



Giving  
Hope  
Today

# Religion In Life Program

## The Salvation Army



Published for the Society by Scouts Canada

### 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 five progressive stages, colour-coded and adapted to the age groups concerned.

**Stage 1** — Grey 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

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

### Stage One:

#### Word:

1. Own and become familiar with the Bible.
2. Know the number of Books in the Old and New Testament
3. Memorize John 3:16 and give satisfactory explanations of this verse.

#### Worship:

1. Attend regularly the Sunday School.
2. Know the meaning and purpose of the Mercy Seat.
3. Memorize a song from the Salvation Army Song Book and know something about its author.
4. Practise daily devotions.

#### Witness:

1. Discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) and Leader how to put into practice in your daily life, the Law, Promise and Pledge.

2. Give regularly to support the Sunday School from your own money (allowance or earnings).
3. Know the requirements of Junior Soldiership.

## Stage Two:

### Word:

1. Own a Bible and know how the Bible came into being.
2. Memorize and discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) the meaning of John 3:16 and Matthew 22:37-40.
3. Memorize the first three doctrines of The Salvation Army.

### Worship:

1. Attend regularly the Sunday School and Sunday meetings.
2. Write a 200-word essay on the Biblical meaning of the Mercy Seat.
3. Know the purpose and meaning of The Salvation Army Flag.
4. Practise daily devotions. Personally own a Devotional Book in addition to the Bible.

### Witness:

1. Discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) and Leader how to put into practice in your daily life, the Law, Promise and Pledge.
2. Give regularly to support the Corps Activities from your own money (allowance or earnings).
3. Bring to your Corps one or more young people, not already connected with any church or Sunday School, or visit an absentee from Sunday School.
4. Discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) two ways in which you can share your faith in Jesus Christ. Put these into practice.

## Stage Three:

### Word:

1. Own a Bible: read Matthew 5:1-12 from various modern translations and consider what it is saying.
2. Memorize and discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) Mark 8:34-36.
3. Be in possession of a certificate covering the

current Corps Cadet Course, or complete two lessons on "From the Mercy Seat to Maturity: (Available at The Salvation Army Trade Store.)

4. Memorize the first seven Doctrines of The Salvation Army.

### Worship:

1. Attend regularly the Sunday School and Sunday meetings and take some part in a Guides/Scouts' Own service or participate in some Y.P. Meeting.
2. Write a 500-word essay on the historical background of the Mercy Seat.
3. Know the meaning of The Salvation Army Flag and Crest.
4. Discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) how your daily devotions have helped you in your daily living.

### Witness:

1. Discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) and Leader how to put into practice in your daily life, the Law, Promise and Pledge.
2. Give regularly to support the Corps Activities and special projects from your own money (allowances or earnings).
3. Know the meaning and qualifications of a Senior Soldier.
4. Indicate on a map or globe those areas in other lands where The Salvation Army is engaged in missionary work.
5. Share in some useful service to assist the needy or sick or bring an unchurched young person to the Corps.

## Stage Four:

### Word:

1. Own a Bible and know by memory the books of the Bible.
2. Memorize and discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) the meaning of Psalm 23 and I Corinthians 13.
3. Be in possession of a certificate covering the current Corps Cadet course, or complete all three lessons on "From Mercy Seat to Maturity" (available at the Salvation Army Trade Store).
4. Memorize the eleven Doctrines of The Salvation Army.

## **Worship:**

1. Attend regularly the Sunday School and Sunday meetings and take part in the service, such as: lead a song, pray, or read the scripture.
2. Prepare and present a brief devotional talk for a Scouts' Own Service.
3. Tape record the morning meeting and replay or conduct a devotional for someone sick or shut in.
4. Discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) how public worship, meditation or family devotions and private prayers have helped you grow as a Christian person.

## **Witness:**

1. Discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) and Leader how to put into practice in your daily life, the Law, the Promise and the Pledge.
2. Give regularly to support Corps Activities and special projects from your own money (allowances or earnings).
3. Know requirements of becoming a Senior Soldier, value and purpose of wearing the Salvation Army Uniform.
4. Write or tell of missionary work of The Salvation Army in a chosen country.
5. Discuss with your Corps Officer (or Chaplain) some of the moral and social problems that people and communities are facing today. Indicate what you can do about these problems.
6. Alone or with others, give service in your Corps Community.

## **Stage Five:**

### **Christian Commitment:**

*For a Leader to meet this requirement the Corps Officer must be satisfied that:*

1. The Leader demonstrates a commitment to Jesus Christ by his/her way of life and by his/her level of participation in the local Corps activities, in addition to his/her involvement in the Scouting Program.
2. The Leader makes reasonable efforts to promote the Religion in Life Program with the young people in his/her unit as well as with the other Leaders involved in The Salvation Army Scouting Program.

3. Wherever possible, the Leader promotes the role of the Chaplain in the Scouting Program, especially as it relates to the Chaplain's visits to the unit.

