

Great Salt Lake Council

Leaders Guide to the *Webelos Summer Camp*

'Duty to God' Program



Introduction to Webelos Summer Camp Duty to God Program

The Boy Scouts of America maintain that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God. As you know, the Boy Scout Oath begins with 'Duty to God' and the Scout Law ends with 'Reverent.' A Scout's Duty to God is very important in the Scouting Program. At **Webelos Summer Camp**, we desire that Duty to God be given its' due focus, in hopes that it will become an important part of each boys camping experience.

As your dens adult leader, we will need your assistance to ensure that each boy completes the requirements to earn their **Webelos Summer Camp Duty to God** patch. One of those requirements will be for you to lead a small devotional, discussion or reflection that will be provided to you. This should be done when everyone is together during lunch. Once complete, you may then purchase your patches at the trading post.

Requirements for earning your Webelos Summer Camp Duty to God Patch

- While at camp, take the time to observe, and be grateful for all of God's creations. We feel that this is a very special place that shows some of His many handiworks. Search for and make a list of at least 10 discoveries that you have made, that show to you that there is a God. (e.g. plant and animal life, sunrise, etc)
- Make a special effort to show respect and take care of this special place that he has given to us. (e.g. do not litter, do not damage plants or animal life, stay on trails, etc.)
- Scouting's Slogan 'Do a Good Turn daily' is not forgotten here. You are required to 'Do a Good Turn' each and every day. During your two days here, look for any opportunity to lend a helping hand, helping to make a fellow Scout feel accepted, encouraging others to do their best, etc. **Each day**, make sure that you **do not** leave camp without putting a smile on someone else's face.
- During your lunch hour, sit together as a den, be respectful of other groups, and participate in your dens meal blessing and then participate in a brief devotional that will be led by your leader.
- Learn about your Cub Scout Religious Emblem award, and commit to work toward earning it.

Mark's Train

It was during the time of the great depression (1937), and 10 year old Tom was anxiously waiting for Christmas to come. What he desired more than anything else was to receive a train set. Not the typical wind up kind though, but rather a brand new electric one. These you could not only make to go forward, but you could get them to go in reverse as well. He also realized that this would be a very expensive gift, and it might be hard for his family to afford, being that times were tough.

To his joy, and what must have been a great sacrifice by his parents, he received his desired gift. Throughout Christmas morning, Tom was enjoying his new toy. Watching it go around the track. Electricity was indeed a marvel.

Then his mother informed him that she had purchased a windup train set for Mark, a neighbor boy whose family had been experiencing some hard times and asked Tom to come with her to deliver the gift. Tom asked to see the train set that she had bought for him. He quickly noticed that it was not nearly as nice as his own electric one, but what caught his eye, was an oil tanker car that he did not have with his own set. In envy, he pleaded with his mom to let him have it, so that he could add it to his own set. She reluctantly let him have it and told him that if he felt that he needed it more than Mark, then he could have it. Tom was pleased with himself when he added it to his set.

Tom accompanied his mother with giving the unexpected gift to Mark, who had never anticipated receiving such a nice gift. Mark was excited to assemble it and watch it run. Tom's mother wisely asked her son what he thought of Mark's new gift. Guilt quickly came across him. Realizing his error, Tom quickly ran home and retrieved the oil tanker car, plus another from his own set and returned them to Mark and told him that he had forgotten to add these other cars. Tom had learned a great lesson about the meaning of Christmas. (Retold from 'Marks Train', Friend, Oct 1977, Thomas S. Monson)

With your Den discuss the following:

- Have you ever wanted something so bad that you misbehaved until you got it?
 - Have you ever felt guilty from your own actions?
 - Who has had a similar experience in their life?
 - What examples of the Scout Law were exemplified here?
 - What does this have to do with a Scout's 'Duty to God'
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Everybody knew David

David was as a typical 14 year old boy. He loved the typical boy stuff – hiking, shooting air guns, video games and soldiers. His favorite color was blue. He was remembered as being playful and enjoyed joking around at lunchtime. He was always smiling. He was always nice to everyone, even if sometimes people weren't nice to him.

He was often times mistreated, bullied. He would occasionally hurry home before the others, pleading with the crossing guard to quickly allow him to pass before the others arrived, because he was being bullied. He was bullied at school, on the way home. They would taunt him, tease him, throw things at him and say very cruel things to him. Sadly one day, David could take no more and tragically died, just wanting to be everyone's friend. *(Story of David Phan, as related in Deseret News, November 30, 2012)*

With your Den discuss the following:

- What does it mean to be "bullied"?
- Have you ever observed someone being bullied?
- What do you imagine that David needed more than anything else?
- What parts of the Scout Law describe what a friend is?
- What does this have to do with a Scout's 'Duty to God'?