

# Thoughts about your Purple Scarf

Welcome back to the Scarf Program. Remember, this program is meant to challenge you to accept responsibility in different areas of your life, according to your age and/or grade. All members of the Scarf Society progress through the colors by thoughtfully and prayerfully choosing to accept the challenge for which they are ready.

## Requirements for the Purple Scarf:

You may choose to accept the challenge of the Purple Scarf if you are 18 years old before December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**The challenge of the Purple Scarf:** A dedication to high and noble living in whatever Christian service opportunities that come your way.

If you received a Gray Scarf, you accepted the challenge to be a good citizen and a helpful camper. If you received one shield, you added the challenge of being a true friend. If you received two shields, you added the challenge of being a good example to others. If you received three shields, you accepted the challenge to accept some responsibility to be a leader. If you received four shields, you were introduced to Jesus' summary of the law: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself". When you received your Blue Scarf, you accepted the challenge to be loyal to God, oneself, and others. If you received the Green Scarf, you accepted the challenge to rededicate yourself to the Christian way of life. When you received your Brown Scarf you accepted the challenge of Christian Service. If you received your Gold Scarf you accepted the challenge of understanding and concern for others. When you received your Red Scarf you accepted the challenge of sacrifice of time, talent, and personal will. In trying to do these challenges, you built the necessary foundation for accepting the next challenge, the challenge of the Purple Scarf.

Even if you did not take all these challenges, you may want to think about these areas of your life as you prepare yourself to accept the Challenge of the Purple Scarf.

As you prepare to accept the challenge of the Purple Scarf we would like you to think about the following:

The Purple Scarf challenges you to "a dedication to high and noble living in whatever Christian service opportunities that come your way." Working with your church group; working in school or at home; volunteering time and energy for community service projects; and giving of your resources to those less fortunate could be part of your Purple Scarf Challenge.

What does "high and noble living" mean to you? What types of service could you participate in? What opportunities have come your way already?

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1) Psalm 25, verses 20-21 states:

"O, keep my soul, and deliver me; let me not be ashamed, for I put my trust in thee.  
Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee."

2) Proverbs 12:12-7 and 15:4 states:

“He that speaketh truth showeth forth righteousness; but a false witness deceit. The lip of truth shall be established forever; but a lying tongue is but for a moment. A wholesome tongue is a tree of life but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.”

3) Isaiah 61:1-4 says:

“The spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the eyes to those who are beyond; to grant to those who mourn in Zion, to give them a garland instead of a spirit of heaviness; that they may be called oaks of righteousness. The planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.”

4) Psalm 46, verses 1-2 says:

“God is our refuge and our strength; a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth be changed, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.”

5) TO BE WRITTEN: Prepare a short statement of your goals in life. Be prepared to read this statement during the Scarf Ceremony (it may be read by your guide if you prefer).

6) Review and memorize the Scarf Anthem:

I would be true, for there are those who trust me;  
I would be pure, for there are those who care;  
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;  
I would be brave, for there is much to dare.  
I would be brave, for there is much to dare.

I would be friend to all – the foe, the friendless;  
I would be giving, and forget the gift;  
I would be humble, for I know my weakness;  
I would look up, and laugh, and love and lift;  
I would look up, and laugh, and love and lift.

Make some notes below for your discussion at the scheduled Purple Scarf Discussion meeting. You might want to spend some time in quiet reflection and prayer.

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