



# RELIGIOUS EMBLEM VIRTUAL PROGRAM

## THE P.R.A.Y PROGRAM

Curt Nellis Jr  
Scouts BSA Roundtable Commissioner  
Indian Water Council  
Scouting America

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Special thanks to all the counselors, Amanda Nellis, Jean Blackman, and Karen Graham, who taught each class. Without them, this would not have been possible. I would also like to thank Pisgah Methodist Church and Pastor Josh McClendon for hosting the P.R.A.Y. Program. To my wife, Amanda Nellis, thank you for all the support and encouragement with this paper.

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## ***I. Thesis Statement***

"A Scout is Reverent" is the 12<sup>th</sup> Scout Law of Scouting America. It characterizes that Scouts should be faithful in their religious beliefs, respect the beliefs of others, and recognize their obligation to God. Scouting America's religious emblem programs are one way to help scouts learn more about their religious beliefs. The drawback to this program is that it usually takes place outside the normal Unit meeting and requires the scout to attend another meeting. This meeting is very often on a different day and time. This class can last for approximately 6 to 8 weeks depending on which program they are taking. Due to the number of other activities that our scouts are currently involved with, the time to add another activity is hard to find. One way to alleviate this issue is to explore the virtual class option. My thesis project explored using the virtual class option to offer and perform the Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) program for Cub Scouts in my district with an option to extend this to our Council in the future.



## ***II. Introduction Religious Emblems programs***

The religious emblems programs were developed to encourage all youths Scouts to learn more about their faith, and how to embody the 12th, Scout Law. Also, this program encourages the scout to earn the emblem of their faith. The religious emblems programs are divided to various religions so that it meets the spiritual needs of that scout. The religious emblems programs are programs created by the various religious organizations, not Scouting America. Each religious organization is responsible for the development and administration of its own program. Scouting America has approved each of these programs and allows the recognition to be worn on the official Scouting America uniform.

Scouts earn both their faith award and the Scouting America universal religious square knot. The universal religious square knot is worn over the left shirt pocket of the Scouting America uniform. When the Scouting America universal religious square knot is worn on the Scouting America uniform, the medal award is not worn. A youth may earn this award multiple times during their scouting journey, devices can be added to the universal religious square knot representing the program in which a religious emblem was received.



A sample of a faith award can be found below and the full listing can be found in Attachments *i. Duty to God Flyer*.

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### Protestant/United Church of Christ/Community Churches

God and Me



God and Family



God and Church



God and Life



God and Service



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### Roman Catholic/Eastern Catholic

Light of Christ



Parvuli Dei



Ad Altare Dei



Light is Life



Pope Pius XII



Saint George



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### Salvation Army

God and Me



Silver Crest



God and Family



God and Church



God and Life



Scouter's Award



### III. Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.)

For my thesis project, I chose to put on a district-wide, pilot Virtual Cub Scout P.R.A.Y. Class. Note: P.R.A.Y. creates programs only for the Protestant and Independent Christian award series.

“Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) is a non-profit organization that fosters the Christian growth of children, youth, and families through churches and youth-serving agencies. Their national board of directors includes representatives from Protestant and Independent Christian Churches and the national youth agencies. The mission of P.R.A.Y. is to draw young people closer to Christ and help them grow stronger in faith, in service to God, all while having fun earning a P.R.A.Y. award. Religious emblems exist for other faiths, but they are not created by P.R.A.Y. As a partner with faiths in the promotion of religious emblems, the P.R.A.Y. office also serves as the religious emblems partner for congregations of [Community of Christ](#), the [Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting](#), the [National Jewish Committee on Scouting-BSA](#), and the [National Catholic Committee on Scouting-BSA](#) (books only) . Although these emblems are made available through P.R.A.Y., the respective committees retain full responsibility for the eligibility guidelines and curriculum development of their emblem programs.”

The P.R.A.Y. program is a package program and provides most of the resources needed to host the program. The program has grade-appropriate P.R.A.Y. program booklets for scouts, counselors, and parent/mentors (this one is optional). Both girls and boys, belonging to a scouting group in kindergarten through 12th grade, associated with Protestant and Independent Christian Churches are eligible to participate in the P.R.A.Y. program series. The program must be completed under the auspices of the church. Below is the list of available P.R.A.Y. programs

Jesus and Me – Kindergarten and 1st Grade

God and Me – Grades 2-3

God and Family – Grades 4-6

God and Church – Grades 6-8

God and Life – Grades 9-12

God and Life – Grades 9-12

It is important to adhere to the grade guidelines for each level. Students who successfully complete the P.R.A.Y. program earn the P.R.A.Y. award for that program. For those that complete God and Me, God and Family, God and Church, and God and Life in that order are eligible for the P.R.A.Y. Four-Star Award.

## **IV. Developing and implementing the Virtual PRAY Program**

### **Starting a P.R.A.Y Program**

There are numerous settings in which the P.R.A.Y. program may be completed. The following information is from the P.R.A.Y. websites and are the steps needed to host the program:

*Please note that the P.R.A.Y. program requires that the final review be done by a pastor.*

*Here are some basic steps and items for your consideration to help you set up a class. Keep in mind that if you have been approached by a specific group, such as a Cub Scout, Girl Scout, or AHG group, some of the following steps may already be decided and may not be applicable in your situation.*

- *Review the eligibility requirements and adhere to the grade guidelines. Please note that the final review must be done by a pastor (not a parent or scout leader).*
- *Decide which program(s) you will offer. If this is your first time to offer the P.R.A.Y. program, it may be a good idea to start with just one or two programs the first year and expand it from there. Some congregations alternate the programs, i.e. one year they offer God and Me, and the next year they offer God and Family. Take into consideration the number of potential youth and the number of adult volunteers needed to run such a program. It is a good idea to start small. A quality program will grow quickly just by word of mouth.*
- *Choose the dates. The number of class sessions will depend on the program that you are offering. Sample schedules are in each Counselor Manual. They are also available online. These schedules consist of an introductory session and one meeting for each lesson. Please feel free to modify these schedules to fit your particular situation. Do not overlook other important dates: teacher training, registration deadline, final review with the pastor, a party (optional), and the award ceremony.*
- *Consider whom you will invite to participate in your class. Will it involve only youth from Boy Scouts of America? Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.? American Heritage Girls? Will it be open to all youth from your church? Your community? Other denominations? Review eligibility requirements.*
- *Publicize your class. Find out the deadlines to submit articles for your church newsletter, your local council newsletter, or other appropriate*

*publications. Be sure you make these deadlines. Find sample articles and church bulletin inserts in the online Resource Library.*

- *Make a budget. Your budget will need to include the costs of booklets (each child is required to have a Student Workbook), awards, and supplies. Some churches charge a fee to cover all these costs. Others find a sponsor (such as a men's or women's group) or require each family to purchase the book and awards on their own. (In some cases, the Cub Scout Pack or Girl Scout Troop for example will pay for the cost of the award for their members.) Decide what is best for your situation and plan accordingly. Visit the Webstore for current costs.*
- *Recruit and train adult counselors/teachers. Find someone who will be in charge of teaching the curriculum and/or coordinating the teachers (depending on the size of your program), and someone who will serve as a registrar (to process the paperwork, follow through with parents, etc.). Although you will undoubtedly be able to recruit parents to assist with the lessons, please do not wait to find your core teacher and your registrar.*
- *Review lesson plans in Counselor Manuals and make a Class Schedule with Assignments. The Counselor Manuals for each level contain lesson plans. Review these lesson plans and decide what will be done in class and what will be assigned to be completed at home. Indicate these assignments on the Class Schedule/Assignment sheet for distribution to students. A sample schedule sheet is provided in the back of each of the Counselor Manuals and also on the P.R.A.Y. web site.*
- *Review the supply list and gather materials. The lesson plans in the Counselor Manuals include supply lists. Review these lesson plans and the corresponding supply lists and start gathering some of the materials (e.g. pizza boxes, cardboard circles, etc.).*
- *Consider if you will offer the Adult Mentor component. Parents have the option of enrolling as Mentors and working side by side their children in the program. The mentor completes the Mentor Workbook and attends meetings with the student. If you will be working with one or more mentor pairs, you will need to become familiar with the material in the Mentor Workbooks. You may also want to build time into your schedule to allow mentors to meet together to discuss the questions raised in their workbooks.*
- *Order booklets. If your local Scout Shop does not carry the P.R.A.Y. booklets, you can order booklets directly from P.R.A.Y. Please allow enough time for delivery via media mail through the post office.*

