until this time of trouble has gone by.

I will call upon the most high God,
The God who maintains my cause.

He will send from heaven and save me;
He will confound those
who trample upon me;
God will send forth His love
and his faithfulness. Amen.

HYMN

Oh beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties,
Above the fruited plain.

(Chorus)

America, America. God shed His Grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood,
From sea to shining sea.

Oh beautiful for patriot dream,
That sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears.

(Repeat Chorus)

MEDITATION

Sanctify our campsite with your presence and joy.
By the spirit of affection and service unite our
Scouting families, that they may show your praise
in our land and in all the world.

RESPONSIVE READING

(Psalm 46)

(Leader) God is our refuge and strength

(People) A very present help in trouble

(L) therefore we will not fear, though the earth be
moved

(P) and though the mountains be toppled into the
depths of the sea

(L) though it's waters rage and foam

(P) the Lord of hosts is with us

(L) the God of Jacob is our stronghold

HYMN

Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Oh, Lord Kum Ba Yah

Someone's crying Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Someone's crying Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Someone's crying Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Oh Lord Kum Ba Yah

Someone's singing Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Someone's singing Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Someone's singing Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Oh Lord Kum Ba Yah

Someone's praying Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Someone's praying Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Someone's praying Lord, Kum Ba Yah
Oh Lord Kum Ba Yah

SERMON

OFFERING FOR WORLD FRIENDSHIP FUND

HYMN

Michael row the boat ashore, Hallelujah
Michael row the boat ashore, Hallelujah
River Jordan is deep and wide, Hallelujah
River Jordan is deep and wide, Hallelujah
River Jordan is chilly and cold, Hallelujah
Chills the body but not the soul, Hallelujah

SCOUTMASTER MINUTE

CLOSING PRAYER

GREAT SPIRIT PRAYER

Oh Great Spirit whose voice in the wind I hear,
And whose breath gives life to all in the world

Hear me

Before you I come, one of your many children
Small and weak am I

Your strength and wisdom I need
Make me walk in beauty
Make my heart respect all You have made
My ears to hear Your voice
Make me wise that I may know all You have taught my
people
The lessons You have hidden in every rock
I seek strength, not to be superior to my brother
Make me able to fight my greatest enemy, myself
Make me ready to stand before You with clean and
straight eyes

When life fades, as the fading sunset, may our spirits
stand before You without shame.

MORNING GRACE

Gracious giver of all good
Thee we than for rest and food
Grant that all we do or say
In Thy service be this day
Amen

NOON GRACE

Father for this noonday meal
We would speak the grace we feel
Health and strength we ask of Thee
Help us Lord to faithful be
Amen

EVENING GRACE

Tireless guardian on our way
Thou hast kept us well this day
While we thank Thee we request
Care continued, pardon, rest
Amen

Non-Denominational Worship Service For The Outdoors Randy Neufeld

CALL TO WORSHIP -

Psalm 100: 1 - 3

``Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come into His presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is He that made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.''

OPENING HYMN -

``Morning Has Broken''

Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, Praise for the morning,
Praise for them, springing, fresh from the word.

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass,
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play.
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day.

RESPONSIVE READING: -

``Canticle of the Sun''

All: O most high, almighty, good Lord God, to you belongs praise, glory, honor and all blessing.

Leader: Praised be my Lord God with all his creatures, and especially, our brother, the sun, who brings us the day and who brings us the night; fair is he, and shines with a very great splendor; O Lord, he signifies You to us.

Response: Praise be my Lord for our sister the moon, and for the stars, which He has set clear and lovely in the heaven.

Leader: Praised be my Lord for our brother the wind, and for the air and clouds, calms, and all weather by which you uphold life in all creatures.

Response: Praised be my Lord for our sister, water, who is very serviceable to us, and humble and precious... and very clean.

Leader: Praised be my Lord for our brother, fire, through whom you give us light in the darkness; he is bright and pleasant and very mighty and strong.

Response: Praised be my Lord for our mother, the earth, which sustains us and keeps us, and brings forth grass and diverse fruits and flowers of many colors.

