

RELIGION IN LIFE PROGRAM



Congregational Christian Church of Canada

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

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Membership in the Girl Guides of Canada and Scouts Canada is open to all girls and boys who wish to make the promise, regardless of race, colour or creed. The purpose of the *Guide/Scout* programs is to assist girls and boys in character development by encouraging them to be responsible citizens of their country. An important part of the program is to assist in the spiritual growth of each girl or boy in their own religious community. Girl Guides of Canada and Scouts Canada uphold the principle that specific religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious authorities.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to provide *Scouts* or *Guides* with an opportunity to explore their faith, to make it a basic part of their personal life, and to share it with others.

THE EMBLEM

The Religion in Life emblem consists of a great circle, the symbol of eternity. In the circle are the first and last letters of the Greek Alphabet, *Alpha* and *Omega*, a symbol of God, and a reminder that the worship and service of God form an essential part of life from beginning to end.

REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for the program differ in each faith and denomination and are prepared nationally by the church or religious bodies to suit their particular needs.

INSTRUCTION

It is the responsibility of the group/section committee and leadership team to arrange for instruction of candidates with the candidate's own spiritual leader or appointee.

PRESENTATION

Presentation of the emblem is made by the candidate's spiritual advisor, and can form an impressive part of a regular *Guide* or *Scout* meeting, a church service, or a special evening for parents/guardians.

STAGES

The Religion in Life program is in four progressive stages, colour-coded and adapted to the age groups concerned.

- Stage 1 – Yellow Border (about 7-8-9)
- Stage 2 – Green Border (about 10-11-12)
- Stage 3 – Blue Border (about 13-14-15)
- Stage 4 – Red Border (15+)
- Stage 5 – Purple Border (Adults)

Candidates may start at any stage appropriate to their age and capabilities. Only one emblem – the latest stage earned – is worn.

WHERE OBTAINABLE

The emblem may be obtained from provincial offices or through regular badge channels.

WHERE WORN

Girl Guides of Canada – *see Policy, Organization and Rules*.
Scouts Canada – *see By-Law, Policies and Procedures*.

REQUIREMENTS

STAGE 1

Word

1. Know the number of books in the Old and New Testament.
2. Memorize the Lord's Prayer.

Worship

1. Faithful Church attendance for 3 months.

Witness

1. Tell one way you practice your promise.
2. Show how you practice your faith on a daily basis.
3. Live the Law of your section.
4. Bring a friend to Sunday School.

STAGE 2

Word

1. Own a Bible.
2. Memorize the 10 Commandments.
3. Explain the difference between the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.

Worship

1. Faithful Church attendance for 6 months.
2. Participate in service to the Church (Usher, Choir member, Nursery help, Church clean-up, etc.)

Witness

1. Know the Scout Law and tell how you live up to it in daily living.
2. Tell how your behavior at home, school, church, and club can be a witness to your faith in God.
3. Bring a friend to Church or Sunday School.

STAGE 3

Word

1. Name and tell about two sacraments of the Church.

Worship

1. Faithful Church attendance for 9 months.
2. Take part in a worship service.
3. Learn and understand the purpose of the different parts of a worship service.

Witness

1. Assist with the leadership of another group (e.g. Beaver Colony, Brownie Pack, Church School, Cub Pack or other youth group).
2. Discuss Christian ethics.

STAGE 4

Word

1. Tell or write a 500-word essay on how the Bible is relevant to you in your daily life.

Worship

1. Faithful Church attendance for 1 year.
2. Take part in a worship service.
3. Lead a worship service at camp or similar activity.

Witness

1. Teach or assist in teaching a Sunday school or Daily Vacation Bible School class.
2. Visit the elderly and shut-ins from the church.

STAGE 5

Word

1. Tell your favorite Bible story to a group of children or youths.

Worship

1. Faithful Church attendance for 1 year.
2. Lead a Scouts' Own at camp.

Witness

1. Be an active leader in your section.
2. Encourage the youth and other leaders to earn this emblem.

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