

Religion In Life Program

Moravian Church in Canada



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Religion in Life Program

Membership in Scouts Canada is open to all who wish to make the promise, regardless of race, colour or creed. The purpose of the Scout program is to assist children 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 child and to encourage them to participate actively in their own religious community. Scouts Canada upholds the principle that specific religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious authorities.

The Emblem

The Christian 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 churches 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 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 — Grey Border

Stage 2 — Green Border

Stage 3 — Blue Border

Stage 4 — Red Border

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

See Scouts Canada *By-Law, Policies and Procedures*.

Stage 1

A. Word

1. Familiarity with the Bible e.g. number of books, main divisions, favourite Bible stories.
2. Become familiar with the Bible; read selected passages; Genesis 12:1–9; Psalm 23; Psalm 100; Matthew 5:1–12; Matthew 6:9–13; Luke 15:11–24; Luke 2:52; I Corinthians 13 (First Cor.)

B. Worship

1. Attend Sunday School and Church regularly.
2. Prepare a prayer.
3. Become familiar with the Church Sanctuary including Communion Table, pulpit etc.

C. Study

Read a series of stories on the Lives of Missionaries.

D. Witness

1. Where possible, make an effort to invite one or more persons to Sunday School classes.
2. Tell one way in which you practise the parts of the Cub Promise.
3. Take part in a project to help in the home or community.

Stage 2

A. Word

1. Explain the meaning of the Scout Promise and Law for daily life as a Christian.
2. Memorize 5 selected Bible passages.

B. Worship

1. Attend Worship Service and Sunday School regularly.
2. Write a prayer in your own words.
3. Discuss with the minister the meaning of the sacrament of Baptism.

C. Witness

Take an active part as an individual or as a member of a group in 2 projects:

- a) One of which is a Service to the Local Church.
- b) One of which is a Service to the Local Community, or to a person or persons in need.

Stage 3

A. Word

1. Write a brief statement outlining their own faith and discuss it with the minister.
2. Show an understanding of the place that the church has in the purpose of God.
3. Discuss with the minister Mark 8:34–36 and its relationship to their own life and goals.

B. Worship

1. Discuss with the minister the meaning of the Sacrament of Baptism and Communion.
2. Discuss with the minister or an Elder the meaning and responsibilities of membership in the church.

C. Witness

Discover alone or with others some part of community life where real Christian witnessing is needed to help provide for it.

Stage 4

- A. Write a brief statement outlining their own faith and discuss it with the minister.
- B. You are the Church. What does this mean to you?
- C. As a Christian living in today's world, what should your attitude be toward yourself, other people, poverty, violence, politics, God?

Resources

Let's Celebrate — A book of spiritual ideas for Scouting. This book contains many program ideas for leaders of all sections.

These resources are available from your local Scout Shop or online. Your leader or spiritual advisor will be able to recommend other useful resources.



It starts with Scouts.

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