



*A View from The Tooth of Time*

Thank you for serving  
our Creator and our youth.

Digital copies of this program and today's message  
can be found at [www.ScoutingForGod.org](http://www.ScoutingForGod.org)

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## **Interfaith Worship Service**

**Wood Badge 98**

**August 17, 2011  
Philmont Scout Ranch**

## Wood Badge Course – Reverence in Scouting

Imagine writing this letter to a parent in your Troop:

*Dear Mr. Jones.*

*I am sorry about Johnny Scout's horrible allergic reactions to the peanut butter sandwiches that we serve on all of our campouts. I didn't ask the boys about their food allergies because I didn't want to offend or embarrass anyone.*

*Your Scoutmaster*

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How about writing this one:

*Dear Scouts and Families,*

*This is to inform you that effective immediately, we will no longer be serving food on our campouts.*

*While we have always enjoyed preparing and serving food with your sons each weekend, we recently discovered that one of the boys is a vegetarian. Since we are used to serving meat with most meals, we have decided it is easier to simply not serve any food over the entire campout weekend. Those boys who are interested in eating should bring their own food and must eat privately within their own tents. PS, please do not leave crumbs.*

*Your Scoutmaster*

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Just as we must be aware and sensitive with our Scouts' dietary needs, we must be equally aware and sensitive to their deity needs – else they will either have an allergic reaction or starve.

***Man does not live on bread alone, but on the word of God***  
*Deuteronomy 8:3*

## OFFERING

To benefit the Wood Badge Scholarship Fund

## PERSONAL PRAYERS OF REFLECTION

Lord Baden-Powell wrote: "First love and serve God, second love and serve your neighbor. In doing your duty to God, always be grateful to Him. Whenever you enjoy a pleasure or a good game, or succeed in doing a good thing, thank Him for it, if only a word or two."

Let us pause for a time of silent, personal meditation.

## CLOSING HYMN - God Bless America

God Bless America, land that I love  
Stand beside her, and guide her,  
Through the night with the light from above,  
From the mountains, to the prairies,  
To the ocean, white with foam,  
God bless America, my home sweet home.  
God bless America, my home sweet home.

## BENEDICTION / CLOSING

Oh Lord, thank you for the wondrous opportunities of today and this week.

We thank you for the efforts of those thousands of men and women who have brought Scouting to millions of boys the world over, including many of us during our earlier days. We rededicate ourselves to the principles of our Movement -- to do our best -- to do our duty to God -- and to our Country.

This week, we thank you for this wood badge course. Please give us the energy and wisdom to enjoy each moment, and the courage to push ourselves further than we ever have before. Bless all members of our troop and its leaders as we continue our journey through Scouting.  
Amen



## OPENING PRAYER

The Scout Law and the World's Wisdom  
Compiled by Reverend Timothy B. Cargal, Ph.D.  
Scouting and Religious Diversity © 2005

After each sharing of wisdom by today's worship leader,  
the audience should respond with an affirmation from the Scout Law.

From the wisdom of Mesoamerica: *"Never lie, for it is a great failing. When you tell anyone what has been told to you, tell the simple truth, and add nothing to it."* (from "An Aztec Father's Exhortations to his Son")

**A Scout is Trustworthy.**

From the wisdom of Confucianism: *"The duties of universal obligation are five, and the moral qualities by which they are carried out are three. The duties are those between ruler and subject, between parents and children, between husband and wife, between elder sibling and younger, and those in the intercourse between friends. ... Wisdom, compassion and courage—these are the three universally recognized moral qualities of human beings."* (The Golden Mean, section 13)

**A Scout is Loyal**

From the wisdom of the Quran, the scriptures of Islam: *"The righteous ... give sustenance to the poor, the orphan, and the captive, saying, 'We feed you for God's sake only; we seek of you neither recompense nor thanks.'" (Quran 76:8-9)*

**A Scout is Helpful**

From the wisdom of Muhammad, the prophet of Islam: *"All God's creatures are God's family; and the one is the most beloved of God who does most good to God's creatures."* (Ab-dullah and Al-Suhrawardy, Sayings of Muhammad, p. 89)

**A Scout is Friendly**

From the wisdom of Buddhism: *"Avoid harsh language ... [and] speak such words as are gentle, soothing to the ear, loving, such words as go to the heart, and are courteous, friendly, and agreeable to many."* (Anguttara Nikaya 10.176)

**A Scout is Courteous**

From the wisdom of Hillel, a sage of Judaism: *"A certain heathen came to Hillel and said to him: Convert me provided that you teach me the entire Torah while I stand on one foot. ... Hillel ... said to him: What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor; that is the entire Torah; the rest is commentary; go and learn it."* (Shabbat 31a)

**A Scout is Kind**

From the wisdom of the Book of Samuel, a shared scripture of Jews and Christians: *"Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord. Surely, to obey is better than sacrifice."* (1 Samuel 15:22)

**A Scout is Obedient**

From the wisdom of Taoism: *"If you look to others for fulfillment, you will never be truly fulfilled. If your happiness depends on money, you will never be happy with yourself. Be content with what you have; rejoice in the way things are."* (Tao Te Ching, 44)

**A Scout is Cheerful**

From a parable of Jesus of Nazareth: *"The master said to his steward, 'Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'" (Matthew 25:21)*

**A Scout is Thrifty**

From the wisdom of the Sioux: *"With the Sioux, courage is absolute self-control. The truly brave one, we contend, yields neither to fear nor anger, desire nor agony. The brave one is at all times master of oneself."* (Ohiyesa, The Soul of the Indian, 115)

**A Scout is Brave**

From the wisdom of Hinduism: *"Let one therefore keep the mind pure, for what one thinks that one becomes: this is a mystery of Eternity."* (Maitri Upanishad VI:24)

**A Scout is Clean**

From the wisdom of Augustine, a saint of Christianity: *"You, O God, awake us to delight in your praise; for you made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you."* (Augustine, Confessions, I.1.3)

**A Scout is Reverent**