VOICATION OF THE SCOUT ADULT LEADER

by:
Angelito G. Pangilinan
Teacher III - TLE, Lamao National High School

Scout adult leaders, as mandated by the organization, each is called to become a paragon of virtues that is compulsory to live out in his society. It is primarily a vocation that is a privilege for not all are given change to become one. But how to become a model to young scouters? How to live out the duties of an adult leader? These inquiries points out to his uncompromised duties. These are five (5) major imperatives that are ought to recognize. These are person in red alert, man of virtues, selfless servant, trustworthy servant leader and man who lives his talk.

An adult leader is a person in red alert. This quality reflects on the main principle of the organization. It means being prepared at all-times in cases of emergencies comes when all are caught unprepared. To be ready is to be equipped and to be empowered by practical and necessary competencies in life. This can be in a form of first aid skill, disaster management, basic survival knowledge and alike. As the role model to the young, these should be seen in the life of the adult leader. Likewise, these are needed to be shared and be imparted to others especially to the neophyte boy scouts through trainings and workshops. An adult leader is “laging handa”.

An adult leader is a man of virtues. He serves as an epitome of all good qualities that man needs to have. For this reason, being an adult leader is not just a title given to female or male teacher in a school but a person who is entrusted to become an archetype of intrinsic worth that young boy scout is duty-bound to imitate. He is not a drunkard, a smoker, a drug addict, a womanizer, a cheater, a corrupt and other unbecoming vices that loses his
integrity as man. With the good qualities; that he possesses fortifies his functions and responsibilities as a boy scout and an adult leader.

An adult leader is a trustworthy leader. Trustworthy leadership is one of the most vital skills that an individual need to possess (Griggs, 2009). A good trustworthy leader constitutes four (4) challenges. These are strong will, flexible and innovation (Kouzes & Posner, 2012). He needs to live out the principles and values of the organization. It is his duty to be consistent and straightforward in the application of the teachings of the organization. He cannot be demoralized by the frustrations, challenges and tribulations. He is flexible in whatever and wherever he will be assigned. He can adjust and to conform in all situations of his life. He follows cordially the order and look for the wisdom behind it. He is innovative for his creativeness is his weapon to accomplish everything entrusted to him.

An adult leader is a selfless leader. He is there to serve not to be serve. He accomplishes orders for the benefit of the organization and humanity. He empties himself for others to gain. He does it whole-heartedly, dedicating himself for the benefit of the many. He is sincere to his pledge as an adult leader, to the organization and to his members. Realization of duties as a leader in service for his family, members, organization and country is his prime concern. He does not separate his private life and his being as adult leader. Thus, he does his obligations with happiness and enjoyment.

The old English cliché, “Put money on the mouth”, echoes the responsibility of the adult leader to live out what he is teaching. It is a challenge and commitment for an adult leader to realize all the norms, culture, ideals, virtues and other wisdoms of the organization (Boyscout Trial, 2007). They ought to follow first before imposing to others. He has no right to teach a certain rule if he does not follow it. He is not exempted in realizing and transcending the principles of the organization. He is the first one to obey the commands. The nature and essence of his position as an adult leader requires him to imbibe and live
out the teachings. He is an adult leader; thus, he is the clear manifestation of what it is to become a scout.

The vocation of a scout adult leader is both a challenge and commitment (Parker, 2017). It is neither a right nor a burden but a privilege entrusted to few individuals. The vocation of an adult leader is to be a person in red alert, to be a man of virtues, to be a selfless servant, to be a trustworthy servant leader and to be man who lives his talk. Though these are tough to realize, these constitute the splendor, enjoyment and exciting life of an adult leader. Now, are you ready to accept the challenge?

References:


