

RELIGION IN LIFE PROGRAM



Free Methodist Church of Canada

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The Community by
Scouts Canada and
Girl Guides of Canada

RELIGION IN LIFE PROGRAM

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+)

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.*

OUR DENOMINATION'S PURPOSE

The Free Methodist Church in Canada (FMCIC) aims to resource the ministry of its local congregations to:

Find, befriend and introduce seeking people to Jesus Christ and the fellowship of His people.

Mature, those who desire to grow in Christlikeness.

Commission prepared people to purposeful service.

Interpret life theologically. Invest resources strategically.

Celebrate that God's presence and power makes all things possible.

REQUIREMENTS

STAGE 1

Word

1. Own your own Bible.
2. Know the number of books in the Old and New Testament.
3. Memorize John 3:16 and explain the meaning.
4. Know the name of the Founder of the Free Methodist Church.

Worship

1. Attend Sunday School regularly.
2. Practice daily devotions.
3. Participate in a service: pray, sing, or read scripture.
4. Discuss with your Pastor or Director how devotions, private and public prayers, Sunday morning services can/have helped you grow as a Christian.
5. Know the Free Methodist "Purpose."

Witness

1. Discuss with your Pastor and Leader how to put into practice the Law, Promise and Pledge (motto) into your daily life.
2. Give regularly to support the Sunday School from money that you have earned.
3. Know how much of our earnings the Lord asks us to give.

STAGE 2**Word**

1. Own a Bible and memorize the books of the New Testament.
2. Memorize John 3:16 and Romans 6:32b, and discuss their meaning with your Pastor.
3. Know the Free Methodist Mission Statement.

Worship

1. Attend Sunday morning worship services and Sunday School regularly.
2. Tell your Sunday School class the history of the Free Methodist Church.
3. Practice daily devotions and keep a devotion diary or a devotional book.

Witness

1. Discuss with your Pastor and Leader how to put into practice the Law, Promise and Pledge (motto).
2. Give regularly to support the Sunday School, and tell your Pastor what it means to give of your tyths to the Lord.
3. Write a 200-word essay on Romans 12:10-16, and Peter 4:8-11.
4. Discuss with your Pastor or Director two different ways to share your faith in Jesus Christ.
5. Bring an unchurched peer to Sunday School or church.

STAGE 3**Word**

1. Own a Bible. Memorize Luke 10:27 and Psalm 119:11.
2. Explain to your Pastor or Director what these verses mean to you.
3. Memorize the books of the Bible.
4. Explain in your own words, to your Pastor or Director Mark 8:32 – 38.
5. Find out what the Free Methodist Churches Vision is.

Worship

1. Attend Sunday morning service and Sunday School regularly.
2. Help plan and participate in a Guide/Scouts' Own service.
3. Write a 300-word essay on Missions in the Free Methodist Church. (Contact your Missions Committee for information).
4. Have daily devotions and attend a mid-week Bible study.

Witness

1. Discuss with your Pastor and Leader how you can put the Guide/Scout Law, Promise and Pledge (motto) into your daily life.
2. Serve, in some way, with the Children's Ministry (Sunday School, Guide/Scout, Mid-week club, Vocation Bible School).
3. Give regularly to Sunday School and Sunday morning services or Missions.
4. Bring an unchurched youth to Sunday School or church.

STAGE 4**Word**

1. Own a Bible, and know by memory the books of the Bible.
2. Take the 'Discovering Membership C.L.A.S.S. 101.)
3. Memorize Ephesians 1:4, 5.
4. Know the Free Methodist Churches Purpose, Mission and Vision.

Worship

1. Attend Sunday morning service and Sunday School.
2. Help plan and help run a Guide/Scouts' Own service.
3. Write a 400-word essay on 'The Kind of Lifestyle God Wants us to Live,' using the Scriptures as your guideline.
4. Attend a Bible study and participate in Daily devotions.

Witness

1. Discuss with your Pastor and Leader how you can put the Law, Promise and Pledge (motto) into your daily life.
2. Discuss with your Pastor or Youth Director on finding out what your gifts are.
3. Serve in a training form in the area(s) of your gift(s).
4. Give your testimony in the Sunday morning or evening service.
5. Explain in your own words to your Pastor, 'The Great Commandment,' Matthew 22:36-40.

STAGE 5

Word

1. Own a Bible and know how to use it to lead someone to Christ.
2. Demonstrate your commitment to Jesus Christ by your daily walk.
3. As a leader in the Guide/Scouting program, do the best that you can to promote the 'Religion in Life' program.
4. Take the 'Discovering Membership C.L.A.S.S. 101,' and become a member of the Free Methodist Church.
5. Memorize Ephesians 1:4, 5.

Worship

1. Attend Sunday School and Sunday morning services.
2. Plan and lead a Guide/Scouts' Own service.
3. Attend a Bible study (give a short devotion at the study or lead the study).

Witness

1. Demonstrate to your Pastor and District Commissioner how you can put the Guide/Scouts' Promise, Law and Pledge (motto) into your daily life.
2. Discuss with your Pastor and Adult Director what your gifts are.
3. Serve on a Committee of your calling, according to your gifts, for a period of not less than six months.
4. In your own words, explain to your Pastor 'The Great Commandment' Matthew 22:36-40, and 'The Great Commission,' Matthew 28:19, 20 and 'What is the Free Methodist Church's Purpose, Mission, Vision?'

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