- *Register the recipients and order the recognitions and plan an award ceremony. After the candidates have completed the requirements and a pastor has reviewed their work, it is time to order their awards and plan the presentation ceremony. Visit <https://store.praypub.org> for current prices and to do online registering and ordering (or the Application Order Form found in the back of the P.R.A.Y. booklets may be submitted by mail or fax). Registration is not required to begin the P.R.A.Y. Program.*
- *Registration is what happens AFTER the young people have completed the requirements at each of the program levels. Registration is required in order to purchase awards. Registration may be completed online through the P.R.A.Y. Webstore and recognition items may be ordered at the same time. [Please note: Youth Registration requires the information on each recipient, as well as the church, pastor, and denomination for each child. Especially if you have a large class, you will want to start gathering that information from your parents.]*
- *The Webstore is quick! Orders placed by 8:00 a.m. central time will be shipped that day. P.R.A.Y. still accepts mail orders. Individual application forms are found in the back of each Student Workbook, and Multiple Order Forms are found in the back of each Counselor Manual. Please check current prices (in the Webstore) if using these printed forms.*
- *Why is registration required? P.R.A.Y. sends quarterly reports to the youth agencies so that youth may be recognized at the local council and so that advancement records can be updated. P.R.A.Y. also forwards reports to national church bodies and scouting associations that cooperate with P.R.A.Y. Please provide accurate and complete information. Online instructions and FAQ's are provided to help in the order and registration process.*

### ***Implementing the Virtual PRAY Program***

There are many different brands of Video Conferencing software on the market, but Zoom was the application software chosen for this class. We offered the first three levels of the P.R.A.Y program for this pilot program in January of 2024. These three levels were; The Jesus and Me (scouts in Lions and Tigers Dens), The God and Me (for scouts in Wolf and Bears Dens), and The God and Family (for scouts Webelos and Arrow of Light Dens).

Once I determined the classes to offer, I reached out to my local Church to see if they would be willing to sponsor the program. After discussing this with the Pastor of my church, he agreed to be the sponsor of the program and to host Scouting Sunday for the

award ceremony. The church felt this would be an awesome mission for them and loved the idea of reaching youth across the area. The church even offered to supply counselors to help with the program.

The next major step was finding a counselor for each of the programs. I reached out to my Cub Scout Pack leadership team for volunteers and was able to get three leaders to agree to be counselors. Each chose the program they were comfortable with. I then had them review their program material and I asked them to provide me with the supplies needed for each of their programs. They also provided me with the schedule needed to complete each class. It was determined that the longest class would be six weeks. The goal was to have the programs finish before Scouting Sunday in February of 2024. When I had the supplies needed, I was able to develop a cost for the awards and supplies. The cost was determined to be 25 dollars per scout for awards and supplies.

I then reach out to the local district Packs to see if they would like to participate. We had two Packs that said they would like to be part of the pilot program. We put out a sign-up form using a Google form. In the future this may be done through Black Pug software provided by the council. We had 18 scouts sign up for the pilot program. Once we had the final number, the counselors made P.R.A.Y program boxes with all the supplies needed and then the boxes were delivered to each Pack for distribution.

Due to the age of the scouts, we required that a parent/guardian be in the room during each Zoom session. This turned out to be a very positive decision as this also got the parent/guardian involved in the program with their scout. Also, this helped address distractions and behavior issues before they affected the remainder of the virtual class.

Class size was limited to 10 scouts. We were not challenged in exceeding this number for this Zoom event. In the future, if the grade-appropriate P.R.A.Y programs exceed 10 scouts, we would divide them into multiple classes. This would not be an issue with Zoom but would require additional counselors. The counselors and I (facilitator) emailed the parents and students with the class expectations and session information. Additional materials and books were delivered to each Pack for distribution the week before classes started. Class length for each meeting was kept to 1 hour and 30 minutes. Each counselor ensured that Scouting America youth protection guidelines were followed. This was made much easier to maintain due to the parents being required to be in the room. Zoom meeting invites were password protected to prevent unauthorized people from joining the meeting.

Once the classes were completed and the Pastor's review was performed, the awards were ordered, and each scout was invited to attend Scouting Sunday at the host church. About half of the scouts attended this ceremony. This offered the host church the chance to join in the celebration and rejoice in the growth of these scouts. For those that did not attend their awards were given to their Pack advancement chair for awarding.

V. Setup and running the Virtual PRAY Program

I chose Zoom as the application to use for this pilot program because it allows for a single meeting place and then allows for participants to divide out to their own room. In Zoom this is called a Breakout Room. As seen in the figure below you can see that each program has its own Breakout Room.

Breakout Room Assignment

3 rooms, 0 participants

Tips: You can create up to 100 breakout rooms and assign up to a total of 1000 participants.

