



# Spiritual Development in Scouting

YOUTH PROGRAMME



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# Session Objectives

- To demonstrate why Spirituality is important in Scouting
- To explain the main concepts about the spirituality in Scouting
- To Explain the educational Objectives of Spiritual Development in Scouting
- To show some related dynamics in WOSM around the area of spiritual development.



# The Scout Promise

On my honour I promise that I will do my best — To do **my duty to God and the King** (or to God and my Country); To help other people at all times; To obey the Scout Law.

Text from WOSM constitution as revealed by the founder



# The purpose of the Scout Movement

The purpose of the Scout Movement is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.



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# The principles of Scouting

- Duty to God
- Duty to others
- Duty to self



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# The Scout Method



# Youth Programme Definition

The Youth Programme in Scouting is the totality of the learning opportunities from which young people can benefit (*What*), created to achieve the purpose of Scouting (*Why*), and experienced through the Scout method (*How*).



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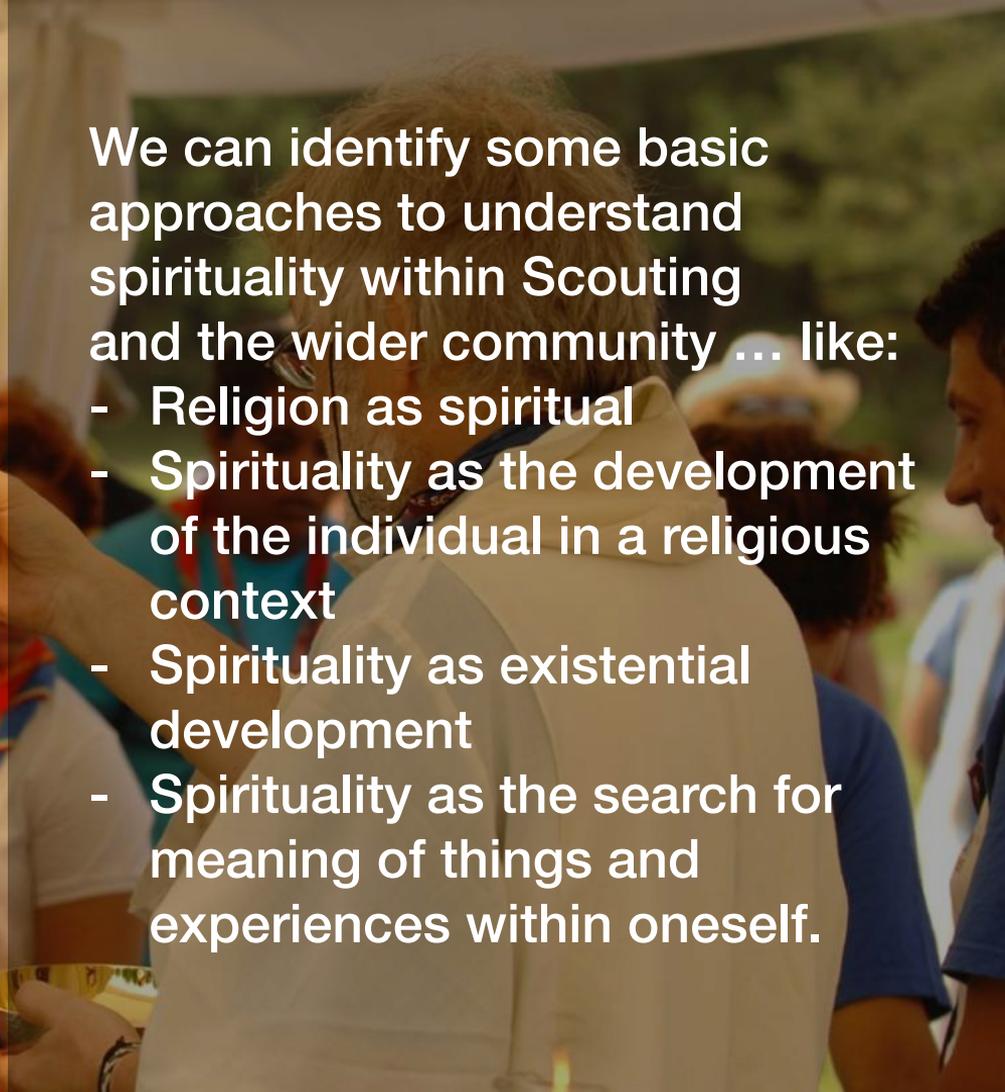
**Spirituality**  
belief religion  
**Faith**



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# What is Spirituality (in Scouting)?

