

Royal Ambassadors Resource Notebook



Texas Baptist Men

(01/23/11)

How to become a Christian

God created the entire universe. He created all people on earth with the intent of having fellowship with them forever. But people do wrong things. The Bible calls those wrong things “sin.” Sinful people cannot remain in fellowship with the holy, pure, righteous God. And there is nothing they themselves can do about the problem.

God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to live a sinless life and make the only perfect sacrifice for our sin. The Bible puts it this way: *God made him (Jesus) who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21 NIV)*

But Jesus is not dead! On the third day after his crucifixion, He was raised to life again. Now all those who confess their sins (admit the wrong they’ve done) and trust Jesus (believe in Him, turn away from sin) receive God’s righteousness and are adopted into God’s family.

You can receive this free gift of salvation today. Pray, asking God to forgive your sin. Put your trust in Jesus. For more information about becoming a Christian, visit www.namb.net.

Royal Ambassadors Resource Notebook includes materials from Royal Ambassador publications. Many individuals have contributed over the years and invested their lives to train up Godly young men. This manual is designed to serve as a resource for leaders that work with boys through Royal Ambassadors.

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another! (Proverbs 27:17) Royal Ambassadors provides a unique opportunity for men to work with the lives of boys and teach them how to be Ambassadors for Christ.

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Please send comments and suggestions concerning improvements of this manual to Keith Mack at the address below. Thank you for your prayerful attention in this matter.

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As a Royal Ambassador I will do my best:

- to become a well-informed,
responsible follower of Christ;
- to have a Christlike concern for
all people;
- to learn how to carry the message
of Christ around the world;
- to work with others in sharing
Christ; and
- to keep myself clean and
healthy in mind and body.



Introduction

Royal Ambassadors began as an organization in 1908 and celebrated 100 years of being Ambassadors for Christ in 2008. Over 2.5 million boys and their leaders have participated in RAs and learned how to help others in Jesus' name. Throughout the years countless lives have been changed as boys and their leaders have prayed for, given to, and participated in missions projects.

Three things have never changed about Royal Ambassadors:

- **The Royal Ambassadors Motto:** "We are Ambassadors for Christ" (2 Corinthians 5:20) was selected in 1908 by the Woman's Missionary Union for this organization for boys. Two reasons why the RA Motto has never changed. The first is that it is based upon God's Word which never changes. The second is that it is a simple concept for a boy to identify with and understand.
- **The needs of boys** are the same today as they were 100 years ago, even though we live in a society that has experienced many changes. Boys desire to be a part of a group their own age that accepts them for who they are outside of their home. They seek the attention and affirmation from male role models that they have what it takes to become a man. Boys learn best by example and participating in hands on opportunities to be involved in missions. Boys seek adventure and Royal Ambassadors provides an opportunity for a boy to learn about the greatest adventure of all, being an Ambassador for Christ and joining God in His mission by sharing the message of reconciliation. What do the boys of your church need most? . . . Boys need a relationship with Christ and they also need the men of your church to spend time with them helping them to become men that God can use.
- **The need for more men** to serve as Royal Ambassadors leaders. The WMU formed an organization for boys and earnestly sought men to serve as leaders because they recognized the importance of male leadership in the lives of boys. Over the past 100 years, every national, state, associational and church Royal Ambassadors leader has sought more men to serve as leaders in RAs. *Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another! (Proverbs 27:17)* Royal Ambassadors provides a unique opportunity for men to help shape the lives of boys and help them to become Ambassadors for Christ.

During the past twenty-five years, many men have shared about their experience as a member of an RA chapter or serving as an RA leader. Listed below are the top three things that men remember about Royal Ambassadors.

