

Good Morning Church, our names are Henry and Thomas Smith and we are Star Scouts in Troop 36 of the Boy Scouts of America. We also wear the Sash of a Brotherhood Member of the Order of the Arrow, a National Honor Society of Scouting.

Some of you kids out there are probably saying why are these kids talking to us? Well, we are going to tell you Boy Scouting is fun! We camp, fish, hike, and trips to summer camp are out of state sometimes. Scouts help teach young people Duty to God, Duty to country and Duty to community!

Blacks in this country started scout troops almost as soon as the program was brought from England! Even though they were separate from white scout troops they participated in nationwide service during the 2nd World War!

In the late 60's before they were officially being desegregated. Integrated Scout Troops started popping up around the country. Our great-uncle was a part of one of these black troops here in the 50's in Maysville.

In 1973, the Boy Scouts officially let all races mix troops. Our Dad was a part of the early mixed Cub Scout packs in the early 70's and a Boy Scout in the early 80's at Little Flower Catholic School.

The Boy Scout Program offers many learning opportunities for young people. There are over 130 merit badges offered by Scouting. All of them are a gateway to learning about a new career or skill that young men need to learn to be successful in life!

Eagle Scout is the goal of every Boy Scout! In the US, unfortunately, the number of young minorities that earn this rank is incredibly low! Eagle Scouts are offered acceptance at some jobs and colleges over those who never were in Scouts.

Right now, we would like to ask the men in church today if you participated in Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts as a child, please stand up! ... Thank You!

The young men at this church are strong and intelligent. We encourage you to ask your parents to let you check out a Scout Troop! Young ladies, the Boy Scouts has a program for girls 14-21 called Venture Scouts that you can join. Please think about it and join the Scouting experience. Thank you for your time.

Before we leave, we would like to recite the Scout Law.

A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent. Reverent meaning Reverent to God! Amen!