“Duty to God”

Crossroads of America Council - Boy Scouts of America

“A Scout is Reverent”

A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties, and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion. *(The Scout Law)*

“No man is much good unless he believes in God and obeys His laws. So every Scout should have a religion. Religion seems a very simple thing: First: Love and Serve God. Second: Love and serve your neighbor.” *(Baden-Powell, Scouting for Boys, 1908)*

At the heart of the Scouting movement is "Duty to God." The Cub Scout Promise, Boy Scout Oath, and Venturing Oath all stress the importance of reverence toward God.

The Religious Emblems Programs are key spiritual components of the Scouting movement. The programs were created by various religious groups to encourage youth to grow stronger in their faith. These religious groups, not the Boy Scouts of America, have created the religious emblems programs themselves. The BSA has approved these programs and allows the recognition to be worn on the official uniform, but each religious organization develops and administers its own program.

The Crossroads of America Council extends its gratitude to all adults involved with the spiritual development of our young people and pledges to expand the opportunities for children, youth, adults, and families within the community to experience God's love and grace.

The Crossroads of America Council upholds the BSA Declaration of Religious Principal and functions to help interpret and promote the Scouting program in churches, synagogues, temples, and mosques as a resource for their ministries with children, youth, adult, and families.

Declaration of Religious Principal

The Boy Scouts of America maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God and, therefore, recognizes the religious element in the training of the member, but it is absolutely nonsectarian in its attitude toward that religious training. Its policy is that the home and organization or group with which a member is connected shall give definite attention to religious life. Only persons willing to subscribe to this Declaration of Religious Principle and to the Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America shall be entitled to certificates of membership.

Council Chaplains Corps and Religious Relationships Committee

The Council Chaplains Corps and Religious Relationships Committee represents the Boy Scouts of America and the various faith groups within the religious community that support the religious values of the Scouting program as outlined in the Scout Oath and Law and the Declaration of Religious Principal.