Inter-Faith Worship Services

“Scouts Own”

Why include religious services in Scouting?

• BSA Charter and By-Laws
• Boy Scout Handbook

What is a scout’s own service?

• Baden Powell – November 1928
PLANNING A SERVICE

• Choose the setting
• Good taste
• Rehearsed
• Courteous, kind, reverent
• Rights and feelings of others
• Everyone may participate

DIVERSITY

• Unit composition
• Seek suggestions, participation
• Inspirational passages
• “Scout's Own”
  • Interfaith
  • Multifaith
• Nature of a service

SUMMARY

• Include opportunities
• Encourage participation
• Share uniqueness
• Planning – simple/complex
• Support and respect
  • Hymns
  • Offering
• Be positive
1. True or False
   The Boy Scouts of America maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God.

2. Choose the correct answer(s)
   The 12th point of the Scout Law includes the following responsibilities:
   a. personal religious obligations
   b. duty to country
   c. respect for the beliefs of others
   d. all of the above

3. Choose the correct answer(s)
   The word “nonsectarian” means
   a. nondenominational
   b. ecumenical
   c. not affiliated with any specific religion
   d. all of the above
4. **Choose** the correct answer(s)
Which of the following *could* be a violation of a religious belief?

- a. recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America
- b. removing one’s hat when indoors and/or during a meal
- c. expecting everyone to taste a particular food
- d. attending a program event or activity on a Saturday
- e. drinking coffee, tea, or cola

5. **True or False**
In accordance with their agreement with the Boy Scouts of America, some churches sponsoring Scouting units can require members of their units to participate in religious ceremonies and services distinctive to that church.

6. **True or False**
An interfaith worship service is one that all Scouts and Scouters may attend. It requires careful planning to ensure that it does not violate the beliefs of any religion.

7. **True or False**
Some religions have specific requirements that cannot be fulfilled through an interfaith worship service. Other arrangements might be necessary for Scouts of those faiths to fulfill such commitments.
H ave you seen the light?

8. True or False
Of the eight major religions in the world, all are represented in the BSA’s religious emblems program.

H ave you seen the light?

9. Choose the correct answer(s)
“Duty to God” and “religious duties” are in:
a. The Cub Scout Promise  
b. The Law of the Pack  
c. The Scout Oath  
d. The Scout Law  
e. The Venturing Oath  
f. The Venturing Code g. All of the above

H ave you seen the light?

10. True or False
Appropriate graces for meals at Scouting events do not refer specifically to a “central figure”
—Jesus Christ or Allah, for example.