

RELIGION IN LIFE PROGRAM



Christian Science

Published for
the Church 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 who wish to make the promise, regardless of race, colour or creed. The purpose of the *Guide/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 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.

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 *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*.

STAGE 1

Introduction

1. Give evidence of regular attendance at Sunday School and of knowing:
 - The Lord's Prayer
 - The Golden Rule
 - The poem, "Feed My Sheep" by Mary Baker Eddy

The Word, Worship, Witness

1. Give evidence of regularly learning the "Golden Text," and the reading of the "Responsive Reading" taken from the Bible as given in the Lesson-Sermon for each week in the Christian Science Quarterly.
2. Discuss the parable of the "Good Samaritan" and illustrate how the answer to the question asked of Christ Jesus — "Who is my neighbour?" — has meaning for this and all time.
3. Show on a map the country where "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mrs. Eddy was written and the countries into whose national language it has been translated.
4. Tell how you have used a lesson learned in Sunday School to work out a problem at school, or in getting along with others.
5. Select from the list of acceptable personal service projects for the church as outlined at the end of this leaflet two projects to be fulfilled within a period of two months.

STAGE 2

The Church

1. Give evidence of regular attendance at Sunday School and fulfillment of assigned homework.

The Word, Worship, Witness

1. Give evidence of being able to recite:
 - The Books of the Bible
 - The Ten Commandments
 - The Beatitudes
 - The Lord's Prayer with its spiritual interpretation as given in Science and Health.

2. Give evidence of regular reading of at least one section each day of the Lesson-Sermon from the Bible and Science and Health using the citations found in the Christian Science Quarterly.
3. Attend a Wednesday evening meeting in a branch church.
4. Make a map spotting location of news sources of stories, articles and editorials written by staff members of The Christian Science Monitor in one day's issue.
5. Make a map spotting locations abroad of branches of The Mother Church in chief world centres.
6. Select from the list of acceptable personal service projects for the church as outlined at the end of these requirements two projects to be fulfilled within a period of two months.
7. Give evidence of personal good neighbourliness toward those of all races who are not Christian Scientists as well as toward those who are.

STAGE 3

Vocation

1. Give evidence of understanding the opportunities and responsibilities of membership in a branch church and in The Mother Church.
2. Be able to give an account of the history and activity of your local church.
3. Bring a new member or visitor to Sunday School.

The Word, Worship, Witness

1. Own and use copies of the Bible and Science and Health.
2. Be familiar with the life of Christ Jesus as related in the four Gospels.
3. Become familiar with the Christian Science daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly periodicals through reading appropriate articles and be able to discuss the role of the periodicals as missionaries of Christian Science.
4. Know and give evidence of understanding the "Daily Prayer" given in the Manual of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts by Mrs. Eddy.
5. Read at least a portion of the Lesson-Sermon each day.
6. With the assistance of concordances to the Bible and the works of Mrs. Eddy, be able to discuss the fundamental spiritual basis of the brotherhood of man as understood in Christian Science.
7. Select from the list of acceptable personal service projects for the church as outlined at the end of these requirements, two additional projects to be fulfilled within a period of two months.
8. Give evidence of intelligent interest in public affairs, government and politics from the standpoint of practical Christian citizenship.

STAGE 4

Service

1. Invite a friend to attend a Christian Science lecture.
2. Interview a Christian Science tradesperson, agriculturist, business or professional person in your community on how he or she is able to render Christian service through his or her occupation or profession as a result of his or her application of Christian Science teachings.

The Word, Worship, Witness

1. Read the book of "The Acts" in the Bible and observe how the disciples applied the teachings of Christ Jesus.

2. Learn the Tenets of Christian Science and the "Scientific Statement of Being," as given in Science and Health and show understanding of their significance.
3. Read at least one approved biography of the life of Mrs. Eddy, Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science.
4. Give evidence of knowledge of the history of the Christian Science movement and particularly of its spread overseas as recorded in books available in the Christian Science Reading Room of your local church.
5. Read at least a portion of the Lesson-Sermon each day and be prepared to discuss it in your Sunday School class.
6. With the aid of concordance, report on references in works by Mrs. Eddy setting forth the basic Christian Science standpoint on such social problems as indulgence in alcohol, drugs, smoking, gambling, immorality.
7. Select from the list of acceptable personal service projects for the church as outlined at the end of these requirements two additional projects to be fulfilled within a period of two months.
8. Write a short paper describing how you feel the practice of your religion can make you a better member of the Guide-Scout Associations and citizen of your community.
9. Give an account of how an inharmonious relationship has been corrected or a personal, home or school problem solved through the application of Christian Science teachings.

ACCEPTABLE SERVICE PROJECTS

Making the Christian Science Monitor available before and after Wednesday meetings.

Collection and distribution of articles of clothing and food to the needy at Thanksgiving and Christmas time, or in times of disaster and need.

Repairing church property or equipment (i.e., hymnals, lending library books, etc.)

Serving in the nursery.

Light gardening.

Assisting older persons and children to cross busy streets at church gatherings.

Assisting the Clerk with clerical work (without pay).

Other service projects of a similar nature and standard may be submitted for service credit if approved by the church executive board. Since it is desirable that the Brownie, Guide, Ranger, Cub, Scout, Venturer or Rover have a well-rounded program of church activities, they should not be encouraged to concentrate too heavily on any one project.

RESOURCES

Let's Celebrate — A book of spiritual ideas for Scouting.

Role of the Chaplain — Pamphlet.



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