

ADVANCED BIBLE READING

Purpose: To develop outstanding reading skills and, through these skills, to increase opportunities to serve others.

Participants: Students in grades 7 - College may participate.

Requirements: Advanced Bible Reading consists of 5 levels. Students must start on Level 1 and complete each level before continuing to the next. Coaches should check the Lads to Leaders rule book for more detailed information regarding the requirements for each level.

- Level 1 (Student Reader) – complete 2 narrative readings to 5 different audiences
- Level 2 (Servant Reader) – complete 2 book readings (over 3-5 visits) to 2 special audiences (e.g. blind, children, shut-in, sick, disabled, or bereaved); write 200-300 word statement
- Level 3 (Skilled Reader) – complete 15 passages in 4 translations to different audiences; read entire Old Testament
- Level 4 (Master Reader) – read entire Bible; record reading of an entire book; choose 4 of 8 tasks from rule book to complete; write 500-1000 word essay
- Level 5 (Accomplished Master Reader) – read New Testament; record reading of an entire book; read a book or listen to CD about professional speaking; report on 5 public speakers/readers; write one page research paper; etc.

Time Frame: Advanced Bible Reading is conducted throughout the entire Lads to Leaders season and must be completed by the Registration deadline. Scheduled reading times may be established by the coach in order for the participants to complete their assignments.

ADVANCED SONG LEADING & SONGS OF PRAISE

Purpose: To prepare young men to be accomplished song leaders by encouraging them to lead songs at worship assemblies, Bible classes, devotional groups, or other appropriate audiences. To encourage girls to prepare themselves to lead women in song in ladies' classes, devotionals, retreats, etc.

Participants: Students in grades 7 - College may participate.

Requirements: Prepare not less than 10 different songs (for girls) or 12 different songs (for guys) to lead before an audience. Each song must consist of at least 2 verses (or be repeated twice if it only has one verse). Lead each of the 10 or 12 songs at least twice to different audiences. Each song led before a different audience receives 1 point. Award levels are as follows:

GIRLS

20-29 points receive a Bronze award.
30-39 points receive a Silver award.
40 or more points receive a Gold award.

GUYS

24-35 points receive a Bronze award.
36-47 points receive a Gold award.
48 or more points receive a Gold award.

Students must keep a log for each song which includes the date, song title, place, type of audience, and signature and phone number of an adult witness. Students must also write a 200-300 word essay and have judging sheets filled out for the first and the last presentation of each song.

Time Frame: Advanced Song Leading/Songs of Praise is conducted throughout the entire year and must be completed by the registration deadline. The individual is responsible for keeping up with his/her own progress and ensuring that he/she completes all necessary requirements by the deadline.

ADVANCED SPEECH

Purpose: To prepare students to be accomplished speakers and Bible class teachers by requiring them to deliver speeches to worship assemblies, Bible classes, devotional groups, or other appropriate audiences, such as civic clubs or schools.

Participants: Students in grades 7 - College may participate.

Requirements: Research and prepare not less than 12 different speeches on 12 different subjects for presentation. Make at least two presentations of each of the 12 speeches to different audiences (minimum of 24 total presentations). Award levels are as follows:

- Bronze – 24-35 total presentations of the 12 speeches;
- Silver – 36-47 total presentations of the 12 speeches;
- Gold – 48 or more total presentations of the 12 speeches.

It is recommended that speeches be three to six minutes long. Speeches **do not** have to be the student's original work. To qualify for the award, students must prepare two secure, expandable file folders. Each speech is to be filed in a separate folder (not less than 12 folders) which includes copies of all resources cited in the speech, a bibliography, and a typewritten copy of the speech itself. The student must keep a log of each speech which includes the date of presentation, title of speech, place of presentation, type of audience, and signature and phone number of team leader. The student must also write a 200-300 word essay and have a minimum of 6 judging sheets filled out for each speech.

Time Frame: Advanced Speech is conducted throughout the entire year and must be completed by the registration deadline. The individual is responsible for keeping up with his/her own progress and ensuring that he/she completes all necessary requirements by the deadline.

