

## **July 19, 2019 - Summit Ahead!**

### **Scripture**

*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us and we are His people, the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.*

~ Psalm 100:1-4 (New International Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

Soon you will arrive at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. Whether you have already had several days of travel and tour experiences or have just left home, your jamboree destination is just ahead! As you approach the Summit, it is natural to have high expectations and well you should. The Summit is an incredible place with more great adventure opportunities than ever before. Maybe it will be just as you envisioned it; perhaps not. Of one thing you can be certain—you are in store for days and nights of meaningful experiences you will remember for a lifetime. This jamboree also gives you a unique opportunity to:

- Get to know yourself better
- Discover and develop new skills
- Celebrate group and individual achievements
- Give freely and cheerfully to others
- Form new friendships with others from around your country and the world
- Learn more about God and grow Spiritually

Begin by thinking of ways to make this jamboree even more memorable for yourself and others. Brighten someone's day. Be an encourager and helper. Make a positive difference. And don't be surprised to find that you've had a true "mountaintop experience!" One of the ways you will be able to do your duty to God during the jamboree is to participate in one or more of the jamboree-wide worship services. Pray for God's guidance to make the most of each day at the Summit. Enjoy!

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What are some of your expectations for the jamboree experience?
2. What are some ways you can grow spiritually while at the Summit?

### **Devotion Prayer**

O God, thank You for our being able to participate in the jamboree. Keep us safe and give us opportunities to know You better. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*Thank You, God, for this new day. May we use it wisely and in service to You. Bless this food we humbly pray. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*For this food we thank You, O God. Help us sense Your presence in our lives and in the lives of others. We praise You, O God, for the jamboree experience You have for us during these upcoming days. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*Bless us, O Lord, we pray as we partake of this food. Thank you for those who helped provide it. May we gain strength to use in Your service. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*We praise You, O God, for the jamboree which awaits us. Remind us each day of Your love for us and the opportunities you will give us to grow in mind, body, and spirit. Amen.*

## July 20 - The Journey Begins

### **Scripture**

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

~ Jeremiah 29:11 (New International Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

As you begin your journey to the Jamboree, whether aboard a bus, van, train, airplane, or all of the above, you can rightly expect the driver, engineer, or pilot to follow a plan that gets you to the Summit in a safe, timely manner. This travel plan may involve GPS and other electronic devices, signs, maps, and mile markers that either confirm the current routing or signal a needed change in direction. Skillful persons prepared these travel aids so that travelers might have a safe, pleasant journey.

Have you ever thought that God has a special plan for your life's journey? Are you aware of individuals who freely give of themselves so that your travel experience might be a pleasant one? Are you using the many "travel aids" such as prayer, scripture reading, worship, and shared service with and for others?

Think about those around you who are also on this trip and who could be a part of your *spiritual* journey as well. Be prepared to share this experience with members of your patrol or crew. And don't be surprised to find your journey all the more enjoyable and meaningful. Finally, seek God's guidance in recognizing the signs and following the pathway laid out for your life. By so doing, you will come to know of the "Great Scoutmaster's" plans for a full and enriching life. Enjoy your jamboree experience. There are many exciting experiences awaiting you and your fellow Scouts.

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. Are you aware of the special plan God has for your life?
2. How can you learn more about this plan?
3. How can you help your fellow Scouts have the journey of a lifetime during these days?

### **Devotion Prayer**

Dear God, help us to know You better and the plans you have for us. We ask You to bless and encourage us each day of the jamboree. Thank You for this opportunity. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*Dear God, we are excited about the experiences of our jamboree journey. Give us strength through the food You have provided this morning so that we may discover more about Your special plans for our lives. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*Open our eyes, O Lord, to the opportunities and blessings You have for us today. We are thankful for this food to nourish us on our journey. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*God, we pause to give You thanks for food, friends, and fellowship. Most of all, we are thankful for Your presence here. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*Dear God, thank You for the plans You have for us. We look to You for our daily bread and for guidance on life's journey. Help us as we seek to serve You and our fellow Scouts. Amen.*

## July 21 - Garden Ground Mountain

### **Scripture**

*When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.*

~ Psalm 104:30 (English Standard Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

The name *Garden Ground Mountain* comes from the workers who built the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway through the gorge during the 1870s. Tradition holds that most of the workers were recently freed slaves from the South seeking work to support their extended families. They planted gardens on the levels atop the mountain, with those gardens becoming essential in supporting their families. *Garden Ground Mountain* is the highest point on the *Summit Bechtel Reserve*. The mountain forms the western wall of the gorge. It's highest elevation rises above 2,500 feet.

For generations people have looked to and gathered on *Garden Ground Mountain*, from the earliest days of the first American Indians and pioneers who made their way into the gorge to the people who built the railroad, mined the coal, and timbered the land. Today, in the 21st century, Scouts look to and will gather on *Garden Ground*. God's spirit created the mountain and renews its use. *Garden Ground Mountain* is now a place where Scouts from across the United States and around the world will gather in the spirit of Scouting to learn about each other, live the Scout Oath and Law, and experience God's creative work, the beauty of the New River Gorge.

Remember as you make your hike and join in the fun at the top of *Garden Ground Mountain* to be helpful and courteous to others on the trail, to be friendly and kind to your fellow Scouts. Remember to be thrifty and clean with the land you will tread. Remember to be reverent as you look to *Garden Ground Mountain* "pointed skyward To the Great Almighty's Land!" (from the third verse of "The West Virginia Hills", official state song, written by Ellen King).

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. How does God speak to you through nature?
2. Who has God placed on your path this day that you may be able to help?

### **Devotion Prayer**

O God, give me the strength for the hike. Open my mind to new possibilities through meeting and having fun with my fellow Scouts. God help me to see the joy and beauty of this moment and experience the fullness of this day through your renewing spirit. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*Dear God, wow, you sure made a lot of mountains around here. May the food we've received this morning help us to climb the mountains step by step so that we may see the glory of your world. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*Be with us, O Lord, throughout this afternoon that we may take in all that you offer us. We give thanks for this food that strengthens us for this day. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*Gracious God, thank you for the blessings of this day, for the food with which you nourish us, and the friends who encourage us. Thank you for your world that we have enjoyed this day. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*Dear God, thank You for this day and the beauty of this camp. You feed us... mind, body, and spirit, that we can be who you plan for us to be. Be with us this night, that I may be refreshed for the day to come. Amen.*

## July 22 - Counting Blessings

### **Scripture**

*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

~ Isaiah 43:19 (English Standard Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

We are on an adventure that we will remember as long as we have memories! Decades from now, when you meet another Scouter who went to this jamboree, *even though you never met him before*, you will share memories of your travels, the fun you had, the stadium shows you saw, and yes, even what the weather was like. Wow!! If you're not excited, you should be.

When you think about it, just being able to go on this trip is special. Most Scouts don't get to go to a jamboree. After all, it's pretty expensive. For that matter, most kids don't get to be Scouts. It's the middle of the summer. If they're awake, right now one-third of all kids your age are looking at some kind of electronic device. Too bad. We're going to the jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Family Scout Reservation!

How did we get so lucky? Well, lucky isn't the right word. We are blessed. We are blessed to be living in a time and place where it is possible to go to such an incredible event. We are blessed to have those that support us so that we have the resources of time and money to make this trip. We are blessed to be in a community where there is Scouting and where there are adults who care enough about us to get us this far. If it sounds like I'm counting blessings, well, I am. It's natural to see all the blessings around us when things are going well. I wonder... would I be counting blessings if I weren't being reminded?

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. How will this trip change your life?
2. How will this trip make you a better person?