Rooms

+

Jesus and Me

0

God and Me

0

God and Family

0

Jesus and Me

Add participants

No participants yet

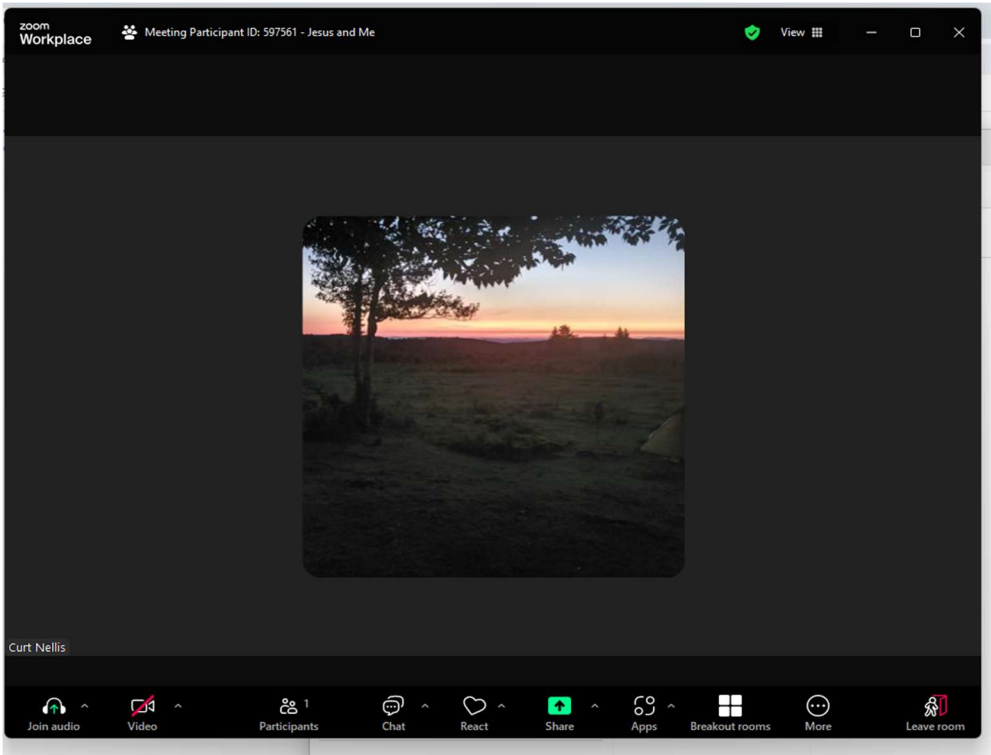
Export as CSV

Save

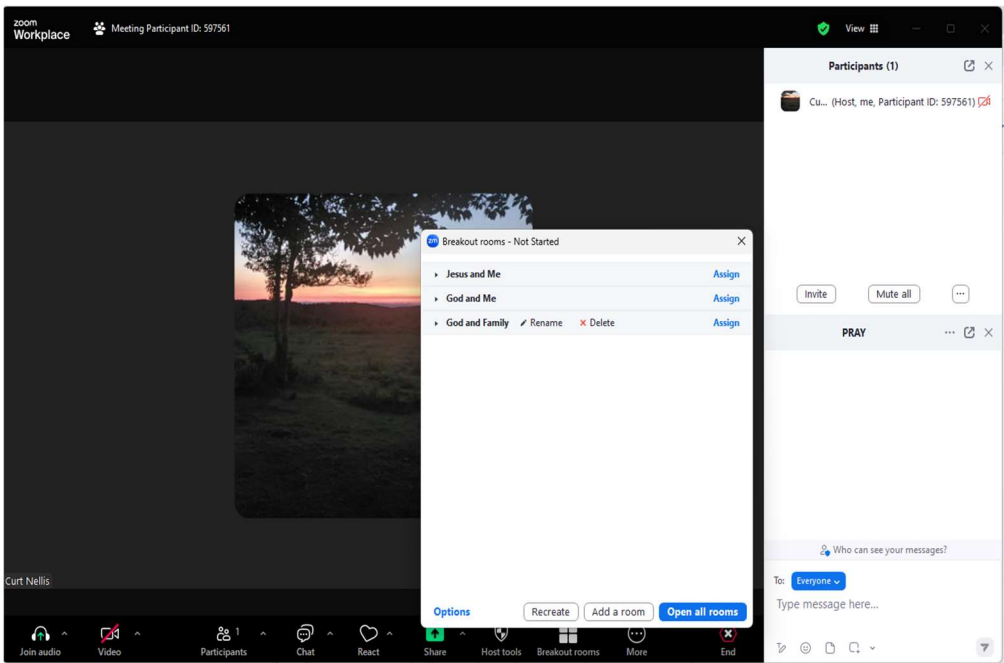
Cancel



To use Breakout Rooms, there needs to be a facilitator to get the scouts and counselors into the correct rooms once the opening greetings are completed. The two figures below show the main (opening room) and the breakout rooms.



**Opening Room**



**Breakout Room**

The facilitator monitors the Participant box and Breakout box to ensure everyone is in the correct room for the duration of each meeting. During the program there were three different types of meetings: Orientation Meeting, Normal Meeting, and Pastor Review meeting.

### ***The Orientation Meeting***

This was the welcome meeting where everyone met in the main room for most of the meeting and went over the general program information. They also meet the Pastor and performed introductions during this time. On completion of the Pastor introductions, we moved into practicing entering Breakout rooms. The facilitator introduced themselves and gave instructions on how to get into the Breakout Room and leave the Breakout Room. Once this was completed, each scout went into their respective Breakout Room and met their counselor. The counselors introduced themselves and the scouts introduced themselves. After the introductions were completed, the counselor provided the expectations for the class, went over the schedule, and the started the first lesson.

### ***The Normal Meeting***

The facilitator, scouts, and counselor met in the main room. The meeting started off with updates and new information that was relevant to all participants. Once announcements were completed each scout went into their Breakout Room and met with their counselor to cover that day's material. The facilitator monitored the different room for any technical or personal issues that arose during the meeting.

### ***The Pastor Meeting***

This was the last meeting in the series and the meeting started out very similar to the normal meeting. The facilitator, scouts, and counselor met in the main room. The meeting started off with updates and new information that was relevant to all participants. Once announcements were completed each scout went into their Breakout Room and met with their counselor to cover any remaining material and do a quick review before the Pastor joined them for their final review. The Pastor then joined the Breakout room (about 30 minutes into the meeting) and performed the final review with the scouts. Once the review was completed the Pastor invited them to Scouting Sunday for the award presentation. The counselor then performed closing remarks and provided them with additional information needed for the award presentation.

## VI. Summation

The district wide pilot Virtual Cub Scout P.R.A.Y program was very successful and 18 Cub Scouts from two Packs earned their Religious Emblem. This pilot Virtual Cub Scout P.R.A.Y class allowed the scouts to meet the 12th Scout Law by learning and being faithful to their religious beliefs. There are a few lessons learned that I would like share that will make the classes more successful in the future.

1. Setting up an attendance policy before the class starts.
2. Make sure that you do not schedule a Paster review meeting on Superbowl Sunday.
3. Make sure your start date allows enough time to complete the program before Scouting Sunday.
4. Get payment before the program starts.
5. Maybe look at setting up a scholarship fund for those in need.

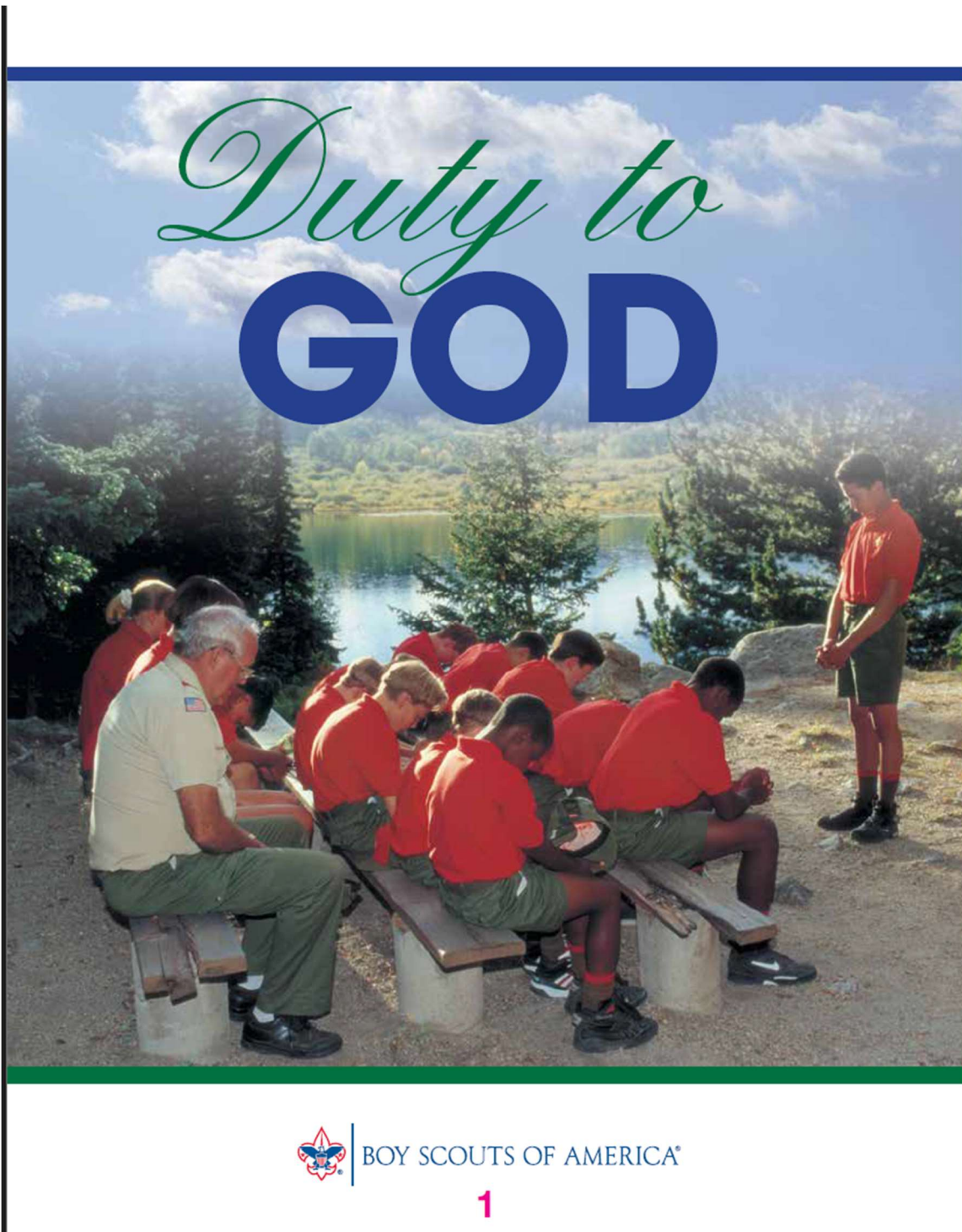
The format discussed in this paper was very successful and worked well but did require lots of preparation time buying and putting together supplies for each scout. If your preparation time is limited another option would be providing the scouts with a supply list needed for the program. Then provide them the instruction on ordering the awards once the program is completed. The downside to this method is there is no way to ensure that that they have the needed supplies for the program or that they will follow up on ordering the awards at the completion of the program.

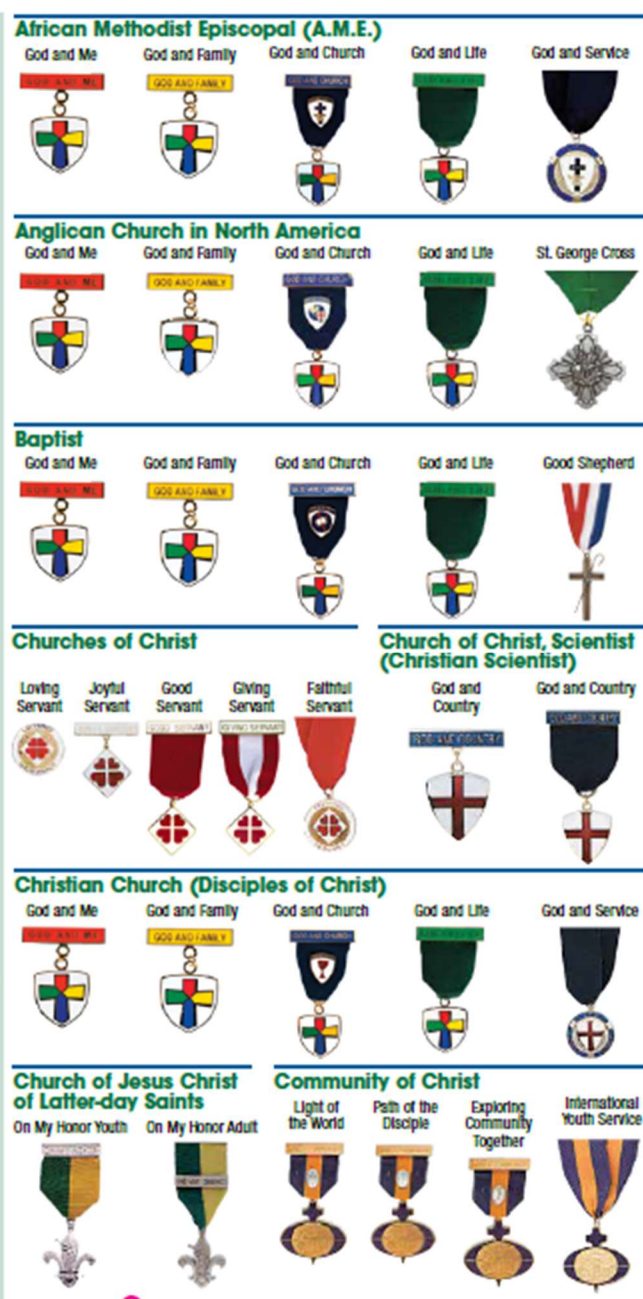
## **VII. Resources to Promote Religious Emblems**

- Video “Promoting Duty to God (Religious Emblems)” – Available from your council library or download it from [www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org) or purchase it from P.R.A.Y.
- Duty to God brochure (SKU No. 512879) – Available from your local council (your council may order these brochures from BSA National Religious Relationships) or view it at [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org)

## VIII. Attachments

### i. Duty to God Flyer







### General Church of the New Jerusalem

Open Word



### Hindu

Dharma



Karma



### Islamic

Bismillah



In the Name of God



Allaho Akber



### Jain

Live Help  
Live—Stage I



Live Help  
Live—Stage II



Live Help  
Live—Stage III



Live Help  
Live—Stage IV



Live and Help  
Live—Gold



Live and Help  
Live—Silver



Live and Help  
Live—White



### Meher Baba

Love for God



Compassionate Father



### Episcopal

God and Me



God and Family



God and Church



God and Life



Saint George



### Jewish

Maccabee



Aleph



Ner Tamid



Etz Chaim



Shofar



### Lutheran

God and Me



God and Family



God and Church



God and Life



Servant of Youth



Lamb



### Moravian

God and Country



The Order of David Zisberger



### Nazarene

God and Me



God and Family



God and Church



God and Life

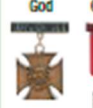


God and Service



### Polish National Catholic Church

Love of God



God and Country



Bishop Thaddeus F. Zielinski



### Presbyterian Church in America

God and Me



God and Family



God and Church



God and Life



God and Service



# Religious Emblems Programs

## Available to Members of the Boy Scouts of America

A Scout is reverent. He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.

To encourage members to grow stronger in their faith, religious groups have developed the following religious emblems programs. The Boy Scouts of America has approved of these programs and allows the emblems to be worn on the official uniform. The various religious groups administer the programs. Check with your local council service center or contact the religious committee to obtain the curriculum information.

Materials with a Boy Scouts of America supply number are available from your local council service center or from the BSA National Distribution Center toll-free at 800-323-0732.

S – Student material C – Counselor material M – Adult mentor material

The Venturing TRUST Award is part of the Venturing awards program. This youth award is not part of the BSA religious emblems programs. For additional information, refer to the TRUST Award Handbook, available from your local council service centers or the BSA National Distribution Center.

For additional information about religious emblems, please contact your religious organization.

### How Do We Get Started on These Programs?

1. Youth members or their parents obtain the specific information for their religious emblems.
2. Parents review the program guidelines.
3. Families talk with their religious leaders or emblem counselors and show them the requirements before beginning the program.
4. The youth member completes the requirements and the family obtains the proper signatures and orders the emblem.

### Interested in making a presentation on the religious emblems?

Promotional resources (including a DVD and scripts) are available from the BSA ([www.scouting.org/awards/religious-awards/](http://www.scouting.org/awards/religious-awards/)) and P.R.A.Y. ([www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org)).

