

## **A Service of Recognition**

The following service is designed to be part of a regular worship service. Additional suggestions may be found online at [www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org). Feel free to adapt it. Please invite parents, unit leaders, counselors, or peers to stand with the recipient during the recognition service. Consider asking the recipient to speak briefly (see comments in service below). At the selected time, the pastor will invite the recipient(s) forward, along with special guests, and say:

**The Church seeks to provide opportunities for worship, for study, for service, and for fellowship. Our church uses the P.R.A.Y. Program as one means of Christian growth and discipleship. Today we take time to celebrate one/those who has/have fulfilled the requirements of the P.R.A.Y. program and deserve(s) recognition for outstanding accomplishment. The Bible teaches us that Jesus “grew and became strong, he was full of wisdom, and God’s Blessings were upon him” (Luke 2:40) The young person/people before you today is/are following the example set by Jesus by seeking to grow in Christian faith and service.**

**The P.R.A.Y. program requires young people to study scripture and then design service projects to put into action what they have learned.** [If time allows, briefly describe the program, or ask the youth recipient to tell about a favorite lesson or service project.]

**(Name) has completed the requirements of study and service for the God and (Me/Family/Church/Life) award program, and has earned the right and privilege of wearing this emblem in recognition of this accomplishment.** [Present awards at this time]

**These recipients have received P.R.A.Y. awards which feature a four-colored cross. The four colors converge into a point to create an “X” at the center of the cross. “X” is the first letter in the Greek word for Christ, and it is symbolic of how Christ should be at the center of our lives. The four colors correspond to the four levels in the P.R.A.Y. series.**

**[Name] you are wearing a God and Me emblem. The red symbolizes love and the blood of Christ. May you always be reminded that you are “Best Friends with Jesus.”**

**or**

**[Name] you are wearing a God & Family emblem. The yellow symbolizes sunlight & joy. May you experience the joy & blessings of family as you seek to “Grow in God’s love”**

**or**

**[Name] you are wearing a God and Church emblem. The blue symbolizes loyalty and truth. May you embody both of these as you continue a lifetime “Journey with Christ.”**

**or**

**[Name] you are wearing a God & Life emblem. The green symbolizes new life & growth. May you always know that you are “Called by Christ to Serve.”**

**Unison prayer with the congregation: Please join together in prayer: Lord, your Son has called all of us into the adventures of learning and serving. Today we celebrate one/those who has/have answered that call in a special way. We thank you for (name) and for this moment of joyous celebration. Continue to challenge all of us to grow in Christian service, that your kingdom may become a reality in and through our lives. Amen.**

**P.R.A.Y.**

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