### **Christian Leadership:**

*To meet this requirement the Leader must:*

1. Regularly conduct or take part in devotional times (five minutes) at each unit meeting.
2. Have an understanding of how to lead a child to Jesus Christ.
3. Lead or assist with a Sunday School class (i.e. team teach) or assist with the leadership of some other Corps youth activity, other than Scouting, for at least three months.
4. Serve as a member of a committee or council (not related to Scouting) at the Corps for a period of not less than six months.

### **Word:**

*To meet this requirement the Leader must:*

1. Participate regularly in a group Bible study for at least three months. If no group exists, make an effort to start one.
2. a) Have a good knowledge of the eleven Doctrines of The Salvation Army.  
b.) Write a brief explanation of any three Doctrines. (300/400 words each).

### **Worship:**

*To meet this requirement the Leader must:*

1. Prepare a detailed outline of a worship service, including outline for devotional, which could be used at a camp for the age group of your unit.
2. Prepare a detailed outline of a Divine Service, including outline for devotional thoughts, which could be used at the Corps.
3. Regularly attend worship services at the Corps.
4. Help with leadership of a worship service at a Hospital, Seniors Home, or a similar institution; or visit three shut-ins in the Corps. (Obtain list from the Corps Officer.)

### **Witness:**

To meet this requirement the Leader must do number one and any two others:

1. a) For each Sunday of one month, write a brief article (100 words) to be used in the Corps Bulletin promoting the Scouting Ministry in your Corps.

OR

b. Do a presentation of eight to ten minutes, during a Sunday worship service explaining the Scouting Ministry and how it benefits the Y.P. Corps Ministry.

2. a) Provide or arrange transportation to worship services for seniors or handicapped for at least one month.

OR

b. Visit at least four seniors in their home. (*Obtain list from the Corps Officer.*)

3. Provide or arrange transportation to Sunday School for at least one month for some young person who would not otherwise attend.
4. Give leadership to or assist with the leadership of a service/work project at the Corps.

meaning of Repentance. Faith, Justification, Sanctification, and Immortality.

- b. Supply evidence of having undergone a systematic study of Scriptures as approved by The Salvation Army.
- c. Be able to conduct a Sunday School Class, give a short address at a Scouts' Own and lead prayers at Camp.
- d. Show a logbook containing a record of personal Christian service and self-denial.
- e. Give three examples of the way "Duty to God" has been lived out in the lives of Christians, including Salvationists and Scouters.
- f. Be able to answer six questions taken from the current Salvation Army Yearbook.

(The "Religion in Life" emblem will be acceptable instead of The Salvation Army test.)

Venturers who are not themselves Salvationists are eligible for the Award if they meet The Salvation Army requirements.

The Award to receive authorization of Local and Territorial Leaders as detailed.

**All The Above Requirements Must Be Completed To The Satisfaction Of The Corps Officer/Chaplain Before Applying For This Award.**

## **The General's International Award**

Prior to the affiliation of Salvation Army Scouts with their respective Scout Associations throughout the world, there was in existence a special award known as the General's Scout Award. Following consultations with Scouts' World Bureau, it has been decided to reintroduce the award as a means of strengthening International Salvation Army and Scouting links.

The following conditions for the Award have been drawn up by the Salvation Army I.H.Q. and are as published in World Scouting.

To qualify the Scout or Venturer must:

1. Have served a minimum of two years, have reached the age of 13 years and not yet 18 years.
2. Be a Scout or Venturer.
3. Hold the following Achievement Badges: First Aid, Life Saving; Challenge Badges: Music, Communicator or Man of Letters.
  - a. Know the foundational Doctrines of The Salvation Army and be able to describe the

## **Doctrines of the Salvation Army**

1. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God and that they only constitute the Divine rule of Christian faith and practice.
2. We believe that there is only one God who is infinitely perfect the Creator Preserver and Governor of all things and who is the only proper object of religious worship.
3. We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost undivided in essence and coequal in power and glory.
4. We believe that in the person of Jesus Christ the Divine and human natures are united so that He is truly and properly God and truly and properly man.
5. We believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocence but by their disobedience they lost their purity and happiness and that in consequence of their fall all men have become sinners totally depraved and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God.

6. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has by His suffering and death made an atonement for the whole world as that whosoever will may be saved.
7. We believe that repentance toward God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are necessary to salvation.
8. We believe that we are justified by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and that he that believeth hath the witness in himself.
9. We believe that continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ.
10. We believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be 'wholly sanctified' and that their 'whole spirit and soul and body' may 'be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ' (I Thess. 5:23).
11. We believe in the immortality of the soul in the resurrection of the body in the general judgment at the end of the world in the eternal happiness of the righteous and in the endless punishment of the wicked.

## Resources

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

*The Role of the Chaplain* — Pamphlet. Your leader or spiritual advisor will be able to recommend other useful resources.



It starts with Scouts.

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