	Cub Scout	Webelos Scout	Boy Scout and Family Scout	Venturer, Older Boy Scout, Varsity Scout	Adult Recognition
<b>African Methodist Episcopal Church</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-945-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@praypub.org">info@praypub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.praypub.org">www.praypub.org</a>	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33605 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33599	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
<b>African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-945-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@praypub.org">info@praypub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.praypub.org">www.praypub.org</a>	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33605 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33599	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
<b>Anglican Catholic Church</b> Anglican Parish Association 800 Timothy Road, Athens, GA 30606; 706-546-8910	Ad te Domine	Ad te Domine	Servus Dei	Servus Dei	The Order of St. Michael
<b>Anglican Church in North America</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-945-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@praypub.org">info@praypub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.praypub.org">www.praypub.org</a> and <a href="http://www.anglican-scouting.org">www.anglican-scouting.org</a>	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33605 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33599	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	St. George Cross Nomination
<b>Armenian Apostolic Church of America (Western Province)</b> 6252 Honolulu Ave., Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 91214; 818-245-7757	None	None	Saint Miroslav	Saint Miroslav	None
<b>Armenian Church of America (Eastern Diocese)</b> Department of Youth and Education, Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, 630 Second Ave., New York, NY 10016; 212-686-0710	Saint Gregory	Saint Gregory	Araut	Araut	None
<b>Bahá'í</b> Bahá'í Committee on Scouting, Bahá'í National Education and Schools Office, 1223 Central St., Evanston, IL 60201-1611; 847-733-3400; email: <a href="mailto:schools@bahai.org">schools@bahai.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.bahai.us/unity-of-mankind-scouting-award-program">www.bahai.us/unity-of-mankind-scouting-award-program</a>	Unity of Mankind	Unity of Mankind	Unity of Mankind	Unity of Mankind	Service to Humanity
<b>Baptist</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-945-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@praypub.org">info@praypub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.praypub.org">www.praypub.org</a> and <a href="http://www.baptistscouts.org">www.baptistscouts.org</a>	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33605 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33599	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	Good Shepherd Nomination



	Cub Scout	Webelos Scout	Boy Scout and Varsity Scout	Venture*, Older Boy Scout, Varsity Scout	Adult Recognition
<b>Buddhist</b> National Buddhist Committee on Scouting, 1710 Octavia St., San Francisco, CA 94109-4341; email: <a href="mailto:boscoutinginfo@gmail.com">boscoutinginfo@gmail.com</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.boscouting.org">www.boscouting.org</a>	Metta	Metta	Sangha	Sangha	Godhi
<b>Catholic, Eastern</b> Local council service center or National Catholic Committee on Scouting, 1125 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079; 972-580-2114	Perseus Dei S. No. 33085 (First- and second-graders may earn Light of Christ, No. 33074)	Perseus Dei S. No. 33085	Light Is Life S. No. 33011 C. No. 33016	Pope Plus XI S. No. 33076 C. No. 34733	Saint George Catholic Nomination No. 16-132
<b>Catholic, Roman</b> Local council service center, BSA Supply Group, 800-523-0732; website: <a href="http://www.prayspub.org">www.prayspub.org</a> and <a href="http://www.foxes-blau.org">www.foxes-blau.org</a>	Perseus Dei S. No. 33085 (First- and second-graders may earn Light of Christ, No. 33074)	Perseus Dei S. No. 33085	Ad Altum Dei S. No. 33084 C. No. 33072	Pope Plus XI S. No. 33076 C. No. 34733	Saint George Roman Catholic Nomination No. 16-132
<b>Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@prayspub.org">info@prayspub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.prayspub.org">www.prayspub.org</a>	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33595	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
<b>Christian Methodist Episcopal Church</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@prayspub.org">info@prayspub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.prayspub.org">www.prayspub.org</a>	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33595	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
<b>Church of Christ, Scientist (Christian Scientist)</b> P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@prayspub.org">info@prayspub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.prayspub.org">www.prayspub.org</a> and <a href="http://www.christianscientist.com/youth">www.christianscientist.com/youth</a>	God and Country No. 33398	God and Country No. 33398	God and Country No. 33398	God and Country No. 33398	God and Service Nomination
<b>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS)</b> LDS Relationships—BSA, 15 West South Temple, Suite 1070, Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1570; 801-530-0004	Faith in God (certificate only)	Faith in God (certificate only)	On My Honor	On My Honor	On My Honor
<b>Churches of Christ</b> Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting, 401 Cypress, Suite 406, Abilene, TX 79601; 325-370-1679; email: <a href="mailto:info@goodsonscout.org">info@goodsonscout.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.goodsonscout.org">www.goodsonscout.org</a>	Loving Servant Grades 1-3	Joyful Servant Grades 4-6	Good Servant Grades 5-8	Giving Servant Grades 9-12	Faithful Servant Nomination
<b>Community of Christ</b> World Community Program, 1001 W. Walnut St., Independence, MO 64050; 816-833-1000 or 800-825-2806; email: <a href="mailto:contact@cofchrist.org">contact@cofchrist.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.cofchrist.org/world-community">www.cofchrist.org/world-community</a>	Path of the Disciple	Path of the Disciple	Exploring Community Together	Exploring Community Together	International Youth Service Award Nomination
<b>Eastern Orthodox</b> P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@prayspub.org">info@prayspub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.prayspub.org">www.prayspub.org</a> and <a href="http://www.aoos.org">www.aoos.org</a>	Saint George No. 33085	Chi Rho No. 33085	Alpha Omega No. 33083	Alpha Omega No. 33083	Prophet Elias Nomination
<b>Episcopal</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@prayspub.org">info@prayspub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.prayspub.org">www.prayspub.org</a>	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33595	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	Saint George Episcopal Nomination
<b>Friends Committee on Scouting (Quakers)</b> email: <a href="mailto:clerk@quakerscouting.org">clerk@quakerscouting.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.prayspub.org">www.prayspub.org</a> and <a href="http://quakerscouting.org">http://quakerscouting.org</a>	That of God	That of God	Spirit of Truth	Spirit of Truth	Friends Nomination
<b>General Church of the New Jerusalem (The New Church)</b> Chairman, Boy Scout Relations Committee, General Church of the New Jerusalem, P.O. Box 277, Drye Athyn, PA 15009; 215-938-2540; fax 215-938-2617	Ten Commandments Award	Ten Commandments Award	Open Word Award	Open Word Award	Open Word Award
<b>Hindu</b> North American Hindu Association, 847 East Angella St., Pleasanton, CA 94566-7568; 925-846-3811; email: <a href="mailto:info@naha.us">info@naha.us</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.naha.us">www.naha.us</a>	Dharma	Dharma	Dharma Karma	Karma	Saath/Shakti
<b>Islamic</b> National Islamic Committee on Scouting, Syed Ehtesham Haidar Nagvi, 732-801-1283; email: <a href="mailto:islamicbsa@aol.com">islamicbsa@aol.com</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.islamicbsa.org">www.islamicbsa.org</a> or <a href="http://www.islamiccouncilsonscouting.org">www.islamiccouncilsonscouting.org</a>	Bismillah	Bismillah	In the Name of God	In the Name of God	Allahu Akbar
<b>Jain</b> JAINA: Federation of Jain Associations in North America, Jain HQ, 722 S. Main St., Milpitas, CA 95035; 510-730-0204; email: <a href="mailto:scouting@jaina.org">scouting@jaina.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.jaina.org">www.jaina.org</a>	Live Help Live Stage 1-Yellow (all stages can be earned)	Live Help Live Stage 1-Yellow (all stages can be earned)	Live Help Live Stages I, II, III, and IV—Yellow, Green, Blue, and Red	Live Help Live Stages I, II, III, and IV—Yellow, Green, Blue, and Red	Live and Help Live Gold Silver White
<b>Jewish</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@prayspub.org">info@prayspub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.jewishscouting.org">www.jewishscouting.org</a> and <a href="http://www.prayspub.org">www.prayspub.org</a>	Maccabee (Tiger Cubs may also earn Maccabee)	Aluph	Nir Tamid	Ezra Chaim	Shofar Nomination
<b>Lutheran</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: <a href="mailto:info@prayspub.org">info@prayspub.org</a> ; website: <a href="http://www.nlas.org">www.nlas.org</a> and <a href="http://www.prayspub.org">www.prayspub.org</a>	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33595	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	Lamb Nomination; Servant of Youth Nomination

