

The Rose Lecture (Ceremony)

My sister, I extend to you a hearty welcome into our Assembly. Rainbow teaches duty four-fold: duty to God, to country, to parents, and to each other. It also teaches harmony and friendship. The Rainbow grasp of friendship reaches beyond the door of this Assembly Room, across the vast lands of the United States, and then across the expanse of oceans to other girls in every part of the world. You are now a link in this great underlying chain of friendship. Ever remember, "A chain is as strong as its weakest link."

For this evening I should like to give you a short verse entitled "My hand in God's."

Each morning, when I wake, I say,
I place my hand in God's today.
I know He'll walk close by my side
My every wandering step to guide.

He leads me with the tenderest care
When paths are dark and I despair.
No need for me to understand
If I but hold fast to His hand.

My hand in His, no greater way
To go in safety through each day,
By His great bounty I am fed,
Warmed by His love and comforted.

And when at day's end I seek my rest
And realize how much I am blessed,
My thanks pour out to Him, and then
I place my hand in God's again.

Tonight, as you knelt at the White Altar of Holy Promise, and pledged your life to Love and Service, you held that hand of God. So now, each morning as you wake and look upon the pages of your open Bible, remember that once you held the hand of God, then place your hand in His again and look forward to a new day with renewed courage and faith.

Tonight on this occasion, I have placed in your hand a rose. This small red rose of Rainbow symbolizes a girl's love and devotion for her mother who made this day possible for her to enjoy through sacrifice and prayer. So, tonight, when you tell your mother, or someone who has taken her place, about this ceremony, give her the rose, and when you kiss her goodnight, remind her that you love her.

(Goes to Altar, entering from South and places the remaining real and/or artificial flowers around Bible, on Altar.)

And now in memory of every girl's mother, and those who have passed into the Golden City Beyond, I place these remaining flowers upon the Altar, and bid you welcome into Rainbow with the hope that the words Love and Service will lead you through a happy and successful life.

(Exits bow from North, and returns to seat.)