



RELIGION IN LIFE PROGRAM



Canadian Forces (Protestant)

Published for
the Community by
Scouts Canada and
Girl Guides of Canada

1. The Religion in Life program is focused for age groups that compare with the section age groupings for Guides/Scouts.

Stage 1 — Yellow Border (Brownies/Cubs)
Stage 2 — Green Border (Guides/Scouts)
Stage 3 — Blue Border (Combined for Venturers/
Stage 4 — Red Border Rangers/Rovers/Pathfinders)

2. **Resources** for each stage of the program are available through the following outlets:

CANEC/DPOCS 2, NDHQ
Provincial Scout Stores/National Scout Office

These resources consist of the following:
Let's Celebrate — a book of spiritual ideas for Scouting.

3. **Basic Requirements:** The Religion in Life Emblem is a symbol that the Guide/Scout is on a continuing faith journey, rather than a badge given for something already accomplished. Therefore the candidate will be a regular participant in the worship and/or Christian Education program of the Chapel as well as being a member in the Guide/Scout section. Program guidelines for each stage are not rigid requirements. Rather they are like a map to use imaginatively and creatively to help Guides/Scouts in their faith journey.

The Guide/Scout must be recommended by the Padre or Sunday School teacher as having satisfactory attendance and participation in regular Chapel worship and/or the Sunday School, as well as membership in the Guide/Scout section. It is expected that the Guide/Scout will continue with this pattern after being awarded the emblem.

4. **Standards** for the awarding of the emblem should be of a high order so that it will be respected and have real meaning for those who wear it. It should not be regarded as comparable to an interest badge.

At the same time leaders in the Religion in Life Program should feel free to adapt resource material to local situations and interpret program objectives and guidelines so as to give maximum encouragement to each Guide/Scout on their faith journey.

5. **Leadership** may be given by a member of the Chapel selected by the Padre, who leads a committed Christian life, is growing in that commitment, who understands children/youth and desires to relate to them in a meaningful way. The Padres is expected to also offer leadership and advice for the program.
6. **Instruction** may be given in a variety of settings such as regular Section meetings, combined Guide/Scout sessions or a special series of meetings. Instruction should be the result of consultation between Guide/Scout leaders and the Padre.

7. **Presentation** of the emblem is most appropriately made at a regular service of the Chapel by the Padre. It can be an occasion for participation by Guides/Scouts in the planning and/or conduct of the worship and attendance by the group or section.
8. Every Guide/Scout should be encouraged to endeavour to qualify for the emblem. The Christian witnessing of leaders through example can be a valuable encouragement to Guides/Scouts.

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Objective:

The Religion in Life Program of the Canadian Forces for members of Scouts Canada and the Girl Guides of Canada is designed to complement Christian teaching already happening in a young person's life and integrate this learning into the Scouting and Guiding programs. Through the youth's involvement in the program and especially through a close relationship with the Chapel, it is expected that the Scout/Guide will understand more about the Church and will grow in Christian faith and service.

STAGE 1 — YELLOW

Program Objectives

- To enrich the Brownie's/Cub's understanding of the life and work of Jesus.
- To reinforce his/her knowledge of the importance of worship in the local Chapel and the help him/her identify meaningful worship experiences in his/her life.
- To understand how the Promise and Law relates to Jesus' teachings.
- To put new learnings into practice in community service.

Program Guidelines

- Become familiar with three stories of Jesus and know where to find them in the Bible. Explore what they mean in your life when you are alone and when you are with other people.
- Be able to make a drawing, act out or tell a story of Jesus.
- Tell how some parts of the Brownie/Cub Promise are like some of Jesus' teachings.
- Talk about the reasons Christians gather together to worship, study and work. Tell about some of the special times when you have worshipped.
- Discuss with your Religion in Life group some of the reasons why we pray. Prepare a prayer of your own.
- Tell about some of the work that is done through your local Chapel. Know something of the work done by your Padre, teachers and other Chapel workers. Explain what is special for you about being part of the Chapel life.

- Choose and carry out a project to help someone in your home, community or other part of the world.

STAGE 2 — GREEN

Program Objectives

- To help the Scout/Guide become more aware of the world around us and of God as its Creator.
- To understand that the Bible is a library of books tracing how a nation encountered God through revelation and personal experience.
- To discover reasons in our world and in our lives of why we worship God.
- To understand some implications of Christian stewardship.
- To translate new learning into service for others.

Program Guidelines

- Read Genesis, Chapters 1 and 2; Psalm 104 and Isaiah 40:18–31.
Discuss: a) God’s continuing activity in creation
b) Our responsibility to our world.
- Trace how God acted in the lives of two Old Testament people (e.g. Abraham, Moses, David); two New Testament people (e.g. Peter, Mary, Martha) and two modern people.
- Discuss service of worship in the Chapel with the Padre to understand the different parts of the service and why we have them.
- Participate in planning and leading a service of worship in your own Scouting/Guiding section/unit and/or another group.
- List some of the different kinds of gifts that God gives to people and answer the question: “Are these ours to use for ourselves alone or to share with our neighbours?” Tell some of the ways Christians try to show their gratitude to God.
- Describe some ways in which you try to fulfill the Guide/Scout Law in your daily living. Tell how being a Guide/Scout can influence your life at school.
- Participate in your community with some other person or persons in a project that brings happiness to other people.

STAGE 3 — BLUE

Program Objectives

- To help Venturers/Rangers view the Bible as containing the truth of God.
- To relate Bible teachings to their lives today.
- To see worship as a response to God who supports them in their life struggle.
- To encourage young people in their search for personal identity and worth.
- To assist young people to achieve a daily personal faith.
- To help young people find meaningful ways to care about their community.

Program Guidelines

- Look at some different kinds of literature in the Bible and discuss the different ways of expressing truth: (e.g. parable, Luke 10:25–37; biography, Ruth 1:1–18; drama, Song of Solomon 2:8–17; historical, Acts 7:54–60; letter, Philemon 1:1–11, hymn, Psalm 100; prophetic, Amos 7:1–9; saga, Genesis 3:1–13; wisdom, Proverbs 15:17.)
- Read the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1–12) and tell what various parts might say to our way of living.

- Tell how you see/feel God at work in three current events in the world.
- After a discussion of the meaning of worship, plan and present a worship service at a Venturer/Ranger camp, a meeting or in Chapel.
- Watch a movie or TV program that shows the main character’s (or author’s) values in life and discuss their meaning; then discuss how your own values are similar or different.
- Share the important aspects of your Christian faith with your group.
- Assist with the leadership of another group (e.g. Beaver colony, Brownie pack, Sunday School, Cub pack).
- Consider some of the needs of your community and choose one in which you can make a contribution. Write a brief report of your experience.

STAGE 4 — RED

Program Objectives

- To review who I am, who God is, and how my faith in Him affects the ways I face life’s complex questions.
- To understand something of the work of the Holy Spirit in the world.
- To obtain a greater appreciation of the Sacraments of the Christian Church.
- To appreciate the significance of church membership/confirmation.

Program Guidelines

- Read *Let’s Celebrate* pages 50, 51 and 55, and discuss some of the personal faith/life questions with members of your section, your advisor and your Padre.
- Study the Book of Amos and see how God was active in his life; consider how Amos used his understanding of God and his life and message. Outline your feelings about your own life and where it is going.
- Read a current biography within the life of the Church and discuss the major aspects of it with your Scouter/Guide or Padre.
- Make an in-depth study of the Sacraments/Ordinances of a church of your choice.
- Tell how your knowledge of the Christian life affects your attitude to people in need; and tell how you do or can participate in the Church’s mission to all people.
- Read John 14, 15 and 16 and identify areas where you think the Holy Spirit is working in the world.
- Explore the meaning and significance of church membership/confirmation and explain what are some essential elements of being a member of the Christian church.



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