

## The Heart of Scouting Patch for Boy Scouts



Each rank advancement in the trail to Eagle requires Scouts to “demonstrate Scout spirit by living the Scout Oath and Law.” The activities below strengthen this requirement by helping Scouts better understand their duty to God and want to do it.

*The Heart of Scouting* patch

has a red border and is worn on the right shirt pocket. It represents a commitment to put duty to God first in one’s daily life.

### Requirements

Complete three of the requirements in your church’s religious emblem program and four of the following activities:

1. During a Scoutmaster conference, discuss with your leader the ways each of the twelve points of the Scout Law help a Scout do his duty to God. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
2. Discuss with your parents and religious leader your plan for earning the Scouting religious emblem for your faith. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
3. Write 3 paragraphs explaining the following: Why you have a duty to God; What you think your duty to God is; and how you can demonstrate your duty to God. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
4. For 2 weeks, record what you do for your "Good Turn Daily." Review in a family or troop meeting how a good turn daily develops a spirit of love and service. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
5. Read a written story of someone you admire who drew upon their faith in God to overcome a challenge. In a patrol or troop meeting, explain how this person’s actions reflected faith and duty to God. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
6. Discuss the meaning of being morally straight with your Scout leader and parents. Write a code of honor for yourself, listing the things you will do on a regular basis to keep yourself morally straight. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
7. Name four other religions or forms of worship in your community. Explain to your Scout leader how you can have friends of other faiths without taking away from your own faith. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials

## The Heart of Scouting Pin for Varsity Scouts

The activities below are part of the Personal Development area of emphasis and they help Varsity Scouts better understand their duty to God and do it.

*The Heart of Scouting* pin for Varsity Scouts is a beautiful pin that can be worn anytime or displayed with other earned or collected pins and awards.



### Requirements

Complete three of the requirements in your church’s religious emblem program and four of the following activities:

1. Work with your coach to identify a member of your team who could benefit from extra attention and support. Develop a plan to help that person for at least a month. Share the results with your coach. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
2. Do something (talk, lesson, presentation, lead a discussion, etc.) designed to help members of your team better understand what “my duty to God” means. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
3. Write a fictional story or a poem about someone trying to do their duty to God who ran into opposition. Describe how they eventually found a way to overcome the opposition and reach their objective. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
4. Research the life of a great leader and identify occasions in which their actions expressed his or her duty to God. Share what you have learned with your coach, describing sacrifices that had to be made and difficulties that had to be overcome. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
5. If you see behavior in your team that is unkind or inappropriate, do something to try to help improve the situation. Discuss what happened with your coach. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
6. Memorize a scripture that teaches something you should do to do your duty to God. Then do a service project that is based on the scripture. Discuss what happened with your coach. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
7. Lead an event in your team in which members voice positive feelings and appreciation for the strengths or actions of others. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials

## The Heart of Scouting Pin for Venturers

There are several aspects of Venturing that emphasize spirituality including the Religious and Community Life Bronze Award and the TRUST Award. Earning *The Heart of Scouting* pin for Venturers can assist Venturers in earning those other awards and further develop their understanding of duty to God.



### Requirements

Complete three of the requirements in your church’s religious emblem program and four of the following activities:

1. Do requirement 3a in the Religious and Community Life Bronze Award (*Venturer Handbook*, pg. 31). \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
2. Do requirement 3d of the Venturing Silver Award (*Venturer Handbook*, pgs. 57-58). \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
3. Find an organization in your community that gives service to the less fortunate. Give at least 4 hours of service at one of these organizations. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
4. Learn about a controversial issue with regard to those who are less fortunate. Form an opinion about what ought to be done and write a letter to a civic leader to try to improve the situation. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
5. Visit a hospital or care center and talk with or read to a patient or resident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
6. Talk with your parents or a relative about the heritage your ancestors have provided for you. Write a letter to a relative who is important to you, expressing your appreciation for their contribution to your heritage. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
7. Participate in a discussion about what duty to God means. Write or rewrite your personal creed about duty to God. Include at least ten things that are important to you to do your duty to God. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
8. Participate in a discussion about how duty to God changes at different stages of life. Write down three things you plan to do as a young adult, as a parent, and as a senior citizen to do your duty to God. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials

## *The Heart of Scouting Program*

Putting the *first* duty - first!

On my honor, I will do my best to  
do *my duty to God*...