ART SAYS IT

Purpose: To offer students an opportunity to use their artistic talents to communicate a biblical message.

Participation: Open to all students in grades K - College; Participants do not have to attend convention. The artwork should reflect the annual convention theme.

Requirements: There are 7 Art Says It categories. Each category has specific requirements indicated in the Lads to Leaders rule book. Coaches should be familiar with these rules.

- PAINTING – oil, tempera, watercolor, and airbrush
- DRAWING/SKETCHING – pen/ink, pastel, chalk, crayon, charcoal, pencil, and colored pencil

- COLLAGE – textile, fabric, and any other material combined together (can be attached to poster board or can be three-dimensional)
- POSTER
- BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY (digital enhancement is prohibited)
- COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY (digital enhancement is prohibited)
- SCULPTURE – carving, molding, or welding of any material (materials must be formed or manipulated in some manner)

Time Frame: Art Says It projects are displayed and judged at the Lads to Leaders National Convention. Participants should work on their project(s) throughout the year so they are continually improving on it. The individual is responsible for completing his/her project and ensuring that he/she meets all necessary requirements.

BIBLE BOWL

Purpose: To enhance students' knowledge of Biblical content; to develop quick reference to Bible facts; to bond through team spirit

Participants: Students in grades K - 12 participate in teams of four. Students may also take the test individually to try for a High Score award and do not have to be on a team.

Requirements: Completion of a written, multiple choice test based on the contents of the selected Bible Bowl book(s). Participation in assigned Bible Bowl practices (e.g. mock competitions). Teams will participate in an oral competition at the National Convention.

Time Frame: Bible Bowl participants begin studying during the summer before the national convention. Bible Bowl participants are expected to participate in regular practices which are arranged by their coaches throughout the entire Lads to Leaders season. During the Winter Quarter (December-February) each Bible Bowl team will be meet during Wednesday night Bible class.

CENTURION OF SCRIPTURE

Purpose: To encourage memorization of God's word. The Centurion of Scripture commands 100 scriptures by memory.

Participants: Students and adults of all ages may participate.

Requirements: Centurion of Scripture has 4 categories

- Bronze – recite 100 verses in units of 10 per sitting
- Silver – recite 100 verses in units of 50 per sitting
- Gold – recite 100 verses in one sitting
- Deca – received after memorizing 1000 verses within 10 years

Time Frame: Centurion of Scripture is conducted throughout the entire Lads to Leaders season and must be completed by the registration deadline. The individual is responsible for keeping up with his/her own progress and ensuring that he/she completes all necessary requirements by the deadline.

DEBATE

Purpose: To promote deeper study of Scripture as it relates to life's issues; to promote consideration of both sides of the resolution; to promote the observance of standards of procedure, which keep the discussion within bounds and ensure a fair hearing to both sides of an issue; to improve skills in extemporaneous speaking, so that participants learn to think on their feet and adapt their presentation to that of the opponent; to develop critical thinking skills.

Participants: Students in grades 9 - College may participate. Debaters will participate in teams of two with a male division and a female division.

Requirements: Presentation of the positive and negative side of the selected debate topic at the National Convention. Debate teams will compete against another team. Participants should be prepared not only to present their prepared debates but also to present unprepared rebuttals.

Time Frame: Debate is a time consuming event which requires research, writing, and practice. Participants involved in debate should expect to start working on it as soon as the official debate resolution is established. Scheduled times for research, preparation, and practice are left up to the debate coach. Debate as a competition will only take place at the National Convention.

GIFTS

Purpose: To foster a spirit of cooperation and fellowship among Christian teen girls, and to develop a spiritual relationship and dependence on one another for strength to overcome temptation and serve faithfully. To grow in the ability to lead and participate in ladies' Bible classes.

Participants: Girls in grades 6 - 12 may participate.