- They remember the **RA Pledge**. They remember reciting the pledge at chapter meetings and special events like RA camp and the challenge to live out the meaning of the pledge as an Ambassador for Christ.
- They remember participating in **activities**. They talk about their experiences in participating in these events. Whether it was going to a summer camp, a mission rally, on an over-night campout or participating in a mission project – they talk about what they did, experienced and learned.
- They remember their **leaders**. They remember them by name and talk about how they knew that they cared for them and how they served as examples.

Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it. (Proverbs 22:6 NIV) The Bible speaks about the importance of educating boys concerning God's Word and modeling for boys how to serve. Mission-minded Christian men serve as a living library of knowledge and provide a role model for boys to see what it means to grow in a relationship with Christ. RAs offer men the chance to spend time with their chapter members sharing His word and modeling how to serve Christ. A wise leader will take the time to learn how to work with boys and to plan activities that will challenge them mentally, physically, and spiritually. Many RA leaders have shared that they have had the opportunity to witness boys that they have worked with develop into mature young men who are serving Christ in many varied ways.

Committed leaders are at the heart of the Royal Ambassadors organization. Please be in prayer about your level of commitment in working with boys and seek to get other men involve in sharing their time and experiences. History has proven that the primary curriculum (content or prescribed course of study) for Royal Ambassadors is God's Word (the Bible) being shared with boys by leaders who desire to help them develop as Ambassadors for Christ.

Remember your leaders who have spoken God's word to you. As you carefully observe the outcome of their lives, imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Hebrews 13:7-8)



Royal Ambassadors continues as an organization that provides an opportunity for leaders to help transform the lives of boys, one boy at a time, and help them to become the missionaries of their generation.

Royal Ambassador Leadership

Committed leaders are at the heart of the Royal Ambassadors organization. You have the opportunity to teach boys what you know and help them become aware of God's plan for their lives. You serve as a living example of what it means to be a man of God. Leaders determine the success or failure of any RA program. What kind of leader do you want to be?

A wise leader will prayerfully evaluate his leadership ability and continually seek to grow in his leadership skills. A good way to improve your leadership skills is to attend an associational or state leadership training session where you can hear from and share with other leaders.

Shared Leadership Approach:

The expression three heads are better than one is true. Having more than one leader involved in Royal Ambassadors is a great benefit. Outline below is a simple shared leadership approach.

RA Director: The person who is responsible for the entire Royal Ambassadors organization. His responsibilities include registering the RA chapter, providing resources and training for other RA leaders, and serves as the church's primary contact for associational RA activities and helping to start new RA groups.



RA Leader: Persons who plans and conducts the meetings. Their responsibilities include understanding boys and the RA organization, learn the RA Pledge and live out the words, involving the boys in appropriate interest activities and mission projects, developing meaningful relationships with the boys, and acknowledge their accomplishments.



- **Interest Activities Leader:** A person who likes doing fun stuff. They lead activities that catch the attention of the boys.
- **Mission Study/Mission Action Leader:** A person, who knows missions, loves missions and desires to get people involved in missions. This person helps in planning and conducting the RA mission projects.
- **Advancement Leader:** A person that is good at record keeping and helps to plan and conduct the recognition ceremonies.

The leaders and director get together at least one a month to evaluate current activities and plan activities for next month. It is a good idea for all leaders to meet once a quarter for encouragement and fellowship. Plan something fun just for leaders that also involves food.

Remember that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. Leaders work together to strengthen one another. It is possible to have more than adult serving in these leadership positions. Youth can assist adults in these leadership roles.

The goal of Royal Ambassadors is to reach boys and keep them interested (*Interest Activities Leader*), teach missions (*Mission Study Leader*) and help them advance in their mission involvement (*Advancement Leader*).

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another! (Proverbs 27:17)
Royal Ambassadors provides a unique opportunity for men to help shape the lives of boys and help them to become Ambassadors for Christ.

Bible Memory Verses

There are a lot of Bible verse references here. They are verses you can learn. They are listed in groups. There is a group of verses about being an Ambassador for Christ. There is a group of verses for each of the RA virtues.