All: Praise and bless the Lord, and give thanks to Him and serve Him with great humility.

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER

God, sometimes I hold something small in my hand... a piece of moss or a budding twig, and - peering closely at this tiny world - I feel a sudden wonder. Help me to remember that you made these worlds, and countless others, and...in remembering...come closer to you. O God, we thank Thee today for the world in which you have placed us; for the universe whose vastness is revealed in the blue depths of the sky; whose immensities are lit by shining stars beyond the strength of mind to follow. We thank you for the beauty of our earth, for the sweetness of the flowers, the solemnity of the stars, the sound of streams and swelling seas, for stretching lands and mighty mountains which rest and satisfy the soul, the purity of dawn which calls us to holy dedication, and the peace of the evening which speaks of everlasting rest. Above all, we thank you for the dignity you have bestowed upon every human being as the crown of your Creation. Give us the grace to let the light of your glory shine through us, in our action, words and thoughts. Amen.

OFFERING - For the World Friendship Fund

CLOSING HYMN - "This is My Father's World"

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world. I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world. The birds their carols raise.
The morning light, the lily white, declare the Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world. He shines in all that's fair;

In the trusting grass I hear him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

BENEDICTION - (tune: Edelweiss)

May the Lord, Mighty Lord, bless and keep you
forever;

Grant us peace, perfect peace, courage in every
endeavor.

Lift up your eyes and see His face, and His grace
forever.

May the Lord, Mighty Lord, Bless and keep you
forever.

Summaries of Some of World Religions

In our society today, it is very likely that you will have boys from different cultures and different religions in your Troop. Not just from the standpoint of Scouts Own preparation, but also to better understand your boys and be sensitive to their beliefs, it is a good idea to learn just a little bit about their religion. Here you will find brief descriptions of some of the world's major religions.

Hinduism

If you ever have a young person from the Hindu faith in your section or District, you are in touch with the distant eras of history, because Hinduism is the oldest of the world's religions and, partly because of that, it is different from most of the others. For example, it has no rigid set of beliefs, though the Hindu follower will pray with deep devotion before his Dharma or guiding spirit

To be a Hindu only two things are required -- to seek the truth and to do no harm to anyone. (Failing to help someone in need can be understood as doing them harm). In order to be able to do these two things properly, the Hindu must prepare his or her mind and body to be capable of undertaking them. Which is very much the heart of Scouting.

The Temple is the Hindu's holy place of prayer, but a room set aside for the purpose, or a tent is quite suitable for prayer and meditation. In fact, a Hindu will normally be prepared to use a church or other place of worship for his or her own devotions.

The Hindu symbol is important. Hindus do not have a word for God like Jews, Christians and Muslims. The essence of their faith is in the syllable AUM - the symbol - which describes the relationship of the "Spirit" or Brahman to the world: "A" stands for the power of God to create the universe; "U" stands for the power of God to preserve the universe; and "M" stands for the power of God to dissolve this universe.

There are two sets of holy writings - the "Isruti" which are divine and eternal; and the "smriti" which are less so. There are 1,000 chants or hymns. The Hindu believes that the great spirit appears in three forms - Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva, using many different guises, human and animal. They also believe in the doctrine of reincarnation - that after this life we shall be born again in another body. The quality of a person's life this time helps determine in what kind of body they will appear next.

Most Hindus are vegetarian but some may enjoy chicken and lamb. Beef is strictly forbidden. Hindu Scouts are normally immaculately turned out and will readily join in a Scout's Own. Other Scouts will be welcome in the Hindu Temple.

The main Hindu festival is Diwali, the festival of lights celebrated toward the end of November. It would be good to ask a Hindu Scout to tell about it or tell a yarn from the long history of his faith.

Judaism

There are some Jewish Scout Groups and Jewish Scouts may find a place in one of them. But where there is no large Jewish community, it is very possible that a Jewish boy may want to join your Group and it is important that he is welcomed and his needs met.