### **Devotion Prayer**

Heavenly Father, please keep us safe on our journey. We ask, Lord, that you also look after the tens of thousands of Scouts from all over my country and the world who are also making this trip. Remind us each day that this is a memory that we are building that will last us a lifetime. Remind us each day that this is a blessing. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*God, we are thankful for the opportunities we will encounter at this Jamboree. Please help us to see these opportunities as they happen. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*Thank You for this food which we are about to eat. We are also thankful for the friendship and rest we enjoy while pausing for lunch. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*God, thank you for this time of fellowship around this meal. We ask that you bless our conversation. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*Dear God, thank you for the many blessings you have given us today. We look forward to seeing how you will bless us tomorrow. Amen.*

## July 23 - Building Friendships is a Mountain to Experience

### **Scripture**

*He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*

~ Micah 6:8 (New International Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

This jamboree brings together people from all over your nation and around the world. Each person attending the jamboree has the opportunity to learn from and share with people you might never have imagined you would meet. Everyone comes with his or her own stories, background, and beliefs. This diversity adds tremendous richness to the entire Scouting experience. When we share our backgrounds and our uniqueness with those we meet, we begin to learn that we are not really all that different from one another. We all experience similar feelings of happiness and sadness, fulfillment and disappointment, confidence and insecurity. When we realize that people are basically the same, we find it easier to treat each other with respect, kindness, and love. By treating people in this way, we imitate God's actions toward us.

Sometimes, however, people become somewhat shy and fearful of making new friends. Do you find yourself trying to cling to familiar surroundings or spending your time with only the people you know? Might there be someone in your patrol, troop, or crew who is really shy and needs some help in meeting new friends? Help that person. God wants us to learn about each other, to understand each other, and to come together in friendship.

Ask God to help *you* overcome any fear or shyness you might feel. Do your best to open yourself to new experiences. Trust that all *you* do in developing these bonds of friendship will help to build a world of justice, love, and understanding. Believe that God is present with *you* and will help *you* in this work.

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. Sharing your talents with others allows God to work in your life and in the lives of those around you. What are some of the gifts that you as a Scout bring to this jamboree? Have you tried to share these gifts with others?
2. Have you tried to learn about others' customs and cultures?
3. Have you made many new friends?

### **Devotion Prayer**

O God, help me work for peace, justice, and love in our world by uniting myself with others in friendship. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*Dear God, help us all to use this day well. We thank You for this food which gives us energy to work in building a world of understanding among all peoples. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*For this food we share and for all the friendships we build, we thank You, O Lord. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*Bless this food, O Lord, and bless the friendships we have made. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*Thank You, God, for this day. Grant us a peaceful and restful night that we may awaken refreshed and eager to work again in building a world of justice, love, and understanding. Amen.*

## July 24 - Cooperation

### **Scripture**

*Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor.*

~ Ecclesiastes 4:9 (American Standard Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

Someone once said, "When you help someone up a hill, *you* are a little nearer to the top yourself." Life is like that in almost all that we do. Any job is made easier and lighter if we have help. Any wonderful scene, great movie, excellent book, or tasty meal is much better if it is shared. Any time we truly share in something with another person, we cooperate with them. We decide, "I'll do this and you do that, and we'll get through this together."

Every baseball, basketball, or football team depends on cooperation: "I'll pass the ball to you, and you put it through the hoop." Teamwork, troop spirit—call it what you like—a sense of cooperation almost always ensures that a task placed on you will be accomplished. How true the adage: "It's surprising how much you can get done if you don't care who gets the credit."

God wants us to learn to cooperate. Cooperation is basic to the way Scouts think. God made it almost impossible for us to accomplish certain things without help. Sometimes we have the tendency to balk at the need to share a burden with someone else, but eventually we learn to do our very best work with a trusted and cooperative partner. We can learn a great deal about cooperation from living at the jamboree. In our cooperating with others we often have the opportunity to see God revealed.

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What are some of the obvious benefits of cooperation?
2. Why do you think God wants us to learn to cooperate?
3. Why it is important that we learn to live in harmony?