## Utah National Parks Council

748 North 1340 West  
Orem, Utah 84057  
Phone: 801-437-6222  
www.utahscouts.org

Requirements may be signed off by a parent, Scout leader, or religious leader.

## The Heart of Scouting Pin (for everyone)



Actual Size 3/4"

The Heart of Scouting pin has been created as a symbolic reminder for Scouts and adults.

The pin can be earned as a part of Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting and Venturing programs. This pin can also be earned by members of a Scout's family and Scout

leaders. It is worn by those who understand why duty to God is the heart of Scouting, have made a personal commitment to put duty to God first in their life, and want to use the pin as a way to remind themselves of that commitment.

The pin can be worn on the right pocket of the Scout uniform, on a hat or sash, as a tie tack or lapel pin, or on a shirt, dress or blouse.

### Requirements

Complete all of the following activities:

- Participate in a training session on how to put the *first duty first* in your unit, church and family. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
- Make a list of ten things you believe are important for you to do as you try to do your best to do your duty to God. Place this list in a prominent place in your home. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
- Spend at least three hours in service where the sole purpose is to do your duty to God. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
- Make a personal commitment to put duty to God first in your life \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials

Requirements may be signed off by a parent, Scout leader or religious leader.

## The Heart of Scouting Program

### Information for Leaders

The Heart of Scouting program provides many resources and ideas that will help you make "my duty to God" central in your Scouting program.

These resources include:

- A *Leader's Guide* with ideas, suggestions, and methods to help you enhance and centralize "my duty to God" in all parts of Scouting.
- New ideas, strategies and training in roundtables.
- A summer camp program that helps Scouts put the first duty first. The booklet that describes this program can be purchased at Scout service centers.
- Many resources are online. For example, The Leader's Guide, this brochure, and the booklet that describes the summer camp program are there. Additional ideas suggested by other leaders will also be added. Go to: [www.utahscouts.org](http://www.utahscouts.org)

*On my honor  
I will do my best to  
do my duty to God...*

Scouts know this phrase by heart. It was placed first in the Scout Oath on purpose by the Scouting movement founders. According to Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scouting movement when asked why religion must be a part of Scouting, "[Religion] is already inside. It is already the fundamental factor pervading Scouting and Guiding." (*From a speech to Scout and Guide commissaries, July 2, 1926*).

The Heart of Scouting program is focused on helping "my duty to God" be cemented as the first and primary duty of all Scouts, no matter the age.

The Heart of Scouting program will increase spirituality in all aspects of Scouting by helping the first ideal in the Scout Oath become...

*the heart of Scouting.*

### Information for Parents and Youth

The focus of The Heart of Scouting program is to help Scouts increase their spirituality and commitment to do their duty to God.

This brochure describes five awards and recognitions that Scouts of various ages may earn.

Your son's Scout leader will also be adding to and improving Scouting activities that help increase the focus on duty to God, and help your son:

- Better understand his duty to God.
- Have a greater desire to do his duty to God, and...
- Do it!



Robert Baden-Powell

## The Heart of Scouting Patch for Cub Scouts



The activities below help Cub Scouts learn more about their duty to God. These activities also help them increase their *desire* to do their duty to God.

The Heart of Scouting patch for Cub Scouts patch has a blue border and is worn on the right shirt pocket of the uniform. It represents a Cub's commitment to put "my duty to God" first in his life.

### Requirements

Complete five of the following activities:

- Identify someone who is honest and trustworthy. Tell Akela why being trustworthy and honest are a big part of doing one's duty to God. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
- Visit a place that your family believes is a sacred place (such as a church, synagogue, cemetery, or a mountaintop). After your visit, talk with your parents how showing reverence in a sacred place demonstrates your duty to God. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
- After saying prayers for one week tell Akela how prayer has helped you feel closer to God. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
- Participate in a discussion about how choosing good media (movies, music TV etc.) can help us live our duty to God. Tell why too much, poor quality or inappropriate media interferes with our ability to be close to God. Write three personal rules your family can use to help when choosing media. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
- Tell Akela something kind you did recently for someone else. Explain how you did this cheerfully, showing Scout spirit. Tell how it made you feel about yourself and how you think God feels when you help others. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials
- Describe to Akela what bad language is and why the use of profanity shows disrespect for God. Explain how others can be offended by the use of profanity. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initials

Requirements may be signed off by a parent, Scout leader, or religious leader.