

# TAKE HOME

## HANDOUT ON RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS

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

Today we talked about *Duty to God* and encouraged our Scouts to earn their religious emblems. You, as the parent or guardian, will decide whether or not your child will participate in these programs. Here is the information we covered together:

- Scouts will earn the religious emblem for their specific faith.
- Religious emblems are created by the individual faith groups to encourage their members to grow in their faith. The BSA has approved of these programs and allows the emblems to be worn on the official uniform, but the emblems are administered by the various religious groups, not the BSA.
- Parents and religious leaders are the teachers, not the unit leader.
- Most religious emblems programs have more than one level. A young person who has earned a religious emblem as a younger Scout, may progress to the next level and earn another emblem.
- Boys are not required to earn a religious emblem (not all faith groups offer religious emblems), but if they do, they are eligible to receive the universal religious square knot (which carries up even to the adult uniform). Only by earning your faith's RELIGIOUS EMBLEM can you receive this knot.



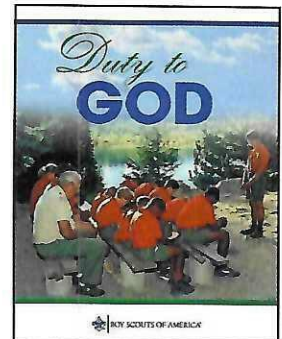
There are four steps to get started on these programs:

1. Youth members must obtain the specific booklet for their religion. The Duty to God brochure pictures the various religious emblems and provides the contact information for the religious committees.

Duty to God Brochure:

<http://www.praypub.org/recognitions/boyscout.htm>

2. Parents must review the specific guidelines for their particular program. Check the age/grade requirements and adhere to the eligibility guidelines.
3. Families should talk to their religious leaders and show them the booklet before beginning any program.
4. The young person 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.)



We would be very proud if our Scouts earned their religious emblems. Please talk with your child about these programs. We would like to know by \_\_\_\_\_ (date) who is going to participate in the religious emblems programs. Even though this is a project that will be done with your family and your clergy, we are interested in your child's progress and want to encourage him as much as possible. Feel free to call if you have any questions. Thank you!