### **Devotion Prayer**

O God, we thank You for the challenges You provide us each day. We pray for your blessing and inspiration in finding peaceful and cooperative solutions to them. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*We thank You for a good night's rest and for the blessing of a new day. We thank You for our food and for Your blessing upon it. Help us find harmony and joy in serving, working, and learning together today. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*O Lord, our grateful thanks to You for the many blessings You grant us. Please give us strength and nourishment from this food which has been prepared for us. Bless us to live in peace and unity. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*Dear Father in Heaven, we thank You for this food and pray Your blessing upon it to our good. We bless Your name and all which we have received and especially for the brotherhood we feel in our unity. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*Dear Lord, we thank You for this day and for our many blessings. We pray Your Spirit to attend us through the night and bless us tomorrow with unity, harmony, and peace in our efforts. Amen.*

## July 25 - Friendship

### **Scripture**

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

~ 2 Samuel 1:26 (American King James Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

"One who pushes you closer to God—he is your friend." One of the great blessings of friendship is fellowship and the sharing of meaningful and enjoyable discussion time together. As human beings, we need to have a true friend in whom we can confide; a friend with whom to share our hopes and dreams; a friend with whom we can feel safe and secure. Scouting offers us the opportunity to build relationships and develop friendships that span distance and ignore the passing of time.

Remember, however, that to have a friend you must be a friend. Reach out to someone, share with that person, reveal something of your own personality, develop trust between yourself and that person. Look for the best qualities and characteristics of that person.

When God blesses us, it is usually through the hands of someone else on earth. More often than not, it's friends who provide many of God's greatest blessings. 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 friends in all that you do here at the jamboree. May God bless you to desire the friendship and fellowship that is available to us here in this land of many friendships.

### **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?

### **Devotion Prayer**

Dear God, we thank You for the opportunity to love and serve our friends. We pray for Your divine guidance in leading us to those who will become our true friends. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*We thank You, O Lord, for the bounties of the harvest, and for this new and wonderful day. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*For that which we are about to partake and for our newfound friends, we thank You, O Lord. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*Dear Lord, we are thankful for the joys of service and for the blessings of friendship and brotherly love. We give thanks, too, for our food and ask Your blessing upon it and us as we partake. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*Dear God, as we close the day, we offer our gratitude for all that we have and are. We thank You for our friends and for the blessings that come to us through them. Amen.*

## July 26 - Helping Is a Mountaintop Experience

### **Scripture**

*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 (New International Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

Have you ever felt helpless? I have felt that way on many occasions. One of those times was when I was in a taxi in Seoul, Korea. I was trying to get to a certain location in that huge city. I soon discovered that the driver spoke no English and I spoke very little Korean. The day was saved when a passer-by saw the predicament we were in and offered his help. Fortunately, our helper spoke both fluent Korean and English. After only a few moments of explanation by my new friend, the taxi driver was on his way to my destination. I do not know if my helper was a Scout, but he showed Scout spirit.

More than 100 years ago, William Boyce felt the same sort of helplessness when he was trying to find his way one night in the thick London fog. Fortunately, a young British Scout became Boyce's helper. Because of this Scout's helpfulness, Mr. Boyce found his way. He also returned home with the idea of starting the Scouting program in the United States of America — a part of the world Scouting family.

There are many opportunities here at the Scout jamboree for *you* to be a helper as *you* fulfill the third point of the Scout Law. Maybe *you* can help someone find his way. You can befriend 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 Scout Oath—and the Golden Rule!

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What are some ways you can help others while at the jamboree?
2. What are some Biblical examples of people being helpful or caring?

### **Devotion Prayer**

Lord, help us to always have a helpful spirit, seeking to show concern for the needs of others. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*As we begin this day, O God, make us aware of ways we can be helpful to others. Bless this food and this day as we seek to serve You. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*Grant to us, O Lord, a sense of your presence, a helpful spirit, an opportunity to serve, and blessing for this food. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*We thank You, O Lord, for our food, for our families, for clothing and shelter, for our friends, for life itself. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*As we end this day, grant us peace, joy, a giving spirit, fellowship, and brotherhood, O Lord. Amen.*



## **July 27 - History**

### **Scripture**

*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 (King James Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

We are in the beautiful and historic state of West Virginia. Have you taken time to learn anything about where you are? Take a moment to investigate and learn about the place where you are.