Requirements: Students will participate in groups of 3-10 people under the direction of a female adult mentor. These groups will meet monthly for a minimum of 4 consecutive months at any time during the year. Each group meeting will study a chapter out of the GIFTS curriculum and will be lead by one of the group members. At the end of each chapter, each girl will choose 3 projects from the chapter to complete. All projects must be completed before the registration deadline in order to receive this award.

Time Frame: GIFTS is conducted over a 4 month period prior to the registration deadline. The event coach will schedule meeting times.

GUARD

Purpose: To foster a spirit of cooperation and fellowship among Christian teen boys, and to develop a spiritual relationship and dependence on one another for strength to overcome temptation and serve faithfully. To grow in the ability to lead and participate in Bible classes and worship services.

Participants: Guys in grades 6 - 12 may participate.

Requirements: Students will participate in groups of 3-10 people under the direction of a male adult mentor. These groups will meet monthly for a minimum of 4 consecutive months at any time during the year. Each group meeting will study a chapter out of the GUARD curriculum and will be lead by one of the group members. At the end of each chapter, each guy will choose 3 projects from the chapter to complete. All projects must be completed before the registration deadline in order to receive this award.

Time Frame: GUARD is conducted over a 4 month period prior to the registration deadline. The event coach will schedule meeting times.

GOOD SAMARITAN

Purpose: To reach out to others by going the extra mile. To teach the importance of showing people other than family the love of Jesus. This can be done by sending cards, visiting the sick and shut in, conducting home Bible studies, performing service projects, etc. Being a Good Samaritan means going beyond our Christian living.

Participants: Students and adults of all ages may participate.

Requirements: Participants must record their service projects with the date and information about the project on a sheet of paper. Guidance will be provided from the event coach as to how many points each service project is worth. Awards are given based on the amount of points one accumulates.

- Bronze Award = 500 points
- Silver Award = 750 points
- Gold Award = 1000 points
- Platinum = 1500 points

Time Frame: Good Samaritan is conducted throughout the entire Lads to Leaders season and must be completed by the registration deadline. The individual is responsible for keeping up with his/her own progress and ensuring that he/she completes all necessary requirements by the deadline.

KNOW THE BOOKS

Purpose: To teach the books of the Bible and their themes.

Participants: Students and adults of all ages may participate.

Requirements: The requirements for this event are based on age

Level 1 (Children-2nd Grade) - recite or sing the books of the Bible in order

Level 2 (3rd-6th Grade) - recite the books of the Bible in order

Level 3 (7th Grade-Adult) - recite the books of the Bible in order and state each book's theme

Awards are based on the following criteria:

- Bronze - New Testament books
- Silver - Old Testament books
- Gold - Old & New Testament books

Time Frame: Good Samaritan is conducted throughout the entire Lads to Leaders season and must be completed by the registration deadline. The individual is responsible for keeping up with his/her own progress and ensuring that he/she completes all necessary requirements by the deadline.

MASS MEDIA: ARTICLE

Purpose: To train Christians to use media effectively.

Participants: Students in grades 3 - College may participate.

Requirements: Participants must write an article/editorial related to the convention theme. The article/editorial must be between 200-250 words, double-spaced, and able to fit on the front of one page. A cover sheet should be included. The content of the article/editorial must be the original work of the participant. Adults may proof, offer suggestions, and arrange for the material to be typed but cannot aid in the written concepts.

Time Frame: Article/Editorial must be completed by the registration deadline. This event is a personal project that may be completed according to the participants own time. The individual is responsible for his/her own progress and ensuring that he/she completes all necessary requirements by the deadline.

MASS MEDIA: AUDIO PRESENTATION

Purpose: To train Christians to use media effectively.

Participants: Students in grades 3 - College may participate.

Requirements: Participants must record a "Public Service Announcement" designed for radio on a cassette or CD. The content of the Audio Presentation must relate to the convention theme. Presentations must be 20 to 30 seconds in length.

Time Frame: Audio Presentation must be completed by the registration deadline. A recording session will be arranged by the event coach.