	Cub Scout	Webelos Scout	Boy Scout and Varsity Scout	Varsity*, Older Boy Scout, Varsity Scout	Adult Recognition
<b>Mohar Baha</b> Mohar Spiritual Center, 10200 N. Kings Hwy., Myrtle Beach, SC 29577; 843-272-5777	Love for God	Love for God	Compassionate Father	Compassionate Father	The Ancient One
<b>Moravian</b> The Moravian Church, Drawer Y, Winston-Salem, NC 27108; 336-722-8126	None	None	God and Country	God and Country	The Order of David Zetseberger
<b>National Association of Anglicans and Traditional Catholic Societies</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: info@praypub.org; website: www.praypub.org	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33596	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
<b>Nazarene</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: info@praypub.org; website: www.praypub.org	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33596	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
<b>Polish National Catholic Church</b> Mt. Richard Church, 111 Twelfth Place, Wayne, NJ 07470; 973-694-9457; email: indusmivestment.net	Love of God (Miklos Bog)	Love of God (Miklos Bog)	God and Country (Flag 1 Ojczyzna)	God and Country (Flag 1 Ojczyzna)	Bishop Thaddeus F. Zelinski
<b>Presbyterian Church in America</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: info@praypub.org; website: www.praypub.org	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33596	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
<b>Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: info@praypub.org; website: www.praypub.org and www.presbyterianusa.org	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33596	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination; Celtic Cross
<b>Protestant and Independent Christian Churches</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: info@praypub.org; website: www.praypub.org	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33596	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
<b>The Salvation Army</b> P.O. Box 269, Alexandria, VA 22313; Eastern Territory, 914-620-7427; Central Territory, 847-294-2112; Southern Territory, 404-726-1363; Western Territory, 310-544-6434	God and Me S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	Silver Cross God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33596	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	Scout's Award Nomination
<b>Sikh</b> American Sikh Council, P.O. Box 932, Voorhees, NJ 08043; Phone: 609-269-1454; fax: 609-225-6717 email: contact@american-sikh-council.org OR at sikhscoutusa@gmail.com	Nirxas (grades 1-3)	Nirxas (grades 4-5)	Open Khanga (grades 6-8)	Khalsa (grades 9-12)	Sewadar (Nomination for distinguished youth service)
<b>Unitarian Universalist</b> P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: info@praypub.org; website: www.praypub.org	Love & Help	Love & Help	Religion in Life	Religion in Life	Service Chalice
<b>United Church of Christ</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: info@praypub.org; website: www.praypub.org	God and Me (grades 1-3) S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33596	God and Church S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
<b>United Methodist</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: info@praypub.org; website: www.praypub.org and www.umscouting.org	God and Me (grades 1-3); Good Samaritan Nomination S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family; Good Samaritan Nomination S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33596	God and Church; Good Samaritan Nomination S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	God and Life; Good Samaritan Nomination S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination; Cross and Flame Nomination; Torch Nomination; Silver Torch Nomination
<b>United Pentecostal Church International</b> Local council service center or P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123; toll-free telephone 800-933-7729; fax 314-845-0038; email: info@praypub.org; website: www.praypub.org	God and Me (grades 1-3); Good Samaritan Nomination S. No. 33604 C. No. 33603 M. No. 33606	God and Family; Good Samaritan Nomination S. No. 33597 C. No. 33598 M. No. 33596	God and Church; Good Samaritan Nomination S. No. 33599 C. No. 33600 M. No. 33596	Good Samaritan Nomination; God and Life S. No. 33609 C. No. 33610 M. No. 33605	God and Service Nomination; Cross and Flame Nomination; Torch Nomination; Silver Torch Nomination
<b>Unity Worldwide Ministries</b> P.O. Box 610, Lee's Summit, MO 64063; 816-524-7414; email: kdc@unity.org; website: www.unity.org/temple	God in Me	God in Me	Light of God	Flame of Youth	Distinguished Youth Service Nomination
<b>Zoroastrian</b> The Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York, c/o Ms. Tamlyn Mohs, National Coordinator, The Good Life Program, 17 Rockwell Circle, Marlboro, NJ 07746; 732-972-6527; email: tgmohs@aol.com	None	None	Good Life	Good Life (To age 21)	None

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What are the religious emblems programs?

The religious emblems programs are programs created by the various religious groups to encourage youth to grow stronger in their faith. The religious groups—not the Boy Scouts of America—have created the religious emblems programs themselves.

The Boy Scouts of America has approved of these programs and allows the recognition to be worn on the official uniform, but each religious organization develops and administers its own program.

## I have a unit with children of all different faiths. How can I include the religious emblems programs for my unit?

The religious emblems programs should be presented to youth members and their families as an optional program for them to complete through their religious organization. Religious instruction should always come from the religious organization, not from the unit leader. Parents need to be informed of these programs and told where to get the information for their particular faith. Interested in making a presentation on the religious awards? Find sample scripts at [www.prayerpub.org](http://www.prayerpub.org).

## Do boys and girls participate in the same program?

It depends on the religion. Some religions have created programs that are used by both boys and girls. Other religions have created programs for members of separate youth agencies (i.e., Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., and Camp Fire Boys and Girls). Please check the specific eligibility requirements for each religious emblems program.

## Do the youth have to belong to a religious institution?

It depends on the religion. Please check the eligibility requirements for your particular religious program.

## Why doesn't my religious institution know about the religious emblems programs?

Although the religious bodies at the national level created the religious emblems programs, the local religious institution may not be aware of these programs. It may be helpful to write for more information or even obtain a copy of the curriculum to give to your religious leader.

## If the religious emblems program for my faith has more than one level (for the different grade levels), may my child earn all of these recognitions?

Yes. Members can earn all levels of their religious emblems program. However, they must be in the appropriate program guidelines when they start and complete each level (they may not go backward and earn younger programs).

## How is the emblem presented?

The emblem should be presented in a meaningful ceremony, preferably in the youth member's religious institution. Some emblems come with a sample presentation ceremony.

## How long does it take to complete a program?

It depends on the program. Some programs may take three or four months, others longer.

## Where is the emblem worn on the uniform?

The universal religious square knot is worn over the left shirt pocket of the uniform. Cloth badges and embroidered square knots are representative of the medal award. When a cloth badge is worn, the medal award is not worn.

## How do we get started on these programs?

First, youth members must obtain the specific booklet for their religion. This booklet will contain information on all the lessons and

service projects that they will need to complete. Each member needs to have his or her own booklet to document progress. Some religions also provide adult manuals for counselors and mentors. Check with your local council to see if it stocks these booklets in its store, or contact the religious organization directly (addresses and phone numbers are listed in this brochure).

Second, parents must review the specific guidelines for their particular program; age/grade requirements vary from program to program. Some programs require that the youth be an official "member" of the local religious institution, others may not. Each program determines who may serve as counselor (some require clergy, others allow parents or other family members). Be sure to look at specific eligibility guidelines!

Third, families should talk to their religious leaders and show them the booklet before beginning any program. Most of the religious emblems programs require that they be completed under the auspices of that religious organization, and many require the signature of the local religious leader. Again, check the specific eligibility requirements for your religious program.

Fourth, the member needs to complete the requirements, obtain the proper signatures, and follow the instructions to order the emblem/award. (These emblems are not available in your local council.) The emblem can be presented at any time of the year and should be presented in a meaningful ceremony, preferably in the member's religious institution.

## Who may serve as counselor?

It depends on the program. Some programs require clergy to serve as counselor, others allow a parent or family member. Please check the specific guidelines for your religious program.

## How do I order the recognition items?

Each religious program has its own emblem. Follow the instructions in your recognition guidelines because the emblems come from different places and require submission of different information. These emblems will not be available in your local council!

