

Beaver Faith Activity Badge

Workbook for Members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)



Prepared by Friends Committee on Scouting Fourth Month, 2020 www.quakerscouting.org

Notes for Parents, Spiritual Advisors, and Scouters:

This workbook is intended to support Quaker Beavers in learning more about the history, faith, and practice of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) through The Scout Association's Faith activity badge.

- 1) Youth who are members or attenders of the Religious Society of Friends and are involved in Scouting should be encouraged to earn this badge.
- 2) Consider making arrangements for the Faith Activity Badge to be presented to the Beaver upon completion at a regular session of the Meeting for Worship. The Beaver's Scout Group or a representative of the group should be invited to attend the presentation whenever possible.
- 3) Volunteers from **Friends Committee on Scouting** are always ready to help a young Friend complete their Faith activity badge. Contact us via our website at <u>www.quakerscouting.org</u> or find us on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/groups/quakerscouting/</u>

I. Write a Prayer or Reflection

Reflections for Parents/Spiritual Advisor/Scouter:

"Be still and cool in thy own mind and spirit from thy own thoughts, and then thou wilt feel the principle of God..." George Fox, 1658

"Prayer is an act of sharing with God, the Spirit, and not an attempt to prompt God to action. It is a promise that I will do my best..." Quaker Faith & Practice, 5th ed, 2.27

"Prayer is not words or acts but reaching down to love: holding our fellows in love, offering ourselves in love; and being held by, being caught up in love." Quaker Faith & Practice, 5th ed, 2.23

1) What is God to you?

2) What do you love?

3) What do you want to share with God?

II. Read or Share a Prayer or Reflection

You could do this for an opening or closing ceremony or some other time

Reflections for Parents/Spiritual Advisor/Scouter:

"Do not assume that vocal ministry is never to be your part. Faithfulness and sincerity in speaking, even very briefly may open the way to fuller ministry from others. When prompted to speak, wait patiently to know that the leading and the time are right, but do not let a sense of your own unworthiness hold you back. Pray that your ministry may arise from deep experience and trust that words will be given to you. Try to speak audibly and distinctly, and with sensitivity to the needs of others..." Advices and Queries #13

"...when we join with others in expectant waiting we may discover a deeper sense of God's presence. We seek a gathered stillness in our meetings for worship so that all may feel the power of God's love drawing us together and leading us." Advices and Queries #8

1) Have you ever felt like you needed to share a message with other Friends or Beavers?

2) How did you respond to this feeling? Quakers often call this feeling a "leading".

3) What is silent worship (the gathered stillness)? Explain it in your own words.

III. Find and Tell a Story About Doing Your Best and Helping Other People. Think About the Ways it Links to the Beaver Scout Promise

Suggestions for Parents/Spiritual Advisor/Scouter:

Check out the following Quaker bookstores for great Quaker book ideas:

- BYM Quaker Bookshop <u>http://bookshop.quaker.orq.uk/</u>
- QuakerBooks (Friends General Conference, Philadelphia) www.quakerbooks.org

The Beaver promise has three parts. Let's talk about what it means to you.

1) What does "I promise to do my best" mean to you?

2) What does it mean "To be kind and helpful"?

3) What does it mean "to love God"?

4) What is the title of the book you selected?

5) What is the story about?

6) How does the story relate to doing your best?

7) How does the story show us about being kind and helpful?

8) How does the story show us about loving God?

IV. Visit a place of worship and tell other Beaver Scouts about your visit. You can do this with photographs, drawings, handouts, leaflets or information sheets.

Reflections for Parents/Spiritual Advisor/Scouter:

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:20)

"Come regularly to meeting for worship even when you are angry, depressed, tired, or spiritually cold. In the silence, ask for and accept the prayerful support of others joined with you in worship..." (Advices & Queries #10)

1) Where does your Local Meeting meet? Is it a specific building? A person's home?

2) What is the history of the meeting space? If a specific meetinghouse, when was it built? How was it built?

3) Draw a picture of your meetinghouse or meeting space

4) Why do Quakers call it a meetinghouse and not a church?