MASS MEDIA: STORYLINE

Purpose: To train Christians to use media effectively.

Participants: Students in grades 3 - College may participate.

Requirements: Participants must record a presentation of a dramatized Bible story, Bible truth, or moral lesson on video or DVD. The content of the Storyline must relate to the convention theme. Teams may consist of no fewer than 3 members and no more than 15. Teams will participate in the grade level of the oldest team member. Presentations must be 3 to 4 minutes in length

Time Frame: Storyline must be completed by the registration deadline. A recording session will be arranged by the event coach.

MASS MEDIA: VIDEO PRESENTATION

Purpose: To train Christians to use media effectively.

Participants: Students in grades 3 - College may participate.

Requirements: Participants must record a commercial presentation designed for television on video or DVD. The content of the Video Presentation must relate to the convention theme. Presentations must be 2½ to 3 minutes in length. This is different than Storyline in that it is the work of an individual rather than a team.

Time Frame: Video Presentation must be completed by the registration deadline. A recording session will be arranged by the event coach.

MASS MEDIA: WEB PAGE

Purpose: To train Christians to use media effectively. To expand students influence to global proportions by use creating a website.

Participants: Students in grades 3 - College may participate on a team or individually.

Requirements: Participant(s) must create a website that adheres to the convention. No content should infringe upon copyright laws. Pages should include more than a typed statement and may be enhanced in any way the participant(s) see fit.

Time Frame: Group and individual web pages must be completed by the registration deadline. Group web page work days will be arranged by the event coach. Individual web pages are self-guided, and, thus, are up to the individual's own timetable.

MUSIC COMPOSITION

Purpose: To encourage those talented in music composition to develop and use their talents for God.

Participants: Students in grades 3 - College may participate.

Requirements: Participants must write original music and/or lyrics that can be recorded. There are 5 categories for all grades:

- Lyrics Only – original lyrics or original lyrics added to a known public domain or owner-released hymn
- Melody Only – original melody or original melody added to a known public domain or owner-released lyric, poem or Scripture
- Original Lyrics and Melody
- Original 2 or 3 Part Harmony – original 2 or 3 part harmony added to a known public domain or owner-released lyric, poem, or Scripture
- Original Lyrics and 2 or 3 Part Harmony

There are 2 categories limited to grades 9-college:

- Original 4 Part Harmony – original 4 part harmony added to a known public domain or owner-released lyric, poem, or Scripture
- Original Lyrics and 4 Part Harmony

Time Frame: Music Composition must be completed by the registration deadline. Sessions for writing and recording the composition will be arranged by the coach.

ORAL BIBLE READING

Purpose: To emphasize the fundamental importance of Bible reading and to strengthen the foundation for public speaking.

Participants: Students in grades K - 6 may participate. Boys and girls will present their readings in separate locations.

Requirements: Reading of a scripture at the National Convention. Readings may be taken from the Old or New Testament and should be no less than one minute and no more than two minutes.

Time Frame: Oral Bible Reading as an event is only conducted at the National Convention. Participants may rehearse their reading at various times throughout the year (e.g. Singing Nights, Ladies Bible Class) to prepare for this event.

PARADE OF WINNERS

Purpose: To encourage students and adults to read the Scriptures.

Participants: Students and adults of all ages may participate.

Requirements: Participants must read either the entire Old Testament, the entire New Testament, or both testaments in a 12 month period (or less). Participants must complete their reading by the registration deadline. Listening to audio versions is acceptable.

Time Frame: Parade of Winners is conducted throughout the entire year and must be completed by the registration deadline. The individual is responsible for keeping up with his/her own progress and ensuring that he/she completes all necessary requirements by the deadline.

PEARLS

Purpose: To provide students with a deeper study into the Bible Bowl book selected for the convention year.

Participants: Students in grades 3 - 12 may participate.

Requirements: Completion of a written, multiple choice test based on the contents of the Pearls workbook.