Be certain to take a few moments out of this and every day to thank God for all that you are experiencing, for all the history you stand in witness to, and for all the history you are helping to create. As Psalm 46 reminds us, it is important for us to be still and to acknowledge God's presence and power in our lives. The fact that you are reading this devotional is a good indication that you recognize the importance of doing your duty to God each day.

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. How do we see the hand of God in history?
2. Are there times in your life when you feel God's presence in an especially strong way? If so, when?

### **Devotion Prayer**

Thank You, God, for loving us. Give us a special sense of your presence today as we observe your creative power all around us in this beautiful land. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*Accept our thanks, O God, for a new day You have given us to enjoy here at the Summit Bechtel Family Scout Reserve. Thank You too, for our food. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*For our food, for our friends, and for the many growth opportunities You are giving us at this jamboree, we thank You, God. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*Accept our thanks, Lord, for creating this beautiful world, for giving us your blessings, and for providing our food. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*As we end this day, we pause to praise You. We are grateful for our safe journey, for our families, for the world brotherhood of Scouting, and for Your presence with us now. Amen.*

## July 28 - Learning Is a Mountaintop Experience

### **Scripture**

*Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.*

~ Proverbs 9:9 (King James Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

The 2019 Jamboree offers you the opportunity to increase your knowledge about the people who live all over the world. The jamboree also allows you to sharpen your Scouting skills and, most importantly, to learn more about yourself and God. You have been able to accomplish things on this trip because of the learning that took place earlier in your life.

God has equipped you with an inquiring mind and a quest for new learning experiences. Take advantage of today's many opportunities to increase your knowledge.

Have you learned about the other Scouts in your subcamp? Have you made friends with Scouts from other places? Have you invited new friends to lunch or dinner at your campsite? We encourage you to meet new people, make new friends, expand your horizons, and open yourself to the awesome potential that your participation at the jamboree provides. Are you seeking new learning experiences at this jamboree? Don't miss out! The people you meet, the things you learn, and the memories you make at the jamboree will remain with you for the rest of your life.

And speaking of learning, take a few moments today to let God teach you. God is just a prayer away!

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What can you do today that will help you gain some valuable learning experiences?
2. Why does God want you to continue to have learning experiences?

### **Devotion Prayer**

Thank You, God, for giving us the ability to learn. Help us take advantage of the many ways we can learn from each other today and in that learning, may we see your face and your glory revealed. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*For our food, for our friends, and for this day in which we can learn and enjoy the beauty of Your creation, we give you thanks, O God. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*As we pause to give You thanks for this food, we ask that You also give us open hearts and minds that we may become learned followers of Your ways. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*We express our thanks for Your goodness, Your protection, Your love, and this food, O God. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*O Lord, we are mindful of Your presence in our lives. Thank You for the many learning experiences You have provided for us this day. Help us to use our minds and senses to grow stronger and wiser. For our many blessings and for life itself we give You our praise, dear Lord. Amen.*

## July 29 - Seeking Peace

### **Scripture**

*Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days, keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking lies. Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.*

~ Psalm 34:12-14

### **Thought for the Day**

The 2019 Scout Jamboree gives you an opportunity to be a bridge builder to peace. The verses above, from Psalm 34, instruct you how to begin. As a Scout, you have a wonderful opportunity to be an ambassador for peace and a representative of kindness. Everyone, regardless of background, can understand a kind “hello.” We all appreciate a friendly smile, a sincere gesture of greeting and acceptance. Here at the jamboree you represent more than just your troop; you are a goodwill ambassador for your hometown, your family, and God. You may not realize this, but the impression you make on the people you encounter as you experience the jamboree will last a lifetime. Your words and your actions will help shape another Scout’s opinion about you. Do your best to make a good and lasting impression on those you meet.

