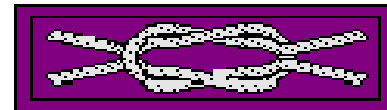




CAPITOL AREA COUNCIL CUB SCOUT RESIDENT CAMP

DAILY MEDITATIONS



2005

THE LOST PINES GRACE

FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OTHERS
FOR THE FELLOWSHIP OF FRIENDS,
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING US TOGETHER,
O LORD
AND GUIDING US WITH YOUR HAND.
AMEN

1993 Matthew Rivera & "Mr.C."

THE PHILMONT GRACE

FOR FOOD, FOR RAIMENT,
FOR LIFE, FOR OPPORTUNITY,
FOR FELLOWSHIP AND FRIENDSHIP
WE THANK THEE, O LORD.
AMEN

Third Day- AM-"Memories"

"Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way."
Psalm 46:10

Thought of the Day: "As a boy of 11 years old at my first Scout summer camp at Camp Perry in the Rio Grande Valley Council, I will remember it for a lifetime. It was time for me to leave a special place after having spent more than a week at this Scout camp. I found myself with mixed emotions that day. On the one hand, I was eager to see my family and friends. On the other hand, my mind was flooded with wonderful memories that made me want to remain just a little longer.

As I recalled that first summer camp, my memories are one of people and spiritual experiences and places. I will always remember the special times spent with others. Also, I recall vividly sensing God's love and presence even though I was many miles from home. As the Scripture passage reminds us, God is always there leading and teaching us, in good times as well as those that are not so good." (By George Finch)

What about you? As you soon depart Residence Camp site, memories will go with you? Will you think of times when you felt closer to God, in prayer, in personal moments of reflection, in shared Meditation experiences with others, and in the awesome recognition of God's creative power? You should be able to testify that God is willing to lead you wherever you go on planet earth and even beyond. After all, you have already stepped into the future by learning to live in God's country with nature at the Residence Camp of 2004.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What memories of God's love and care will you be taking with you as you leave camp?
2. Who are some people who have made special contributions to you during your stay here at 2004 Residence Camp? Why?.

Departure prayer: Lead us O Lord, as we prepare to leave Residence Camp. We are grateful for our many Scouting experiences in the land we will long remember. Protect us in travel and preserve our memories of this adventure. We ask this in your name. AMEN.

First Day ---"To the Future"

"Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth." Psalm 46:10

Thought for the Day: Lost Pines of Bastrop and surrounding areas feature scores of historic sites. For instance, the Griffith Scout Reservation is a grant given to Stephen F. Austin by the President of Mexico - Santa Anna - later the 5,000 acres was handed down to Dr. Griffith. He left the grant in his will to the Capitol Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

This camp is a place where the history of Texas was made by the Spanish Explorers, Native American Indians, Mexican Army, the Texas Revolution fighters, and the many Scouts who have camped here and have gone on to be a fruitful member of United States of America.

The Capitol of Texas is nearby in Austin, Texas and the historical background is well worth the time to visit and take the Historical Trail that you can get a copy of at the Capitol Area Council Scout shop.

In surroundings such as these, it is not difficult to believe in God's great power or to God's love for those He created to inhabit the earth. However, these 3 days at the Residence Camp will be filled with exciting new experiences, each one vying for your attention.

It will be easy to become distracted and fail to acknowledge God's presence here. Yet, He's just a prayer away.

Be certain to take a few moments out of this and every day to thank God for all he has done for you. As the Forty-sixth Psalm reminds us, it is important for us to be still and to recognize God's presence and power in our lives. That you are reading this Meditation is a good indication that you recognize the importance of doing your duty to God each day.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What are some of the ways we can know that God exists here at Residence Camp?
2. Are there times in your life when you felt God's presence in an especially strong way? If so, when?

Evening Prayer: As we end this day, we pause to praise you, to be still and know you better. We are grateful for our safe journey, our families, the world brotherhood of Scouting, and your presence with us now. Amen.

Second Day - AM-"To Friendship"

"I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant have you been unto me: your love to me was wonderful"

2 Samuel 1:26

Thought for the Day: He who brings you closer to God is your friend. One of the great blessings of friendship is the sharing of meaningful and enjoyable discussion time together and fellowship. Each of us needs and tells our hopes and dreams, and in whom we can find safe, peaceful comfort. Here, among your many friends in Scouting and in this historic countryside, you can find and build friendships that will last a lifetime.

Remember that to have a friend, you need to be friend. Reach out to someone, share something, reveal something of your own personality and qualities to him, and look for his best qualities and characteristics.

Whenever God desires to bless us, it is usually through the hands of someone else on earth. More often than not, it is friends that provide some of God's greatest blessing. We bless others when we serve them; we are blessed when we allow others to serve us. Incorporate the values of Scouting and your natural inclination to do a Good Turn daily to find, build, and maintain friendships in all that you do here.

Take time today to read the account of the friendship of David and Jonathan in 1 Samuel, chapters 18-21, and in the first chapter of 2 Samuel. It is a touching and moving account of true friendship and brotherly love that survived war, wickedness, family difficulty, and even death. My God bless you to desire the friendship and fellowship that is available to us here at Residence camp.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What can we do today to be a friend to someone else?
2. When you are among your closest friends, do you notice a feeling of spiritual growth and development that may not be present when you are around certain others? What do you think accounts for this difference?

Prayer-Morning: Dear God, we thank you for the opportunity to love and serve our friends, and pray for your divine guidance in leading us to those who will become our true friends. AMEN.

Second Day - PM--"Helping"

"If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!" Ecclesiastes 4:10

Thought for the Day: Have you ever felt helpless? Imagine yourself trying to take a taxi to a certain location in a huge foreign city. You discover that the taxi driver does not speak your language, and you speak little of his. But the day is saved when a passerby sees the predicament you're in and offers his help. Fortunately, your helper speaks both languages fluently. After only a few moments of explanation by our new friend, the taxi driver has you on your way to your destination. You do not know if your helper has ever been a Scout, but he's shown Scout spirit.

More than eighty years ago, William Boyce felt the same sort of helplessness in a foreign city when he was trying to find his way one night through a thick London fog. Fortunately, a young British Scout became Boyce's helper. With this Scout's helpfulness, Mr. Boyce found his way. He returned home with the idea of starting the Boy Scouts of America-now the largest member of the world Scouting family.

There are many opportunities here at Residence Camp for you to be a helper as you fulfill the Promise "to help other people". Maybe you can help someone find his way. You can be friend another Scout. You might even share a Scout skill or help someone accomplish a task. Always be ready to "help other people at all times" in fulfillment of the Cub Scout Promise -and the Golden Rule.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What are some ways you can do to help others while at Residence Camp?
2. What are some biblical examples of people being helpful and caring?

Evening Prayer: As we end this day, grant us peace, joy, a giving spirit, fellowship, and brotherhood, O Lord. AMEN.