

**Muir District  
Timeless Values Tour  
Reflecting on the Scout Law in Your Life**

The Scout Law has 12 points. Each is a goal for every Scout. He does his best to live up to the Law. It is not always easy to do, but a Scout always tries.

**A Scout is TRUSTWORTHY.**

- **TRUSTWORTHY: *Deserving of trust or confidence; dependable; reliable***
- A Scout tells the truth.
- He keeps his promises.
- Honesty is part of his code of conduct.
- People can always depend on him.
- A true and worthy person recognizes his obligations and does them without being watched or compelled.
- The process of becoming trustworthy is a never ending one. Being considered trustworthy by others is the direct result of the experiences they share with you, where the actions you have taken and the conduct you have exhibited have created the expectation that you will do the right thing. This is not a temporary state of behavior; it is a template by which all of your actions are patterned.

*Reflection:*

- *Do you sometimes not tell the truth?*
- *Does it get easier the more you do it?*
- *What do you think of other people when you find out if they have not told you the truth?*
- *Do you want others to think of you that way?*

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**A Scout is LOYAL.**

- **LOYAL: Faithful to one's oath, commitments, or obligations**
- A Scout is true to his family, friends, Scout leaders, school, and nation.
- Without loyalty we have no love of person or country
- Loyalty means being faithful to a person, idea, custom, duty or country. This is not to be confused with blindly following others, but rather, to follow your heart.
- Keep the promises that you make, fulfill your obligations and observe the rules by which we all live.

*Reflection:*

- *What does being true to your family mean?*
- *Do you say bad things about your friends behind their back?*
- *If your friend does something wrong are you being true to him to lie and help him hide his mistake? Or is loyalty helping him acknowledge his mistake; accept his punishment and helping him learn from his mistake so he doesn't do it again?*
- *Do you depend on some people like parents or grandparents or friends? If you can't depend upon someone do you want them for a friend?*
- *Can your friends depend on you?*

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**A Scout is HELPFUL.**

- **HELPFUL: *giving or rendering aid or assistance; of service***
- A Scout cares about other people.
- He willingly volunteers to help others without expecting payment or reward.
- He must be prepared at any time to save life, help injured persons, and share the home duties.
- Part sharing, part caring. By helping each other, we help ourselves; not to mention mankind. Be always full of help.
- One of the best and oldest images of this is the picture of a Boy Scout helping an old lady to cross the street. Today, the Scouting movement is focused on helping others through a multitude of service projects, of which the annual Scouting for Food drive is a prime example.

*Reflection:*

- *Does helping others make you feel good?*
- *Have you ever needed help?*
- *What if you needed help and there was no one that would give it?*

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**A Scout is FRIENDLY.**

- **FRIENDLY: Warm; comforting**
- A Scout is a friend to all.
- He is a brother to other Scouts.
- He offers his friendship to people of all races and nations, and respects them even if their beliefs and customs are different from his own.
- This means that you support your friends in good times and in bad times, that you cooperate with others and give comfort when needed.
- A friendly Scout is one who exudes a pleasant personality, without effort. This is not a forced demeanor, but a natural tendency to be thoughtful and kind to others. It is acting toward others as you would have them act toward you.

*Reflection:*

- *How can you expect someone to be friendly to you if you're not friendly to them?*
- *Not everyone will be your friend, but you can be friendly to everyone.*
- *If someone is not friendly to you, do you want to be around them?*
- *What does being a brother to other Scouts mean?*
- *Can you treat every Scout like your brother?*
- *If you know other Scouts live by the Scout Law, would you like to be their friend?*

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**A Scout is COURTEOUS.**

- **COURTEOUS:** *having or showing good manners; polite*
- A Scout is polite to everyone.
- He knows that good manners make it easier for people to get along together.
- Courtesy is the mark of all faiths. It is shown in thoughtful acts and kindly respect for everyone.
- Allow each person his human dignity.
- A courteous Scout is one who has self-discipline. His behavior is an example for others to follow. He doesn't interrupt when others are talking and listens with intent. He is patient and waits his turn, and is considerate of those around him.

*Reflection:*

- *If you're not nice to someone, are they nice to you?*
- *If you are not polite to people you meet, how will they ever become your friend?*

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**A Scout is KIND.**

- **KIND: of a good nature, as a person**
- A Scout understands there is strength in being gentle.
- He treats others as he wants to be treated.
- Without good reason, he does not harm or kill any living thing.
- Kindliness is the way people show respect for others.
- This is the process of being generous or warm-hearted to others, showing understanding and reaching out with a helping hand when needed, and without being asked. The practice of performing good deeds and granting favors without the expectation of something in return is the epitome of kindness.

*Reflection:*

- *Has anyone ever been unkind to you? How does it make you feel?*
- *Do you know someone that enjoys harming animals? Did you watch? Do you encourage them to do it more?*
- *If someone enjoys harming a helpless animal do you think they might later enjoy hurting a person, maybe you or a friend?*
- *Would you rather enjoy the love of a pet when you feel sad, or pull it's tail to make you feel better?*

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**A Scout is OBEDIENT.**

- **OBEDIENT: *obeying or willing to obey; complying with authority***
- A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and troop.
- He obeys the laws of his community and country. If he thinks these rules and laws are unfair, he tries to have them changed in an orderly manner rather than disobey them. This is part of the democratic process that we learn in Scouting.
- Without obedience, the troop cannot function as a team. One outward sign of obedience and Scout spirit is the wearing of the Scout uniform. This is an outward sign of respect for both the Scout and his troop.
- Life is filled with things that we must do whether we like them or not.
- One of the marks of growing up is our readiness to accept responsibilities willingly.
- Starts at home. Practice it in your family. Enlarge it in your friends. Share it with humanity.

