

America has always attached priority to her sons. The framers of the Constitution took care to stipulate that this nation of immigrants would always have a native son as its leader. It thus became the ultimate dream of every American boy that he might grow up to become President.

The Statue of Liberty, symbol of America's free spirit, is more than a landmark to foreigners. The grand lady of New York harbor with her lamp has lighted the way home for her own sons in peace and from war.

Love for our sons is deeply rooted in the literature of our English forebears. The value placed upon a boy is seen in Milton's writings:

*"The childhood shows the man,  
As morning shows the day."*

And Wordsworth put it this way:  
*"The child is father of the man."*

But the true glory of the American dream was intoned best by Longfellow:

*"Perhaps there lives some  
dreamy boy, untaught  
In schools, some graduate  
of the field or street,  
Who shall become a master  
of the art,  
An admiral sailing  
the high seas of thought  
Fearless and first,  
steering with his fleet  
For lands not yet  
laid down on any chart."*

TRADITIONALLY the public schools have taught our sons the three Rs; but the well-rounded boy, prepared and ready for anything life has to offer, must have more.

There are certain moral and religious principles he must know. Such guidelines directed George Washington to his knees in prayer, gave Abraham Lincoln his lofty concept of office, and caused Henry Clay to decide he would rather be right than President! Such principles gave men courage to stand—if necessary, alone.

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In building Christian men,  
Royal Rangers are following . . .

## THE AMERICAN TRADITION

Good citizens are made, not born! Legal citizenship is bequeathed either by birth or naturalization, but good citizenship is the reward of training beyond the three R's.

### PHYSICALLY RUGGED

The pioneers were rugged individuals. Their ability to survive the worst and make the best of it carved an empire from sea to shining sea. The wagon trains headed west were filled with people conditioned to face any hazard.

What would American history be without the railsplitting Abe Lincoln, the staunch Stonewall Jackson, or Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders? Where would we be with no Medal of Honor winners, no distinguished Flying Crosses, or no Purple Hearts? We would long since have joined the ranks of conquered nations.

The Royal Rangers program of the Assemblies of God recognizes boys' need of physical fitness and has instituted a variety of outdoor activities to meet this need. Outposts conduct hiking, overnight camping, backpacking, boating, swimming, sporting activities, field events, and group calisthenics.

### MORALLY RATIONAL

From the beginning the moral fiber of our nation was carefully woven into the fabric of daily living. Words like *honesty*, *integrity*, and *conviction* meant a great deal to the founding fathers who pledged to one another "our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor." Truthfulness and fair play became the norm of early America.

It has been often said, "Let your conscience be your guide." While the conscience is the God-given indicator for right and wrong, it is only dependable when programmed with the principles of God's Word. Proper teaching will show our sons the godly way of living in a sinful world.

The Royal Rangers program sets the pace for proper mental and moral development. This ministry to boys seeks to protect a boy from the inside, rather than attempt to shelter him from the outside! Boys are taught to enjoy life at its fullest within the limits of God's Word.

### SOCIALLY RESPONSIVE

Respect and concern for our neighbor is one of the underlying principles of the Declaration of Independence. The patriots recognized "we must hang together, or we