How do you use these? You can choose any of these verses to learn. Look these verses up in your Bible and memorize the verse. After you learn the verse, write the Bible verse reference on the On-Mission Bible Memory Medal sheet. Tell the verse to your RA Leader and have them initial that you have completed this verse.

Verses about being an Ambassador for Christ			
2 Corinthians 5:20	Luke 2:52	1 Corinthians 3:6	2 Timothy 2:15
Psalms 96:3	Acts 1:8	1 Timothy 4:8	Hebrews 12:1
Matthew 28:19-20	Romans 12:2	1 Timothy 4:12	
Verses for Loyalty			
Genesis 8:22	Psalms 119:151	John 3:17	Ephesians 2:8
Exodus 24:7	Psalms 119:165	John 3:36	Ephesians 5:25
Deuteronomy 8:3	Psalms 139:14	John 6:29	Philippians 2:13
2 Samuel 22:31	Psalms 145:18	John 6:47	Philippians 3:14
1 Kings 8:56	Proverbs 3:5	John 8:31	Philippians 4:19
1 Kings 8:61	Proverbs 3:6	John 10:35	Colossians 3:2
1 Chronicles 16:29	Proverbs 30:5	John 14:6	1 Thessalonians 5:18
Nehemiah 1:11	Isaiah 12:2	John 14:13	2 Timothy 3:14
Job 5:10	Isaiah 40:31	John 14:14	2 Timothy 3:15
Psalms 4:3	Isaiah 65:1	John 17:6	Titus 3:1
Psalms 16:11	Jeremiah 29:11	John 20:21	Philemon 21
Psalms 19:1	Ezekiel 33:11	John 20:31	Hebrews 11:1
Psalms 23:1	Hosea 13:4	Acts 1:8	Hebrews 11:6
Psalms 25:4	Hosea 14:9	Acts 4:20	James 1:17
Psalms 27:11	Zephaniah 3:17	Acts 10:38	James 4:7
Psalms 32:8	Zechariah 14:9	Acts 14:27	1 Peter 3:12
Psalms 54:4	Matthew 4:19	Acts 16:31	1 Peter 5:7
Psalms 69:30	Matthew 6:8	Romans 8:28	1 John 1:9
Psalms 85:12	Matthew 6:20-21	Romans 10:9	1 John 4:7
Psalms 96:3	Matthew 18:20	1 Corinthians 10:13	1 John 4:8
Psalms 100:3	Matthew 21:22	1 Corinthians 12:27	1 John 4:10
Psalms 100:4	Mark 5:19	1 Corinthians 15:58	1 John 4:14
Psalms 103:2	Mark 10:27	2 Corinthians 5:7	1 John 4:19
Psalms 104:14	Luke 18:1	2 Corinthians 5:9	1 John 5:14
Psalms 118:24	Luke 19:10	2 Corinthians 6:2	Revelations 1:8
Psalms 119:11	Luke 22:42	2 Corinthians 9:7	Revelations 11:15
Psalms 119:16	John 1:41	2 Corinthians 9:15	
Psalms 119:105	John 1:45	Galatians 3:8	
Psalms 119:110	John 3:16	Galatians 4:4-5	
Verses for Friendship			
Genesis 5:24	Proverbs 27:17	John 15:14	1 Corinthians 13:4
Genesis 6:8	Isaiah 41:6	John 15:15	1 Corinthians 16:14
Deuteronomy 34:10	Matthew 18:20	Acts 15:36	Galatians 3:28
Psalms 34:18	Mark 9:50	Romans 12:10	Galatians 6:10
Psalms 68:6	Luke 6:31	Romans 13:9	Ephesians 4:32

My Testimony

Develop your own personal testimony using this simple outline.
A testimony is telling others what you have seen or experienced.

Before

1. Your life before Christ.

Did you attend church or Sunday School? Did your parents teach you Christian values and principles? How did you first learn about Christ and your need for Him? Tell about what your life was like before you knew Christ.