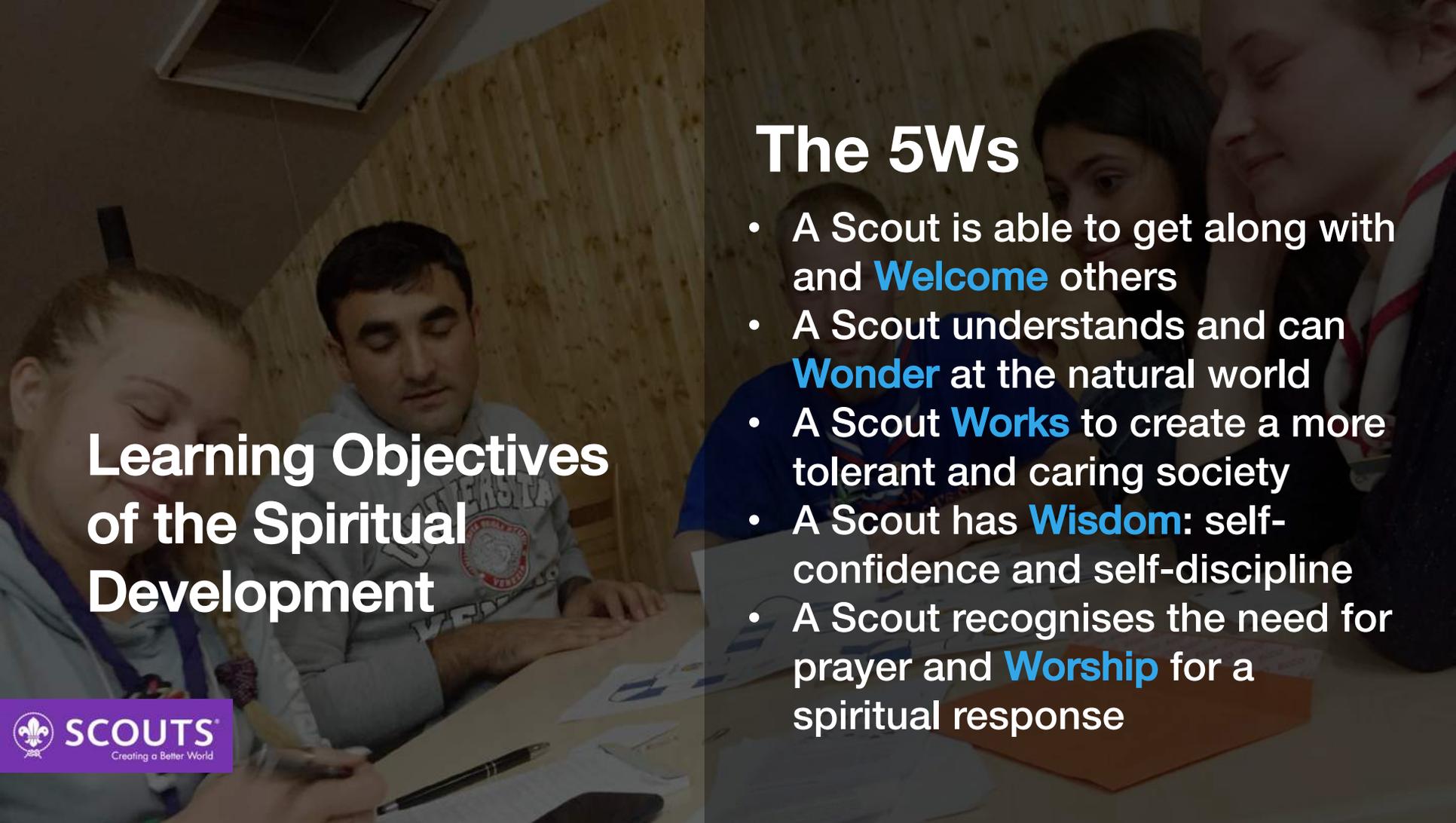


We can identify some basic approaches to understand spirituality within Scouting and the wider community ... like:

- Religion as spiritual
- Spirituality as the development of the individual in a religious context
- Spirituality as existential development
- Spirituality as the search for meaning of things and experiences within oneself.