You are a bridge builder to peace. As you go about doing your work of peace, use the words of Psalm 34 to help you build bridges of peace. Let your actions show kindness and concern for your fellow Scouts. Let your language be respectful and courteous. Your words and actions should demonstrate sensitivity for and appreciation of the wonderful opportunity that is yours here.

Remember, as a bridge builder to peace you take part in the work God assigned to all of us: “Seek peace and pursue it.”

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. How can the friendships you make at the jamboree help bring peace to our world?
2. List five things you can do at the jamboree to start building bridges to peace. Discuss this with your friends.

### **Devotion Prayer**

O Lord our God, You have given us a vision of peace for the world and commanded us to be messengers of Your peace. Give us the wisdom to recognize opportunities for peace and the strength to make real in the world this peace for which we pray. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*O God, as we break bread this morning, may we also break those things that keep people apart, so that we can begin building bridges for peace. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*As this food nourishes and sustains our bodies, so may You, O God, sustain us as we work for peace in our world. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*O Lord, from You comes all the bounty and beauty we enjoy. As night descends, we pray that by our efforts during this day peace has been made more secure in the world You created and we have contributed to the work of peace. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*Cause us, O Lord our God, to lie down in peace and may we awaken tomorrow refreshed and renewed. Spread over us the tent of Your peace. Protect us and strengthen us as we work for peace on Your behalf. Amen.*

## **July 30 - Stewardship**

### **Scripture**

*And God saw everything that He had made, and, behold, it was very good.*

~Genesis 1:31 (American Standard Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

When you get up each morning, take a moment to look around you. Look at the beauty of the hills in front of you, the majesty of the heavens above you, the power of the earth beneath you. You have been placed on earth to help care for and protect the air we breathe, the water we drink, the animals with whom we share this fragile and delicate planet. As a Scout, you have been taught to help protect the world in which you live, keeping it safe not just for human life but for all life that inhabits our planet. As a child of God, you have a sacred responsibility to help maintain the sanctity and well-being of God's creation. God depends on us to keep our part of this bargain.

As Scouts, we spend many hours experiencing the beauty and magnificence of God's world. We know the dignity and elegance that is God's creation. There are many challenges facing our earth today. Let us pledge to keep our earth healthy and well for ourselves, for those who come after us and for God. Being good Scouts is a way in which we can be good partners with God.

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What are some of the challenges facing the environment today?
2. What can you as an individual do to respond to these challenges?
3. What can you as a Scout do to respond to these challenges?

### **Devotion Prayer**

Oh God, creator and former of all that we see and all that is before our eyes, help us to be ever mindful of the fragility of nature and the delicate balance which lies before us. Bless us as we go about the sacred work of protecting your creation. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*Bless this food we will share, O Lord. May it strengthen us to do Your will this day. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts which we have received through Your bountiful kindness. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*We thank You for this meal we are to share, O Lord; help us to be as kind and generous to others as You are to us. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*Thank You, O Lord, for the beauty of the earth, the majesty of creation, and the gift that is life; we are grateful. Amen.*

## **July 31 - Unity in Diversity**

### **Scripture**

*Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground.*

~ Genesis 2:7 (New American Standard Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

As Scouts, we come to the jamboree from different places. We bring different traditions, different backgrounds, and different experiences. Yet, as Scouts, we are linked by common ideals, shared principles, and a body of learning that unite us and transcend geographic and cultural distinctions.

This jamboree really is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The diversity reflected in our gathering is breathtaking. Yet even more powerful are the bonds and connections, the rich relationships, and the foundation of respect and decency present that is the result of our being Scouts. All this richness gathered here is brought together by the brotherhood that is Scouting.