*Reflection:*

- *What would your family or church or troop be like if no one followed rules? Would it be fun? Would it be safe?*
- *If you don't behave and follow rules, why should anyone else?*
- *Can you still have fun if you follow rules?*

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**A Scout is CHEERFUL.**

- **CHEERFUL:** *characterized by or expressive of good spirits*
- A Scout looks for the bright side of things.
- He cheerfully does tasks that come his way.
- He tries to make others happy.
- Our moods make our days. If we are grouchy, our day is gloomy. If we are happy, our day is always happier.
- The Scout that practices cheerfulness is always happy and in good spirits. He is willing and good humored. He smiles - a lot, and this behavior causes others around him to be feel the same way. Cheerful Scouts are full of Scout spirit.

*Reflection:*

- *Do you like to be with people that are unhappy or grumpy?*
- *If someone greets you with a smile is it easier to talk with them?*
- *If an unhappy person comes and talks with you and your friends, how does that affect your group?*

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**A Scout is THRIFTY.**

- **THRIFTY: *careful and diligent in the use of resources***
- A Scout works to pay his way and to help others.
- He saves for **the future**.
- He protects and conserves natural resources.
- He carefully uses time and property.
- The world offers many gifts. A wise person uses them with care.
- He is wise in the management of money and other resources. This does not mean that the Scout is cheap, but rather that he is resourceful and makes full use of things around him without being wasteful.

*Reflection:*

- *Can you have anything you want?*
- *Can you enjoy what you have?*
- *If you enjoyed your time in a park, did you leave it so the next person can enjoy the park the same way you did? Or did you break the slide, or leave your trash all over the picnic table?*
- *Do you want to visit or play someplace where there is trash on the beach? Or broken glass in the water?*
- *Did your parents ever say you could do something you wanted, if you did your chores first? Did you do them, did they have to yell at you?*

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**A Scout is BRAVE.**

- **BRAVE: *making a fine appearance***
- A Scout can face danger even if he is afraid.
- He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him.
- This can mean having or showing courage in a difficult or dangerous situation by remaining calm and clear of mind. This is also an inner quality where one can consciously draw on his inner strength in the face of hardship.
- You don't have to fight to be brave. Millions of good, fine, decent folks show more bravery than heavyweight champs just by getting out of bed every morning, going out to do a good day's work, and living the best life they know how.

*Reflection:*

- *If you enjoy Scouts, and someone says bad things about Scouting, should you stop having fun at Scouting? Or tell them about all the fun you have?*

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**A Scout is CLEAN.**

- **CLEAN:** *characterized by a fresh, wholesome quality. Morally pure; innocent; upright; honorable. Showing good sportsmanship.*
- A Scout keeps his body and mind fit and clean.
- He chooses the company of those who live by high standards.
- He helps keep his home and community clean.
- He practices good hygiene, on and off the trail.
- He leads a life that brings honor to himself, his peers and his parents and guardians.
- He respects nature and wilderness by carrying out his trash after a weekend of camping and hiking.
- He does not use profanity nor does he keep the company of those who do.
- He defends those who are the target of unkind words and acts.

*Reflection:*

- *If you shower every day are you clean? Or does clean mean a lot more?*
- *Does clean mean setting a good example for others around you?*
- *If your sister throws trash out of the car window, should you throw your trash out too? Who will clean it up?*
- *Have you seen people throw burning cigarettes out of a car window? What could happen? Does it ever happen?*
- *If you hang around people that use bad words and say bad things about other people, do you end up doing it too? Does it make you feel good, or angry?*
- *If someone calls your friend "four eyes" because he wears glasses, do you stand beside him and let him know you are his friend, or do you tease your friend as well?*
- *Would you want someone to call you names? Would you want your friends to stand beside you if you were being teased?*

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**A Scout is REVERENT.**

- **REVERENT:** *showing great reverence for God. A feeling or attitude of deep respect. The outward manifestation of this feeling.*
- A Scout is reverent toward God.
- He is faithful in his religious duties.
- He respects the beliefs of others.
- He is tolerant of those whose beliefs differ from his, and defends their right to their individual beliefs.
- If we respect ourselves and our brothers and sisters, and see them as gifts of the goodness of God, we live on a high plane.

*Reflection:*

- *Do you ever think about all the wonderful things around you and where they come from?*
- *Did your dinner come from your parents? Or McDonalds? Or the farmer? Or the rancher? Or the supermarket? Or from God?*
- *Do you have a duty at church? A duty to go to Sunday School? Or a youth group?*
- *Do you know other Scouts and friends that have other religious beliefs, maybe Jewish, or Muslim, or Christian? Are they good people? Would you understand them better if you learned a little about their beliefs?*

**If a leader incorporates these character traits into his/her personality, the leader will have a great start on becoming an effective leader. Each of these traits is so important that everyone should internalize them. These Twelve Points can be considered the key to great leadership. The Scouts have been forming great leaders for years.**