

Spiritual Material - 13. Scouter's 5 Cut-outs
Pages 671 & 672 The Leader, October 1991

On Peace and Understanding

Every moment, a child is born somewhere on earth. At the same time as you were born, another child was also born in another country. As a new born child, you knew no prejudices, no hatred or envy. As you grew, you began to discover borders. You learned what is "home" and what is "far away".

You found that borders are important to us. They make us feel safe, if we are on the right side. Sometimes it could be exciting to try the borders. What is on the other side? Are the apples more tasty there?

Most borders are invented by human beings. Through the years, people have hurt one another and our planet by disagreeing, arguing, and fighting wars about borders.

In Scouting, we have friends all over the world. There are 26 million Guides and Scouts and, even if we don't know them all, we have something very important in common, in spite of borders and different backgrounds.

We have a lot to share and teach each other. Everyone can do something to make the world more peaceful; together we can do something great. - Message of peace from the Swedish Guide and Scout Association,

Thoughts to Live By

We believe in freedom of all people, whatever culture they are from, and that everyone has equal rights.

We believe that everyone should share in the wealth of Canada, and that we are enriched by other cultures.

We believe that we should love each other, whatever race or nationality we are, and that God loves us the same.

We believe Canada is a great country because of our acceptance of people from many backgrounds.

We believe that we should celebrate our differences and not feel threatened by different cultures.

We believe that different languages are an important part of our world; we should not prejudge people; no two people are the same; looks do not determine who (people) are, and different cultures and languages express the variety of our world.

We believe God put us all in this world to treat it beautiful, and we should welcome immigrants from all over the world.

We believe that all people should treat each other as they would want to be treated.

We believe that eventually everyone will believe these things. --Grade 5, Prince of Peace School, Scarborough, Ont. (Provincial Notes.)

My Prayer: Thank you, God, for all the wonderful things I have. Please bring good health and happiness to all people in the world. May all people have good food and warm clothes. May everyone have nice friends. May all people learn to read and write. May the whole world be at peace. This is my prayer.

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The Leader, June/July 1991.

Around the Campfire

Kneel always when you light a fire;
Kneel reverently and thankful be,
For God's unfailing charity.

Tall trees that reach the sky,
Mountains and lakes nearby;
Draw near my friends,
Come sing, my friends,
Our campfire time is nigh.

The fire is lit, come lift your voice;
Let song and skit beguile the hours;
The fire is lit, so let's rejoice,
Our hearts are full, the night is ours.

Yells

Train Yell: A chant for the whole group, this is a good one to use at the final campfire to thank the camp cook.

- Coffee coffee (4 times slowly)
- Cheese and biscuits (4 times a bit faster)
- Fruit and custard (4 times getting faster)
- Beef and carrots (6 times faster still)
- Fish and chips (8 times very fast)
- Soo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oup! (one lonely whistle)

Grrr!

The leader begins at the left of the circle and moves around it from person to person building a "Grrr". When everyone is growling the leader raises both arms and the crowd yells: "Ate Grrr-ate!"

Prayer

For the warmth of the fire,
For the joy of singing,
For the laughter of games
For the fun of yells,
For the happiness of campfires shared,
We thank you, God.

Closings

Once you have been a camper,
Something has come to stay;
Something has come that nothing
Will ever take away.
We came as strangers, we became friends, we part as brothers.

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The day was long; we've worked and played,
And round this fire, we've good friends made;
We've shared a friendship fine and deep,
And now this circle leaves to sleep.

Sparkling Thoughts

You need enough sugar to give everyone in the circle a small handful. After the closing, ask the group to gather around the dying embers. Pass around the jar of sugar and quietly ask people to take some and hold onto it. When everyone is ready, together toss the sugar on the fire. You can compare the flashing sparks and quick flames to happy thoughts or simply enjoy these happy thoughts in silence.

Blessing

May you sleep deep and wake refreshed, With the sun shining down on you and a happy heart.

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Pages 685 & 686 The Leader, May 1992

God's Great Outdoors

by B.H. Fisher

There is a place on earth for us,
Where sparkling water pours,
O'er rocks and sands of wilderness;
It's called God's great outdoors.
"Here is the home of fighting fish,
Dens where the bruin snores,
Huge mountain crests where eagles seek
To share God's great outdoors.
Yes, here is where the wild game roams,
Where gypsy bird life soars.
Where the sun, the wind, the rain, and snow
Meet in God's great outdoors.
Here's where the din of raging storms
Is hushed by tranquil shores,
Where life and death are next of kin,
Mixed in God's great outdoors.
-with thanks to Tom Furlong, St. John's, Nfld.

Nature Thoughts

"The Lakota (Sioux) was a true naturist--a lover of nature...The old Lakota was wise. He knew that man's heart away from nature becomes hard; he knew that lack of respect for growing, living things soon led to lack of respect for humans too." (Chief Luther Standing Bear)

--Thanks to Scouter Larry Hemeryck, who sent us the Afterword to Song of the Paddle, by Bill Mason, from which this quote is excerpted.

We could do an immense service to our world if we would let nature heal, counsel and teach again."
(Henri Nouwen, Clowning in Rome)

And won't we all be better off when we can see
"Tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, /
Sermons in stones, and good in everything."
(Shakespeare, As You Like It)

Children's Prayer

This prayer may fit during Trees for Canada activities when you talk about how the project benefits not only your section or group and community, but also Scouts in developing countries who receive some of the proceeds for their projects to improve the lives of people in their communities.

Dear God, we pray that all children will sleep peacefully tonight;
We pray that all children will eat well tonight;
We pray that all children will grow to know you;
We pray that all children will have a chance to grow strong and know the love of others as well as your love.

Thank you for the life you have given us:
We are lucky.

--from Australian Scout magazine

8th Whitby Maxims

Fay's Principle: If you try to please everyone, no one will like it.

Louis' Logic: The chance of a piece of bread falling buttered-side down is directly proportional to the amount of mud in which you are standing.

Bowman's 6th Rule of Orienteering: A short-cut is the longest distance between two points.

--Thanks to Troop Scouter Stewart Bowman, 8th Whitby Scouts, Ont.
