



March 2022

We hope you enjoy this monthly newsletter. Our goal is to nurture and build stronger faith partners. Everything in Girl Scouting is based on the Girl Scout Promise and Law, which includes many of the principles and values common across religions. So while we are a secular organization, Girl Scouts has always encouraged girls to take spiritual journeys via their faiths' religious recognitions.



Help Children Communicate During Difficult Times

We're all working to create a more peaceful world, where people are respectful of each other and bullying is a thing of the past, but in the meantime, there's a good chance some of the girls you serve will encounter at least one instance of someone talking behind their back or hurting their feelings. If the situation

goes beyond a personality mismatch to the point where a child is spreading rumors or purposefully doing things to humiliate another or hurt another's feelings, the targeted child might need some help on how to handle it.

Urge them to resist the temptation to throw insults back at their bully or to say nasty things about them to others. That will only escalate the situation and bring them down to the mean child's level. Instead, suggest that they ignore the taunts or mean behavior while others are around, and instead wait for a moment alone with the other person to bring up what's been going on. They can say something like, 'I've heard you're saying these things about me—is that true?' or 'I've noticed you doing X, Y, Z' and then ask the other person why they have been behaving that way.

It's possible there's been a misunderstanding between the two that could be cleared up in a one-on-one, non-accusatory conversation. If that's not the case, and it's clear the other child simply doesn't like them, they can follow up by saying, "It's okay if you don't want to be friends, but I'd like to think we could at least be respectful of each other." Help them practice using "I" statements like "When you _____, I feel _____." Communicating feelings clearly is a skill that will help any child deal with difficult situations throughout life.

Gold Award Project Encourages Pride and Positivity



“Girl Scout Ambassador Lauren Young dedicated her Gold Award project, *Be Positive*, to encourage pride and positivity to the students of Grafton Bethel Elementary School in Yorktown. Lauren became aware of the many types of distractions children were facing due to peer-pressure and bullying. To tackle this issue, Lauren used her artistic talents to create four inspiring murals for the school. The colorful murals focused on encouraging kindness and respect with elementary-friendly messages such

as, "Throw kindness around like confetti," and "Great Grizzlies are respectful, responsible, safe, and kind." Through her paintings, she reminded students they were in a safe safe place and one where every individual was respected. In addition to murals, Lauren visited the classrooms of third, fourth, and fifth grade students at the school to do educational activities and read a book about kindness and friendship. Her murals will remain in the school for years to come.

“GREAT TREES” RP3 Patch



“Great Trees” is the newest patch in P.R.A.Y.’s Bible Basic RP3 Series.

RP3 is about learning Bible STUDY. Each Bible story will utilize the RP3 outline: participants will Read the passage, answer questions to Picture the story, discuss issues to Ponder its meaning, and choose an activity to Put into action.

“We sometimes take trees and our planet for granted. But the Bible uses great trees to teach us important lessons about being rooted in Scripture, responding to God through worship, and God’s transforming power!”

This opening excerpt introduces “Great Trees,” the newest patch in the RP3 Series. As we head into spring and anticipate the budding of trees, use the following lessons to remind us that we can be agents of change and experience new growth that is possible only through God:

Story #1: A Tree Planted by Streams of Water

When we are planted in God’s Word, we are choosing the best path.

Story #2: Great Trees, Tents, and an Altar

When we believe God’s promises, our first response should be worship. No matter where we go, we can find a sacred place and worship God.

Story #3: Trees in the Desert

All nature points to Creator God. God’s handiwork reveals God’s character.

“Great Trees” is a companion patch to the existing “Trees” patch which focuses on trusting and obeying God in order to grow strong and fruitful.

Go to the P.R.A.Y. webstore to download your free "Great Trees" curriculum and purchase the new patch today!

[**LEARN MORE**](#)

Visit a GSCCC Property for Your Next Outdoor Adventure!

GSCCC has many properties, camps, and facilities that be can rented for day and overnight use by faith groups, businesses, and individuals. Properties are handicap accessible. For more information visit the [**camps and facilities page**](#) at gsc.org. For questions email [**customer@gsccc.org**](mailto:customer@gsccc.org).

Resources for Print

We provide updated [**program inserts**](#) and [**bulletins**](#) each year that you can use at your place of worship. Find these and more resources at [**gsccc.org**](http://gsccc.org).

What is P.R.A.Y.?

Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) is a not-for-profit organization whose national board of directors includes representatives from Protestant and Independent Christian Churches and the national youth agencies. Learn more praypub.org.

My Promise, My Faith

Girls of all grade levels in Girl Scouts can earn the My Promise, My Faith pin, which complements existing religious recognitions and allows girls to further strengthen the connection between their faith and Girl Scouts. Once each year, a girl can earn the My Promise, My Faith pin by carefully examining the Girl Scout Law and tying it directly to tenets of her faith.

Religious Recognitions

Created by national religious organizations to encourage the spiritual growth of youth members, religious recognition programs reinforce many of the values integral to Girl Scouting and help girls grow stronger in and learn more about their chosen faith.

Each religious organization develops and administers its own program. The brochure [“To Serve God”](#) (PDF) lists the religious recognitions created by various faith groups. You can find this brochure, a video explaining religious recognition programs, and other resources for collaborating with faith communities at P.R.A.Y. Publishing.

Contact us at customer care@gsgccc.org to set up time to meet with you virtually or in person. We'd like to share how your place of faith can be a Girl Scout partner and help strengthen the lives of girls in our community.

Already a partner? Great! We'd love to share a story you might have with others. Email your story and any photos to marcomm@gsgccc.org.

We'd love to hear from you!

If you're interested in receiving more information about Girl Scouts, contact customer care@gsgccc.org.