After

3. Your life after receiving Christ.

What difference has Christ made in your life? Do you still have struggles? Has Christ made your life meaningful? How? What changes have your friends and family noticed in your life?

Every Christian has a testimony. And every testimony is special. After all, it's yours and nobody else's. Take time to write out your testimony on a sheet of paper. Share your testimony with your RA Leader. Pray about sharing your testimony with someone else.

Write the name of your RA Leader below who you shared your testimony with:

Prayerfully write the name of another person whom you can share your testimony with:

Pray that Christ would allow you an opportunity to share your testimony with this person.

Your Name: _____ Date: _____

How

2. How you received Christ.

Did you make your decision to follow Christ at home, church, or a retreat? Did an individual share the gospel with you? How did you ask Christ to come into your life? Why did you want Christ to come into your life?

My Testimony Leader's Notes

Suggested Ages:

This activity is appropriate for Crusaders and RA Leaders.

Suggested Time:

This activity will require more than one chapter meeting.

Materials Needed:

- Copies of the My Testimony sheet
- Pencils
- Lined – 3 hole paper

Activity Suggestions:

- This activity should only be done with boys who have accepted Christ.
- Discuss the importance of sharing your testimony.
- Encourage the RAs to write out their personal testimony. (Most men and boys struggle with writing assignments. Consider offering an incentive for those who complete this project.)
- Have the RAs share their testimony with one or more of the RA Leaders.
- Encourage the boys to prayerfully identify one additional person that they would like to share their testimony with. Encourage them to pray for a time when they could share.
- Have the RAs complete the My Testimony sheet and place it in their notebooks.
- Also have the RAs place their written testimony in their notebooks.

Mission Fields:

This activity touches the following mission fields: My Life.

Devotional Thoughts:

(Choose one of these devotional thoughts to share with the boys during the leader's time.)

- For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son. (John 3:16)
- But God demonstrated His love for us. (Romans 5:8)
- Go home and tell your family how much the Lord has done for you. (Mark 5:19-20)
- To learn how to carry the message of Christ around the world. (RA Pledge)

Agua de Vida – Water of Life

Freshwater is the greatest natural renewable resource on the planet. Humans and domesticated animals need clean water every day to survive. The availability of freshwater is a great concern. Only three percent of the water on Earth is freshwater, and two-thirds of this is frozen in glaciers and the polar ice caps. Most of the rest is underground and only 0.3 percent is surface water. Freshwater lakes, most notably Lake Baikal in Russia and the Great Lakes in North America, contain seven-eighths of the fresh surface water.

Freshwater is a renewable and changeable, but limited natural resource. Freshwater can only be renewed through the process of the water cycle, where water from seas, lakes, and rivers evaporates, forms clouds, and returns to water sources as precipitation.

Treatment of water sources helps to produce clean water. The United Nations estimates that about 18 percent of the world's population lacks access to safe drinking water. A water filter is used to help remove impurities and harmful organisms from the freshwater supplies making it safe to drink. Each water filter cost about \$10.00 to make and is capable of purifying 12 gallons of water a day for one family.



What did you find interesting about water purification? _____

What was the total amount of money that was collected for Agua de Vida? _____

Please pray for those who need clean water and those involved with water purification ministry.

Your Name: _____ Date: _____

Agua de Vida – Water of Life

Leader's Notes

Suggested Ages:

This activity is appropriate for Lads, Crusaders and RA Leaders.

Suggested Time:

This mission project can be introduced during a chapter meeting. The RAs can continue working towards raising awareness and collecting an offering to be used for water purification during the remainder of the month.