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## Learning Objectives of the Spiritual Development

### The 5Ws

- A Scout is able to get along with and **Welcome** others
- A Scout understands and can **Wonder** at the natural world
- A Scout **Works** to create a more tolerant and caring society
- A Scout has **Wisdom**: self-confidence and self-discipline
- A Scout recognises the need for prayer and **Worship** for a spiritual response



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The learning  
cycle  
and Spiritual  
Development



Exploring

Reflecting

Deciding

Connecting

# Exploring the invisible

The Scout Method and Approach to Spiritual Development

- Exploring involves going somewhere new
- Exploring requires personal commitment
- Exploring requires appropriate training
- Exploring requires preparation and planning
- Exploring needs an engagement with its discoveries and experiences
- Exploring has an effect on the explorer
- Exploring make use of maps and guides
- Exploring can be a life long project



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# Adults support in Spiritual development

Role and training of  
Scout leaders

- Use genuine experience
- Encourage observation
- Feeling - value first impressions
- Acknowledge emotions and feeling
- Encourage questioning



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# Conference Resolutions:

1996 - 10

Inter-Religious Dialogue

2005 - 24

Inter-Religious Dialogue and  
Spiritual Dimension

2008 - 30

World Scout Interreligious Forum

2017 - 06

Spirituality in Scouting

# Interreligious Dialogue

Interreligious Forum of World Scouting

Started 1997 preparing for the WSJ in Chile (1999).



INTERRELIGIOUS FORUM  
FORUM INTERRELIGIEUX  
FORO INTERRELIGIOSO  
МЕЖРЕЛИГИОЗНЫЙ ФОРУМ  
منتدى الأديان



International Forum of Jewish Scouts  
Forum International des Scouts Juifs  
הפורום הבינלאומי לצופים היהודיים



# Interreligious Dialogue

## World Scout Interreligious Symposium



World Scout Interreligious Symposium  
Symposium Interreligieux Scout Mondial  
Simposio Interreligioso Scout Mundial

KAICIID  
DIALOGUE  
CENTRE

WHO WE ARE WHAT WE DO NEWS & EVENTS PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES English Q

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### SCOUTS AND KAICIID JOINTLY PROMOTE INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

26 Feb 2014

f t g+ e

News

Events

For the Media

RELATED NEWS

21 May 2015  
Open Call for Applications: ACWAY Programme for Youth

VIEW ALL NEWS

RELATED CONTENT

The first joint activity of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) was held 21 to 24 February in Vienna, Austria. The interreligious dialogue brought together 37 Scout leaders who represented diverse cultures and religions from around the world.

In a welcome address to the Scouts, KAICIID Deputy Secretary General Claudia Blandino-Otner said, "KAICIID highly values and respects and recognizes the enormous collective experience present in this room today, comprising many well-regarded individuals from all over the world who have worked in intercultural and interreligious education and dialogue for many years. We aspire to offer a networking point and a learning platform."