## What is the adult religious recognition program?

An adult religious recognition award is presented by nomination only. The recognition is presented to worthy adults for their outstanding service to youth both through their religious institution and one of the national youth agencies. Recipients of these awards are unaware that they are being nominated. They are nominated to receive an award by submitting the required application, letters of recommendation, and resume. Please check eligibility requirements for specific awards.

## Which religious emblem square knot should I wear?

Cloth, silver knot on purple, No. 5007, may be worn by youth or adult members who received the knot as a youth, above left pocket. Cloth, purple on silver, No. 5014, may be worn by adult members presented with the recognition, above left pocket. Adults may wear both knots if they satisfy qualifying criteria.



Only one youth and one adult knot is worn, but any combination of devices representing the program in which a religious emblem was received may be worn on the same knot. (See Cub Scout device, No. 926; Webelos Scout device, No. 932; Boy Scout device, No. 927; and Venturer device, No. 930.)





## ii. Religious Emblems Coordinator



### RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS COORDINATOR

COUNCIL Religious Emblems Coordinator (CREC patch: SKU #614660)

DISTRICT Religious Emblems Coordinator (DREC patch: SKU #614645)

UNIT Religious Emblems Coordinator (UREC patch: SKU #618744)

#### PURPOSE:

- Encourage all youth to earn the emblem of their faith
- Promote religious emblems usage like BSA promotes other youth advancement
- Establish goals and track the number of religious emblems to be completed every year

#### WHY?

Baden-Powell stated, "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." (Scouting For Boys, 1908)

- Reinforce BSA values through religious emblems
- Improve relationships with religious chartered partners
- Establish relationships with potential Religious partners

#### COUNCIL Religious Emblems Coordinator

- Is appointed by the vice president of program
- Disseminates information to district religious emblems coordinators
- Disseminates information through:
  - Trainings (Professional staff, College of Commissioners Science, University of Scouting, New leader training)
  - Program at Summer Camp and Day Camp
- Works with the council Religious Relationships Committee
- Recognizes that the Religious Relationships Committee is the group that works directly with the faith community to:
  - Recruit chaplains
  - Coordinate the council calendar with religious holidays
  - Sponsor religious retreats
  - Identify religious representatives from the various faith groups
  - Strengthen ties with local congregations and chartered organizations
- If the Religious Relationships Committee works primarily with the faith community, the Religious Emblems Coordinator focuses specifically on raising awareness of religious emblems and increasing usage.
- The religious emblems coordinator can learn through the Religious Relationships which faith committees are sponsoring retreats and which congregations are offering classes

#### DISTRICT Religious Emblems Coordinator

- Is appointed by district program chair
- Sets goals with district program chair
- Encourages every unit to appoint a unit religious emblems coordinator
- Disseminates information to units through charter renewal packets, roundtables, and camporees
- Encourages unit committees to set goals (i.e., number of religious emblems that will be earned that year)
- Helps unit religious emblems coordinators recruit presenters to make presentations on religious emblems, including clergy of chartered organizations, unit leaders who promote religious emblems, chaplains, etc.

WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG

January 2016



## RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS COORDINATOR

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### UNIT Religious Emblems Coordinator

- Is appointed by the Unit Committee Chair and serves on the Unit Committee.
- Acquaints all youth with the religious emblems program and emblems available for their faith.
- Provides Scout families and clergy with an orientation to the religious emblems program and encourages their involvement.
- Urges all youth to earn the religious emblem(s) of their faith.
- Disseminates information about any district or council religious emblems activities, retreats, camps, or classes.
- Promotes religious emblems usage the way the BSA promotes other youth advancement.
- Coordinates establishment of goals and tracks the number of emblems earned each year.
- Serves as the unit's liaison to the district religious emblems coordinator

### SAMPLE GOALS

- Number of emblems earned (by religion, unit, district, council, etc.)
- Number of religious presentations made to Scouts, parents, clergy, etc.
- Number of congregations offering religious emblems classes
- Number of trainings offered on religious emblems

### RECRUITMENT

- Establish communication with the Religious Relationships committee and ask them to help
- Ask clergy of chartered organizations
- Ask leaders of units that promote religious emblems usage

### SHARING DATA

- Collect data on the religious emblems usage
- Post information on the Council, District, and Unit websites
- List recipients in the council newsletter
- Recognize leaders, units, and districts that do an outstanding job
- Market your data by posting it on the websites

### RESOURCES

- Online:  
[www.scouting.org/Awards/ReligiousAwards.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Awards/ReligiousAwards.aspx)  
[www.praypub.org/rec](http://www.praypub.org/rec)
- Webinars/workshops/tutorials: [www.praypub.org/learningcenter](http://www.praypub.org/learningcenter)

WWW.PRYPUB.ORG

January 2016



### iii. P.R.A.Y. Award

# PRAY Awards

PROGRAMS OF RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES WITH YOUTH (P.R.A.Y.), 11123 S. TOWNE SQUARE, STE. B, ST. LOUIS, MO 63123

PHONE 314-845-3318 OR 800-933-PRAY (7729) FAX 314-845-0038 E-MAIL INFO@PRAYPUB.ORG WEB WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG

## Jesus and Me (Grades K-1)

Children will be introduced to Jesus as the Son of God, but in familiar terms so that young children can see Jesus in their own everyday experiences. This curriculum uses the "Jesus Scroll Craft" as a hands-on component. After every lesson, children will create a new page to extend their scroll. The scroll will be an interactive way to not only retell the stories of Jesus, but to enter into the story and relate to Jesus.

SECTION 1: Jesus Was a Storyteller

SECTION 2: Jesus Was a Teacher

SECTION 3: Jesus Was a Friend

SECTION 4: Jesus Was a Healer

## God and Me (Grades 2-3)

Children will become best friends with Jesus and tell their story of "God and Me" together. Children will make a game in each lesson and keep their games in a GAMEBOX (God and Me Exploring BOX). These games will reinforce the Bible lessons and provide opportunities for families to explore God's love together.

SECTION 1: God Created Me

SECTION 2: Jesus Is God's Gift to Me

SECTION 3: I Can Talk with God

SECTION 4: Because God Cares for Me, I Can Care for Others

## God and Family (Grades 4-6)

The God and Family program will help children understand the importance of family and God's role in a healthy family. Children will compare families and "pizza," and they will make a pizza as they study how families can grow together in God's love.

1. CRUST-FOUNDATION - We are God's Family

2. SAUCE - Family Heritage, Spiritual Heritage

3. TOPPINGS - Our Talents and Gifts Strengthen Our Families

4. CHEESE - In God's Family We're Loved No Matter What! Because We're Loved, We Follow Rules

5. BAKE - Being in God's Family Helps Us When Things Are Tough

6. EAT, SHARE, ENJOY! - In God's Family, We Share as a Response to God's Love

## God and Church (Grades 6-8)

The God and Church program will be a journey to meet Jesus, worship God, and witness and minister for Christ. Participants will create a video or a photo album to share their faith journeys with others.

UNIT I - My Journey: Meeting Christ

- Meeting Jesus, the Person
- Meeting Jesus, the Son of God
- Meeting Jesus, the Head of the Church

UNIT II - My Journey: Worshipping God

- Learning how Christ Worshipped God
- Exploring How My Congregation Worships God
- Discovering How I Can Worship God

UNIT III - My Journey: Witnessing and Ministering for Christ

- Learning How Christ Witnessed and Ministered to Others
- Exploring How My Congregation Witnesses and Ministers to Others
- Discovering How I Can Witness and Minister to Others

## God and Life (Grades 9-12)

The God and Life study is based on the life of the Apostle Paul as recorded in Acts 9:1-31.

SECTION 1: God calls all kinds of people.

SECTION 2: God doesn't expect us to do it on our own.

SECTION 3: Each of us must make a personal response to the call of God

SECTION 4: God gives strength to face adversities.

SECTION 5: God can accomplish great things through those who are willing to do God's will.