Materials Needed:

Water Bottles

Activity Suggestions:

- Contact your state convention to get in touch with someone who is involved with a water purification ministry. Invite them to come and demonstrate a water purification system or find out facts that you can share with the boys.
- Lead the boys in a very active game to get them hot and thirsty. Give each boy a cold bottle of water. Allow them to drink it as you share facts concerning pure water listed on the Agua de Vida sheet. Listed below are some additional facts concerning pure water:
 - More than 5000 people will die every day due to bad water. Most of these will be children.
 - More than half of all hospital beds in the world are presently occupied with patients suffering from waterborne diseases.
- Have the boys pray about becoming involved in water purification.
- Encourage them to take the empty water bottle home and fill it up with coins for an offering. Share with them they can fill more than one water bottle if possible.
- Encourage the RAs to return with their water bottles at the end of the month and count the total amount that has been raised for water purification. Find out if the local bank prefers to have the coins rolled or if they would rather run them through their coin counter. If they require them to be rolled, allow the RAs to help roll the coins.
- Have the RAs complete the Agua de Vida sheet and place them in their notebooks.

Mission Fields:

This activity touches the following mission fields: My State, My Nation, and My World.

Devotional Thoughts:

(Choose one of these devotional thoughts to share with the boys during the leader's time.)

- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, because they will be filled. (Matthew 5:6)
- I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink. (Matthew 25:35)
- Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me. (Matthew 25:40)
- Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again. But whoever drinks from the water that I give him will never get thirsty again – ever!" (John 4:1-26)
- To have a Christlike concern for all people. (RA Pledge)
- To work with others in sharing Christ. (RA Pledge)

American Turkey – Establish a large playing area for this game. All players line up on one "safety line". When the signal is given, they run across the field to the other "safety line". Standing in the middle is one person who tries to grab a runner, holds them still while yelling "One-Two-Three American Turkey". The rest of the players cross over safely. This continues back and forth until everyone is in the middle.

Arise – Everyone is on their back on the floor with arms crossed over chest, on the signal to "go", all try to stand without using hands. First person up is the winner.

Arkansas Rocks – Arrange 15 stones (or other objects) in the following pattern. Place 3 stones in the first row, 5 stones in the second row, and 7 stones in the third row. Two players take turns in removing one or more stones from one of the rows. A player can only remove stones from one row at a time. During his turn, he has to remove at least one stone but he can choose to remove several or all of the stones in one row. The object of the game is to force your opponent to pick up the last stone.



Are You Ready? – All you need for this game is a towel that has been rolled up tightly, two blindfolds, a small piece of wood or book, and two guys that are eager for excitement. Each player gets into a kneeling position on opposite sides of the wood or book which is placed on the floor. Both players are blindfolded and must place one hand on the block of wood or book and keep it there the entire game. One of the players is given the towel and is instructed that when swinging the towel, he can only swing in a downward motion, no diagonal or side to side swings. Give them plenty of room and let the game begin. The player with the towel asks, "Are You Ready?" The other player responds, "Ready," and then he tries to move silently before the other player takes a swing at him. As long as the first player can hit the second player with the towel on the body, including his head (blows to his arms and legs do not count), the first player keeps the towel and tries to strike again. As soon as he fails to land a good hit, he must surrender the towel to his opponent who begin the process all over again by asking, "Are You Ready?" After several rounds, choose a couple of new players who would like to battle it out.

Asteroids and Ankle Biters / Swim Noodle - Tag Game: - Divide your group into 2 groups. One group is the "Asteroid" group and will stand in a scattered formation with a sword (1/2 of a swim noodle). The "Ankle Biters" are stationary, sitting on the floor (or with one knee down on the floor). On the signal to begin, everyone with a sword tries to run and hit --BELOW THE WAIST / ON THE BACKSIDE --another Asteroid (who is also running) with his sword. If a player is hit, they must throw their sword into the air (or to a nearby sitting player) and become an Ankle Biter. Ankle Biters that receive a sword are now an Asteroid. Play continues until all participants are out of breath! If you don't have any swim noodles, you can use foam balls or socks that have been rolled up into a ball.

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