Jews base their religious practice on the Law of God, the "Torah" found in the five Books of Moses -- Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. Although the stories in the early part of Genesis tell of the Creation of the world, the history of Judaism as such really begins with Abraham more than 3,000 years ago, who first recognized that there was only one Supreme Being. It was Abraham's trust in one God that was really the birth of Judaism. It was further developed when Moses led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt towards the promised land. This was somewhere around 1300 BC. Two events from that time are much in the center of Jewish faith today. The first was the final plague on the people of Egypt, which persuaded Pharaoh to release the Israelites - the spirit of death killed the first-born of every Egyptian family. But it passed over the homes of the Israelites because their door posts were marked with the blood of a lamb. And the other event was the giving of the Ten commandments to Moses. Judaism

was then, and still is today, based on a firm belief and active trust in God and in obedience to the rules of life contained in the Ten Commandments.

Jewish Scouts will want to keep the Sabbath, their holy day, which runs from sunset of Friday to sunset on Saturday. During these hours no work is done and families gather for a special meal on Friday to welcome the Sabbath, thanking God for his providence. They will go to worship in the Synagogue on the Sabbath. They will also keep the Passover, a festival remembering the spirit of death passing over the Israelite homes in Egypt. That is around mid April - it moves with the day of the new moon. And they will want to keep "Rosh Hashanah" (New Year) and "Yom Kippur" ('day of Atonement), very devotional festival around September. Jews do not eat pork and for festivals and holy days use special pots, pans and dishes for their festival food. Jewish Scouts will join in a Scout's Own and most normal Scout activities.

Christianity

In Britain and America, many Scouts come from a Christian background. Christianity grew out of Judaism. It's leader, Jesus of Nazareth, believed that he was chosen by God to call the people to a true faith and trust in God. His teaching was that God didn't just want people to keep the Jewish laws as a kind of ritual, He wanted them to live out their lives in love and care for their neighbors and for anyone in need - especially the poor and the oppressed. He criticized the chief Priests for keeping God in the Temple and turning the Temple into a business which made it hard for the poor to go to worship. The Chief Priests reacted by plotting to have Jesus killed. They persuaded the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate, that Jesus was a political danger to him because the common people followed him and, although Pilate couldn't find any proof of the charge, he had Jesus whipped and crucified - nailed to a wooden cross - which was the Roman method of execution at the time. This was done on a Friday - the eve of the Jewish Sabbath. Christians call it Good Friday because they believe that when Jesus died, the forgiveness of God was released for human failure to love, serve and trust in God. Christians also believe that Jesus, having been buried in a cave, rose from the dead on the Sunday (Easter Day) and was seen by his followers many times over several weeks. Certainly, they believed this happened because many of them were executed for saying so and you don't die for something that you know isn't true. Those early followers were all Jews and it wasn't for some time that non-Jews were able to join the new community. It was probably about 30 years before they were called "Christians". It is estimated that there are about 12 billion people in the world who say they follow Jesus. They have special services and celebrations to mark his birth

- Christmas Day (25th December) and usually a service at midnight the night before; and at Easter on the Sunday before Easter (Palm Sunday), on Good Friday and, of course on Easter Day. Easter weekend often being a four day holiday, care should be taken to make sure that the significance of Easter for Christians at camp is not forgotten.

Islam

If you have a Muslim boy in your Group, you have a follower of a world religion of some billion members. And it is almost certain that your member will be a boy because it is unlikely that any Muslim girl will be allowed into Scouting - at least not yet. Islam is a way of life. Muslims are people of the "Book" - the "quar'an" or as we pronounce it, the "Koran". There are some common origins with Judaism - Arabs (Muslims) are said to be descended from Ishmael, who was the son of Hagar, the maidservant of Abraham's wife; Jews are descended from Isaac, the son of Sarah, Abraham's wife. So Islam, Judaism and Christianity are all very closely linked and while Jews and Muslims do not accept that Jesus was the Son of God, Muslims do accept him as a prophet. So Muslim Scouts ought to have no difficulty in sharing fully in a Scout's Own, where it is God who is worshipped. The Muslim boy has to learn the Koran by heart and will want to do his duty to Allah, which is his name for God. His religion has two pillars, faith and action and both are essential to him. He has five pillars of faith. First, he believes in the unity of God and in Mohammed (Peace be unto Him) as His Last Messenger. Second, if he is of Scout age he will have to say prayers five times a day - and time must be allowed for this at camp and other events. And he will have to fulfill a special ritual washing before his prayers. Other boys should expect to see him at prayer and respect him for it. Then, third in the month of Ramadan, the Muslim boy will have to fast - have no food or drink - from sunrise to sunset. This is to help the rich