**Scouting are  
open to all**

**The common interpretation of  
the Duty to God in Scouting**



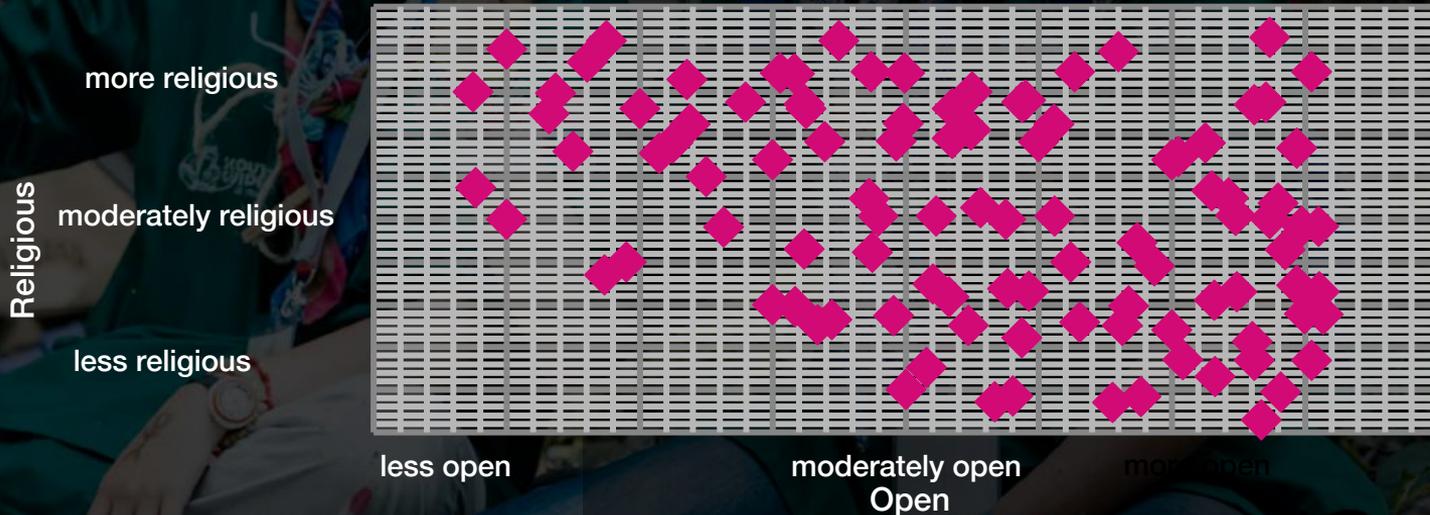
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# Brief History of Duty to God in the Promise

- 1922 pluralistic or Lay associations present among founders
- 1924 Conference affirmation of importance of spiritual development
- 1932 Reluctant acceptance of diversity: full promise required and anticipated
- 1949 Division avoided at Conference
- 1961 Conference affirms Duty to God as basic and allows variations in promise.
- Further growth of movement as driver for diversity, retaining a spiritual dimension as essential part of the promise.

# Findings from the spiritual development survey 2016: A Diverse movement

Open vs. Religious. NSOs/NSAs





# 2017-06 Spirituality in scouting (Conf Res.)

## The Conference

- recognising the good work being done by many Member Organizations in the area of Spiritual Development / Duty to God and the wide acceptance and use of the resources Scouting and Spiritual Development and Guidelines on Spiritual and Religious Development in Scouting



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A group of people is walking away from the camera on a dirt path that winds through a dense forest. The trees are tall and thin, with green foliage. The path is well-trodden and leads into the distance where the group is walking. The lighting is natural, suggesting daytime.

# 2017-06 Spirituality in scouting (Conf Res.)

## The Conference

- recognising the good work being done and presented by the Duty to God Task Force - recognising the need for further investigation in the key area of Spiritual Development / Duty to God and the strongly expressed desire for more support on the part of many Member Organizations in the area of Spiritual Development / Duty to God
- reaffirming Conference Resolution 2014-05 and the broad agreement within the Movement of the importance of Spiritual Development / Duty to God



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A group of people is walking away from the camera on a dirt path that winds through a dense forest. The trees are tall and thin, with sunlight filtering through the canopy, creating a dappled light effect on the path. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

# 2017-06 Spirituality in scouting (Conf Res.)

## The Conference

- recommends that the World Scout Committee provides more support to Member Organizations in enhancing their youth programme and leader training in the area of Spiritual Development / Duty to God
- recommends that the World Scout Committee, when considering approval of changes to the local formulation of the Scout Promise and Law, give due weight to the place of each Member Organization in determining the most appropriate formulation for their “culture and civilization” when addressing the issue of “Spiritual Development / Duty to God”



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# 2017-06 Spirituality in scouting (Conf Res.)

## The Conference

- calls on Member Organizations to consider, in a spirit of fellowship, the wider interests of the Movement when presenting new formulations of their Scout Promise and Law for approval.



Thank You