

# A week of shared reading — and an open door

Youth Read Sacred Texts Worldwide

## WHAT THIS PARTNERSHIP IS

### A signed national partnership, built around one week a year

Scouting America and Youth Read Sacred Texts Worldwide (YRSTW) hold a Memorandum of Understanding effective **June 1, 2026** through **June 30, 2028**. It is not a charter relationship and there are no chapters to join. Congregations of every faith tradition host one week of shared reading, tied to the U.S. National Day of Prayer in early May — open to families whether or not they have any connection to Scouting.

#### Your congregation provides

- A week on your calendar
- Reading from your own sacred texts, in your own tradition
- A welcome to the families who come

#### Scouting America provides

- A ready-to-use kit for the week
- Co-branded invitations and flyers
- A single point of contact
- Support if you later choose to host a unit

*A formal partnership to bring the Duty to God principle to youth around the world.*

## IN PRACTICE

### What taking part actually looks like

#### One week a year

A single shared week in early May, tied to the U.S. National Day of Prayer.

#### Every tradition

Each congregation reads from its own sacred texts. More than 25 traditions take part.

#### No obligation

Hosting a week asks nothing of you beyond the week itself.

## IF A CONGREGATION WANTS TO GO FURTHER

### From a shared week to a unit of your own

Some congregations simply enjoy the week and leave it there, and that is a good outcome. For those who want to keep going, this is the path — on their timeline, not ours.

#### 1 Open the door

Invite a congregation to host a week of shared reading. There is no Scouting ask attached to the invitation — that is exactly why it works.

#### 2 Run the week

The congregation reads in its own tradition, on its own terms. Note the families who take part.

#### 3 Book the conversation

Where there is interest, schedule a follow-up meeting and bring your council's membership team.

#### 4 Charter, if they choose to

File the charter paperwork, assign leaders and a unit number, and hold a first meeting. Entirely optional.

## COMMON QUESTIONS

### Quick answers

#### Does hosting a week require chartering a unit?

No. Hosting carries no chartering obligation at all. It is designed to be a complete, worthwhile event on its own, whether or not a unit ever follows.

#### Which faith traditions can take part?

All of them. Congregations read from their own sacred texts, in their own tradition. More than 25 traditions have taken part.

#### Is Scouting the only organization involved?

No. YRSTW welcomes many youth organizations. Scouting America is glad to take part alongside them.

#### Do we need a national agreement to start a unit later?

No. Units charter locally through an annual agreement with the council, exactly as with any other partner. The MOU sets the national relationship only.

## FIND OUT MORE

### Useful links

Youth Read Sacred Texts Worldwide — [youthreadsacredtextsworldwide.org](https://youthreadsacredtextsworldwide.org)

BeAScout — [beascout.scouting.org](https://beascout.scouting.org)

Scouting America — [scouting.org](https://scouting.org)

## MAKE IT YOURS

### Co-brand your own materials

Build an invitation, flyer or notice with your name and logo beside Scouting America's. Visit [scoutingpartnerresourcepage.netlify.app](https://scoutingpartnerresourcepage.netlify.app) and open the Co-Branding Studio.

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**Questions?** Start with Scouting America National Partnerships — they route to YRSTW when a question needs their voice.

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