

ROBERT BADEN-POWELL, FOUNDER OF SCOUTING

When asked where religion came into Scouting, founder Lord Robert Baden-Powell replied, "It does not come in at all. It is already there. It is a fundamental factor underlying Scouting and Guiding."

Faith organizations are good for Scouting – and Scouting is good for faith organizations.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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<https://www.scouting.org/awards/religious-awards/>



**What Every
Religious leader
should know
about**

THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

From its inception in 1910, Scouting has always integrated a Scout's faith with essential life and outdoor skills. Scouting promotes exceptional leadership based on character and integrity. In fact, over half of all Scout units are chartered by faith communities. Scouting is an outreach ministry that enhances a faith community's overall mission.



FIND YOUR LOCAL UNIT

<https://beascout.scouting.org/>





WHEN YOUR FAITH
COMMUNITY CHARTERS
A SCOUT UNIT, YOU
ARE EMBRACING A
REMARKABLE AND
LIFE-CHANGING
PROGRAM FOR YOUTH.

FAITH COMMUNITIES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THE BACKBONE OF SCOUTING

One of the greatest benefits of Scouting to a faith community is that Scouting can be added to your existing youth ministry program with minimal expense, time, demands, or energy and it will both enhance and complement—but never compete with your existing programs. Chartering a Scouting unit is simple and generally involves providing a space for weekly meetings and to store equipment and assigning a member of the faith community to serve as the Charter Organization Representative—a liaison between the Scouting unit and the organization's board.

What are some of the benefits Scouting brings to your faith community? There are many, including:

1. The BSA values the faith of Scouts and their families. Since its inception in 1910, A Scout's "Duty to God" has been incorporated into all levels of Scouting and is central to both the Scout Oath and Scout Law.
2. The BSA is family-oriented, and currently serves young boys and girls from Kindergarten through 5th grade in the Cub Scout program; boys and girls ages 11 to 14 in the Scouts BSA program, and young adults ages 14-21 in Venturing and Exploring. Scouting provides your members with a family-focused, values-based experience.
3. Scouting has rigorous youth protection training and protocols for youth, scout leaders and parents.



4. The BSA offers liability insurance to chartered partners and their registered members.
5. Scouting encourages the religious development of youth members and promotes the religious emblem programs that have been developed by most participating faith traditions.
6. The BSA provides programming with youth appeal, accompanied by effective adult training. Scouting is affordable for participant families with outstanding outdoor programs available nationwide.
7. Scouting is intentionally "youth-led" and allows budding youth leaders to grow.
8. The BSA is environmentally minded and is recognized world-wide as a leader in teaching environmental ethics.
9. Scouting encourages youth to set aside their electronic devices and get outdoors to discover the awe and wonder of God's majestic creation.