But it is not just Scouting that links us together. We are linked also by the fact that each person has been created in the image of God. Each human being is a reflection of God. God has placed inside each of us the ability to show love, demonstrate concern for other people, and sense wonder—the wonder present in our uniqueness and the wonder of the world around us. In fact, one of the true gifts from God is the rich diversity of creation. Look at the people around you. Get to know other Scouts. Soon it will become apparent that in this great diversity there is an overpowering unity. It just may be that our greatest strength is found in the unity that comes out of our diversity.

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What are some of the activities you can do that reveal the common elements shared by all Scouts at the jamboree?
2. What are some of the barriers that get in the way of our recognizing the unity behind our diversity?

### **Devotion Prayer**

Lord, our God, You have created us by Your design and in Your image. Help us to see that within each of us is the light of Your presence and by that light each of us is linked one to the other. Blessed are You, O God, who has created us in great diversity to reflect Your unity. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*Thank You, O God, for allowing us to participate in the richness of this day. As this food shows the great diversity of nature so may we by our actions show respect for Your image in all people. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*Lord, as we take time to nourish our bodies, let us also take a moment to nourish our souls. May we find new friends who add to the richness of this experience. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*O Lord, you have taught us "Love your neighbor as yourself." Help us, Lord, to remember this. By loving our neighbors we do honor to ourselves and to Your great and holy name. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*Eternal God of all peoples, let Your children learn to live together in peace and friendship. Let the day come when oppression, prejudice, and hatred will be forgotten. Cause Your spirit to fill the world and its inhabitants, as it has been said: "Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth." Amen.*

## **August 1 - In Everything Give Thanks**

### **Scripture**

*Thank you! Everything in me says "Thank you!" Angels listen as I sing my thanks. I kneel in worship facing your holy temple and say it again: "Thank you!" Thank you for your love, thank you for your faithfulness; most holy is your name, most holy is your Word.*

~ Psalm 138:1-2 (The Message)

### **Thought for the Day**

Giving thanks is an important part of a meaningful life. When we are in a spirit of thankfulness, it helps us recognize many blessings that we might otherwise overlook. Being thankful also better enables us to do our duty to God and to fulfill the 12th point of the Scout Law.

Though only two small words, "thank you" can be among the most powerful expressions in the English language. We hope you have already used them genuinely and often during the jamboree and even during your travel to and from the Summit. Have you said "thank you" to:

- God for freely giving so you could enjoy the blessings of the jamboree experience?
- Your family and others who helped make it possible for you to be a 2019 jamboree participant?
- Your adult leaders and jamboree staff for giving up their vacations and time away from home to help make the jamboree a once-in-a-lifetime memory for you?
- Your youth leadership team who had to sacrifice their otherwise free time to care for unit matters, attend meetings early and late, and probably even deal with a bit of conflict resolution at the end of a challenging day?
- Your tent mate for sharing your small living space throughout the jamboree?

If you've missed a "thank you" or two along the way, it is not too late. Why not even discuss with your patrol or crew how your group might express thanks to some special people who have made the entire trip a great experience?

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What are some ways your patrol or crew can express thanks today to some special people who have made the jamboree trip a great experience?
2. How can being thankful better equip you to do your duty to God?

### **Devotion Prayer**

Dear God, we are truly grateful for your many blessings to us. Help us to have a contagious spirit of thankfulness today. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*For food to give us strength, for opportunities which bless us, and for our leaders who help make the jamboree possible, we thank You. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*Remind us, O God, of the many ways you want to bless us today. We are thankful for this food and for this day. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*As we gather for food and fellowship, we give thanks to You. Help us to know You better and serve You more. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*O God, thank You for all You have provided us today. Bless our leaders, our fellow Scouts, and the new friends You are providing. Amen.*

## **August 2 - Mountaintop in the Rearview Mirror**

### **Scripture**

*I look up to the mountains; does my strength come from mountains? No, my strength comes from God, who made heaven, and earth, and mountains.*

~ Psalm 121:1-2 (The Message)

### **Thought for the Day**

Our family has enjoyed many great experiences at another of Scouting's treasures, Philmont Scout Ranch. Each time we leave the ranch, we all watch the outcropping of rock known as the Tooth of Time grow ever smaller in the rearview mirror and find ourselves already wishing we could return. As you leave the Summit and its image gets smaller in the rearview mirror, we trust you have had a tremendous experience and that you'll want to return as many times as possible.