Time Frame: The Pearls test is taken in February prior to each National Convention. Participants should begin studying as soon as the Pearls workbook arrives (which is typically in August or September). Pearls is primarily a individual endeavor but group study times may be arranged by a coach.

PUPPET THEATER

Purpose: To train students to teach children Biblical principles using puppets. Participants learn valuable team-working skills in their preparation and presentation.

Participants: Students in grades K - 12 may participate. Teams will compete in the grade level of the oldest student on the team. Teams will generally consist of 5-8 participants.

Requirements: Presentation of a puppet show at the National Convention which is based on the theme for that year. The show cannot exceed 12 minutes (including set up and take down) and the script must be at least 5 minutes in length.

Time Frame: Puppet Theater as a competition is only conducted at the National Convention. Practices typically begin in January and are scheduled for Sunday afternoons. Each team may have additional practices scheduled by their coach.

SCRAPBOOK (GROUP & INDIVIDUAL)

Purpose: To serve as record of the activities and growth of students and groups. To provide a tool for recording the special achievements in the lives of the individual students and to document events and activities of the local church.

Participants: Students in grade 3 - College may participate.

Requirements: Scrapbooks should pertain to Lads to Leaders & Leaderettes activities as well as personal growth and development during the current year (from last Convention to present). Individ-

ual scrapbooks must be the work of the student. While some adult guidance may be needed for Group scrapbooks, the creativity and products of the scrapbook must be the work of one student or the collaborative work of a group of students. Scrapbooks should contain a table of contents, a preface or introduction, and a conclusion. The year covered in the scrapbook should be identified. Organization is an important aspect in judging the scrapbooks. Other specifications may be found in the Lads to Leaders rulebook.

Time Frame: Scrapbooks are displayed and judged at the Lads to Leaders National Convention. They should be worked on throughout the entire year in order to cover a broad range of events. On individual scrapbooks, the individual is responsible for completing his/her scrapbook and ensuring that he/she meets all necessary requirements. In group scrapbook, the event coach will arrange workdays and oversee the completion of the project.

SECOND LANGUAGE

Purpose: To promote and increase the ability of men and women to be able to communicate basic information and also to teach the gospel of Jesus Christ in a second language or sign language.

Participants: Students and adults may participate.

Requirements: Participants must complete the assigned phrases and/or scriptures for each level as indicated in the Lads to Leaders rule book. Participants must complete the levels in order (Bronze, Silver, Gold). Participants may only achieve one level per convention year; however, they may earn multiple awards (e.g. a person may complete the Bronze level in both sign language and Spanish).

Time Frame: Second Language is conducted throughout the entire Lads to Leaders season and must be completed by the registration deadline. An event coach will schedule group or individual study times and will ensure that the individual is completing the necessary requirements.

SONG LEADING & SONGS OF PRAISE

Purpose: To train young men to fulfill the role of song leaders in the church and to train young girls to prepare themselves to lead singing in appropriate settings.

Participants: Students in grades K - College may participate. Girls and guys will present their songs in separate locations.

Requirements: Presentation of a song at the National Convention. Songs will be no less than 2 stanzas in length. Copies of the song will be prepared by the event coach but passed out by participants.

Time Frame: Song Leading and Songs of Praise as a competition only takes place at the National Convention. Preparation for Song Leading should encompass the entire Lads to Leaders season. Participants will be expected to participate in scheduled practices throughout the year. Typically these practices do not begin until after the registration deadline.

SPEECH

Purpose: To provide a challenge to students to excel in public speaking and encourage high standards in speech content, organization and delivery.

Participants: Students in grades 3 - College may participate. Girls and guys will present their speeches in separate locations.

Requirements: Presentation of a speech at the National Convention which is based on the theme for that year. Speeches will be 3-5 minutes in length for grades 3-6 and 4½ to 6 minutes for students in grades 7-college.

Time Frame: Speech as a competition only takes place at the National Convention. Preparation for Speech should encompass the entire Lads to Leaders season. Coaches will create opportunities for participants to learn and practice throughout the year.