## Four-Star Recognition

A special recognition is available for young people who complete the four core programs in the P.R.A.Y. series: God and Me, God and Family, God and Church, and God and Life (Jesus and Me does not count toward the Four Star Award). Start now: students cannot go backwards to earn younger awards!

VISIT WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG FOR INFORMATION AND TO ORDER BOOKLETS ONLINE.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Who may earn a P.R.A.Y. award?** Girls and boys in grades K-12.

**Do I have to belong to a scouting group to earn a P.R.A.Y. award?** No, girls and boys may earn this award even if they do not belong to a Girl Scout, Boy Scout, or American Heritage Girls group. Members of youth groups and Sunday School classes may participate in these programs.

**Do I have to belong to a church to earn a P.R.A.Y. award?** No, you do not have to have official membership in a congregation to earn this award; however, the program requires that a pastor review all work and oversee the program.

**Which denominations use the P.R.A.Y. program?** Protestant and Independent churches. The following is a partial listing of the denominations that use the P.R.A.Y. program: African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Assembly of God, Baptist, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Methodist Episcopal, Church of God, Episcopal, Lutheran, Pentecostal, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, United Methodist Church, and Independent Christian churches.

**Who may serve as counselor?** The pastor, or someone appointed by the pastor (such as a parent, Sunday School teacher, congregational lay leader, or other qualified adult).

**May I earn more than one award (for the different grade levels)?** Yes, you may earn all five awards as long as you are in the appropriate

grade at the time (you may not go backwards and earn younger awards).

**How long does it take to complete the program?** It depends. The younger programs may take 4 to 8 weeks to complete. The older programs may take 3 to 6 months to complete.

**How do I order the booklets?** Booklets may be purchased at your local scout store, the AHG store, or directly from P.R.A.Y. at <https://store.praypub.org>.

**Does each child need a booklet?** Yes.

**Is the Counselor Manual required?** Yes.

**What is the difference between the Counselor Manual and the Mentor Workbook?** The Counselor Manual is the "teaching" guide with answers, suggested activities, resources, etc. The Mentor Workbook is for parents with lessons and questions to complete.

**How do I order the awards?** The awards come from P.R.A.Y. (the local scout store will not have these awards). The application form is found in the Student Workbook or online at <https://store.praypub.org>.

**How is the award presented?** The award is usually presented by the pastor in a worship service.

**How are adult awards different?** Adult awards are by nomination only and generally require 3-5 years of service to both church and a national scouting agency. Find nominations here: [www.praypub.org/adult-nominations](http://www.praypub.org/adult-nominations).



### Starting the Program is Easy!

- Order the appropriate program booklets based on your grade.
- Meet with the pastor: show your pastor the P.R.A.Y. booklets and together choose a counselor.
- Complete the requirements under the supervision of your counselor.
- Present your work to the pastor for final approval.
- Order the recognition items by sending the application form to P.R.A.Y.
- Plan a special ceremony in church to receive your award.

Visit [www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org) for information and to order booklets online.

## RECOGNITIONS FOR ADULTS

[www.praypub.org/adult-nominations](http://www.praypub.org/adult-nominations)



### Adult Mentor Program

The Adult Mentor program is an optional program for parents and/or guardians who have their children enrolled in the P.R.A.Y. Series. Parents and guardians will have a workbook to complete as they work side-by-side their children.



### Building Faith in Youth Award

This recognition is for P.R.A.Y. Counselors who have taught 3 years or more. Nominations must come from a Protestant congregation. A pastor's signature is required.



### National Adult Awards

Adults who have served youth through their church and a national Scouting agency may be nominated to receive an Adult Recognition. The nomination requires signatures from the church and the local scouting office.

P.R.A.Y. 11123 S. TOWNE SQUARE, STE. B, ST. LOUIS, MO 63123 • 1-800-933-7729 • [WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG](http://WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG)

JUNE 2019



#### iv. Best Practices “Conducting a Virtual P.R.A.Y Program”



### Best Practices “Conducting a Virtual P.R.A.Y. Program”

The purpose of this document is to share some best practices of conducting a P.R.A.Y. program virtually using Zoom (or your preferred online meeting platform) using tools available from P.R.A.Y. This document was created by church and Scout leaders who have conducted virtual P.R.A.Y. programs and who want to share their key learnings. If you have learnings you would like to add to this document, please send them to Jason Noland ([jasonn@praypub.org](mailto:jasonn@praypub.org)).

- Email parents and students before and after each session.
  - Before - to deliver the material about the next session and provide directions.
  - After – to follow up with verification of completed tasks and/or direction of follow-up activities the student needs to complete.
  - The after email for one session can also serve as the before email to the next.
- Limit class size to 8 students, 10 max.
- Have one parent in the room with the student for students in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The parent does not have to be on screen; just in the room to help ensure student stays focused.
  - Consider how you want parents to be engaged. Are they monitoring their kids or participating in discussion to help their child answer questions.
- Have the students talk about their work (don't turn it into a lecture).
- Think about a time limit for the class, especially in K thru 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. (Jesus and Me courses).
- Consider spreading the chapters out over more sessions. (If the class time is limited to 45-60 mins and you have 8 students, you might benefit from taking 2 zoom sessions to cover a chapter.)
- Schedule Discipline, stick to times and location (where your class is delivered online)
- Service Projects (Church & Life courses) – students work on their service projects on their own.
- Resources: P.R.A.Y.'s tools (<https://www.praypub.org/documents-resources>)



- Process and steps do not change – you still must connect with the Pastor and ensure each participant has their own booklet
- In many cases, Pastors will be acceptable to the material; it's the final review where specific faith or denominational doctrine should be discussed (if your course is open to different Protestant faiths).
- Treat an online program as a guided daily or weekly devotional – a ministry.
- Utilize technology – you have options
  - Create a private Facebook Group and utilize the Facebook Live feature, up to 8 hours to use per session
  - Facetime, Google Meets (app required), Microsoft Office (Skype)
  - Zoom will allow free accounts for up to 40 minutes
  - Maybe your church or charter partner will have resources you can take advantage of.
  - Engage the Pastor, or designee, especially for the final review session, as a part of "Community Care"
- Most important – Keep parents and families engaged. Parents and guardians will play an important role in delivering the program and ensuring completion.
- Create a registration (Eventbrite or Sign-up Genius) in advance with plenty of time to obtain booklets through Scout Shops, Scoutstuff.org, or PRAY
- Make meeting private so no "bombing" can occur
- Automate mute function, open for questions, or answer when hands are raised.
- Use props or recorded video to help with Zoom fatigue
- Utilize Google Classroom as a repository for documents and assignments
- Utilize resources from P.R.A.Y. and send material ahead
- You might create a pick-up/drive-thru night if the session is local, PRAY can ship in bulk and make personal arrangements for delivery/returns if necessary.
- It can be difficult to identify people. Utilize the renaming feature available in most platforms to include First name and Last initial only.
- Have fun! There are great apps like Quizlet or Kahoot, which allow for development of game show style event where they can log in from home and compete against each other for matching the correct answer to specific lessons. It is immediate recognition, and an opportunity to explain the thought in the question. ( Sample: Public, God and Me: <https://create.kahoot.it/details/pray-pub-god-and-me/d9a3c9ec-b308-4677-b2ef-c1caf908ef68>)
- **Very important to remember safe guidelines for youth participation online**
- Jesus and Me, "new" God and Me Student workbooks are ideal for virtual because of the new self-contained workbooks
- PRAY Virtual Resources: (<https://www.praypub.org/documents-resources?lib-category=virtual-learning>)

## IX. Reference

- P.R.A.Y website – <https://www.praypub.org/>
- Scouting America Religious Emblem website - <https://www.scouting.org/awards/religious-awards/>