Think for a moment about how you can "pay forward" to those who have not had the opportunity to experience a jamboree. Consider these questions:

1. Is there a skill I have learned at the jamboree that I can share with someone in my Scouting unit back home?
2. Did I learn something about problem solving in my jamboree patrol or crew that I can use to strengthen the Scouting experience in my home unit?
3. Did I have an experience in doing my duty to God that I should pass on to others?
4. Am I willing to be an even better example to those around me, whether at home, in school, or in Scouting?
5. In thinking about the 12 points of the Scout Law, were there life lessons learned about some or all of them? Which ones?

While you still have the opportunity, share with other members of your jamboree unit some ways you have grown and how this will positively impact your relationships with family and friends.

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What are a couple of ways your jamboree experience has better equipped you as an individual and, in particular, as a Scout?
2. Share an experience during your time at the Summit in which you felt the presence of God in your life.

### **Devotion Prayer**

O God, we praise You for our jamboree experience. Help us to carry with us great memories of how we have gained strength from You in the mountains of West Virginia. Amen.

### **Breakfast Prayer**

*Dear God, we come to You this morning in a spirit of thanksgiving for the jamboree. Bless this food and give us strength for our journey home. Amen.*

### **Lunch Prayer**

*Great is Your faithfulness to us, O God. Thank You for Your goodness and for this food. We ask for protection in our travel and for strength in Your service. Amen.*

### **Dinner Prayer**

*We acknowledge You, O God, as the source of our strength and inspiration. Help us as we seek to do our duty to You And, bless this food which You have given to us. Amen.*

### **Evening Prayer**

*We are so thankful, dear God, for all You have given to us. May our experiences on the mountaintop continue to bless and guide us in our service to You. Amen.*

## August 3 - Being a Messenger of Peace

### **Scripture**

*Better is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.*

~ Ecclesiastes 7:8 (English Standard Version)

### **Thought for the Day**

That was the best event EVER! It will be nice to get back home to a hot shower and a real bed. After a couple of nights, I didn't mind the snoring. Gosh, one guy can wake up 400 people! I'm also looking forward to having Mom's cooking. Sometimes we can really make a mess of our dinner. I think what I'll remember is the mass of people. So many in Scout uniforms at the stadium show—and they all behaved halfway civilized.

What should I tell my family and friends when I get home? They'll all ask how it went. I could just say it was cool and drop it at that. I don't want to get too excited about it—that would be uncool. Even though the jamboree may be the coolest thing I will ever do in my life! Maybe I shouldn't say anything at all. Or maybe I should say, well, "Thanks, Mom" or "Thanks, Dad." I know: When my parents ask how it went, I'll grin as if I've got something to hide, give them a big hug, and with the grin again, say "Thank you," and then to really make them crazy, put my clothes in the laundry, take a shower, wash the dishes after lunch, and ask if I can help make dinner. Ha, they'll be eating out of my hand for weeks. Do it! It'll work!

I could share all the things I did. I could talk about the zip lines, the shooting ranges, the 30 miles of bike paths, the climbing, the rafting. ...Oh, I could go on and on. The real lessons, though, were a lot more subtle. I got along with tens of thousands of other kids, some from Japan, the Middle East, and even the Bronx (wherever that is). We all shared the same meals, the same activities, the same weather—the same experience. I now have a lasting bond with thousands of people who I don't even know. They come from different places, have different religions, and even speak different languages. We all got along! Wouldn't the world be great if everyone could share a jamboree?

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. How can this experience change your life?
2. What did you learn about other people?

### **Devotion Prayer**

Shape our memories, O Lord, that we remember the good things we shared with so many others. Don't let us forget how much we have in common with every other person. Remind us that when we all stand together, we are beautiful in Your sight. Amen.