experience the pain of the poor. But it will need understanding on the part of other boys and Leaders. At camp a Muslim will eat beef, chicken and lamb if it has been properly killed, but he will not eat pork. It is probably better to provide fish for meals along with cereals and vegetables and so on, because there will be no problem with them. The fourth pillar of the faith involves his giving to the needy, and fifth, if possible, is a pilgrimage to Mecca. The five pointed star in the symbol is a reminder of the five pillars, while the crescent is the sign that the Islamic month begins with the appearance of each new moon. A Muslim will be supported by his parents.

Sikhism

If you have a Sikh in your Group, there will be no mistaking him for he will be wearing a turban on his head to cover his uncut hair. Sometimes, for sport and games and in camp he will dispense with the turban and tie his hair in a knot or bun on the top of his head with a kind of folded handkerchief on it. This is known as a Pukta. That will give him more flexibility to join in the fun. But the turban to a Sikh is very important because it symbolizes generosity, truthfulness, maturity, piety and fearlessness. Maybe that's why most Sikhs have the name "Singh" which means "lion".

The Sikh faith is really a break-away from the Hindu faith and dates back to the second half of the 15th Century when its founder - Guru Nanek - lived. Guru really means "teacher" and the most commonly used name for God in the Sikh Faith is Sat Guru - being the teacher. The name "Sikh" literally means disciple.

The reason this religion was founded was to provide a faith that crossed the barriers between religions. The very first thing that Guru Nanek said was "There is no Hindu, there is no Muslim."

The whole practice of the Sikh religion is the brotherhood of all people - something like the concept of Scouting. They believe in one God whose name is true, who is the Creator and who has been, is now and will be in every age. But the Sikh believes that it is impossible to gain a concept of God; it is his duty only to worship him and follow his way. The Sikh faith has no ministers or priests and anyone can lead worship. Sikh hymns are usually played on drums and sitars (that's a kind of Guitar). There are no restrictions on food, though many Sikhs are vegetarian.

Sikh girls are treated as equals in orthodox families, so they may be interested in sharing in a Venture Scout Unit [Explorer Post] or as a leader in one of the other sections. Both boys and girls, young men and young women will be happy to share in a Scouts' Own because they are encouraged to pray to God as much as possible and to share their goods with the needy. Anyone is welcome at a Gurdwara, which is the name for a Sikh Temple. Sikh's celebrate the birthdays of Guru Nanek at the end of November and Guru Gobind Singh around Christmas time.

Buddhism

There aren't a great many Buddhists outside Asia and the far East, but many of Scouts from Japan, for example, who attend Jamborees and Jamborettes are Buddhist by Faith. [Note: Many US Scouts of South-east Asian decent are Buddhist.] Buddhism was founded by Siddhartha Gautama who was born about 563 BC. He realized that the ills that strike humanity come from inside the human being and that human life is suffering. His realization came around 528 BC so that is a point from which we can say Buddhism comes. It is a very old faith.

It is quite a difficult religion to explain. Buddhists believe that it is possible to move from the suffering of humanity to a state of perfection or salvation called 'Nirvana'. But this state takes a very long time - many lifetimes - to achieve. When someone dies it does not mean that they cease to exist, but that they move into another state of existence. And in this world nothing is permanent even time is a flow of milliseconds having no permanence.

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