



ROYAL RANGERS HISTORY IN NIGERIA

Royal Rangers is the premier, most sought-after Christian activity-based mentoring program for kids and young people in the world.

The mission of Royal Rangers is to Evangelize, Equip, and Empower the next generation of Christ-followers and lifelong servant leaders.

ROYAL RANGERS NIGERIA:

- 1984 (January) The Southern Igbo-land District Council meeting held at Okoko Item, the then Superintendent, Rev. Dr. J.N Nwakanma announced on behalf of the Presbytery their decision to have a program for boys between the ages of 5-12.

Rev. David Nduka Okoro was appointed to manage the new department. Rev Okoro then started to work out something for the Rangers He first put forth a handout on the Rangers that contained tips on how to start an Outpost or how to conduct an Outpost meeting. He then called a series of meetings with Sectional-appointed Commanders who rallied around him to see to the progress of the Royal Rangers.

- 1985 (Ending) People outside the southern Igbo land District that were interested in the Royal Rangers programs began to surface. One of such people was Rev. Anyim of Assemblies of God Church, No. 2A Udi Road, Asata Enugu. Being Men's Fellowship Director for the Northern Igbo land

- 1985 (3-5th September) General Council of Assemblies of God Nigeria, therefore enumerates below the legally recognized youth organizations of the Council as The C.A., CASOR, the Royal Rangers, the Y.S., the Missionette. By this, the E.C. gave official recognition to the Royal Rangers program that has existed since January 1984 in the southern Igbo land District. Today, Royal Rangers is found in every state in Nigeria.

- 1986 Official declaration of Pink long sleeve shirt and Navy blue trousers with a blue tie and Cap as the Nigeria version of the Royal Rangers Uniform

- 1988 Activities took off strongly in Lagos State Nigeria with Rev. Isaac C. Irolewe (rtd.) pioneering this.

1990 Official inauguration in Lagos State in May 1990. This was held at Assemblies of God Church, Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria – current Southwest zone 2 under the leadership of REV Isaac C. Irolewe with the visit of a Royal Rangers Ambassador – Jeffery Hokett (son of Rev. Arthur & Mrs. Doris Hokett (Hokett International Ministries)– Missionaries to Nigeria) at the peak of activities 1991 Rev. Azuka Obi takes over as Director of Men's Fellowship in January

- 1992 (December) appointment of Rev Luke S Ekpe (Akwa Ibom District Commander) as National Commander due to challenges of the Men's director managing both effectively as proposed in January 1987. The First National Secretary was Pastor I. C. Nnaji. Comrade Gbamilah Achebe who later took over officer as the National Commander from Rev Luke Ekpe on retirement was a National Secretary during his administration

- 1999 A five (5) man training team from the USA led by David Craun conducted the Leadership Training Course Nationwide (Leadership Academy Diploma certificate in Royal Rangers) at the then A.G. C Youth Camp now Bethel Camp Lagos Ibadan Expressway. The National training team set up that year included the late Rev. Emmanuel Nwabueze former Training Team coordinator and later Training Adviser and Current National Training Adviser Rev. E. Ijeoma former National Training Coordinator.

- 2000 Transition to the khaki / brown colour the international version of the Royal Rangers Uniform as worn by the USA team that visited Nigeria the previous year. 2009 The first Royal Rangers Southwest Zone Trainers' Conference was held at Ikorodu.

- 2015 Appointment of Rev. I. E. Chilaka as National Commander from 1st April 2015

- 2019 Retirement of Rev. Isaac C. Irolewe as Lagos State & South West Zone 2 Commander, who Had Pst. E. E. Nwabueze as his deputy and Rev. E. J. Akpabio who became the new Lagos district Commander as the Secretary. The appointment of Rev. Promise N. Obasi to take over from Rev. Isaac C. Irolewe

ROYAL RANGERS IN A NUTSHELL

What is Royal Rangers?

The Royal Rangers program is an activity-based, small group church ministry for boys and young men in grades K-12. Our mission is to evangelize, equip and empower the next generation of Christlike men and lifelong servant leaders. We provide Christlike character formation and servant leadership development for boys and young men in a highly relational and fun environment.

The Royal Rangers program is a cross-generational ministry that interconnects well with children, youth and adult ministries and fits easily into the fabric of pastoral vision and into the flow of church ministries. We affirm the male hands-on, interactive learning style by featuring an intentional discipleship journey for boys and young men based on their unique design, needs and interests. Every meeting, outing or service activity is designed to encourage boys and young men in their walk with God.

We provide men with the tools to model Christlike manhood as they mentor boys on a Bible-based, Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered journey to maturity in the faith. Boys learn to study and apply what the Bible says about integrity, doctrine, biblical worldview, cultural issues and manhood. In addition, the Royal Rangers ministry molds boys into servant leaders, teaching them vital social, equipping, attitude, leadership and service skills.

The Royal Rangers program at a local church is referred to as an "outpost" and may consist of one or more groups. Each group follows a program of activities based on the interests and abilities of boys in that group. The links below provide details on the advancement system used in each group:



- [Ranger Kids - Grades K-2](#)
- [Discovery Rangers - Grades 3-5](#)

- [Adventure Rangers - Grades 6–8](#)
- [Expedition Rangers - Grades 9–12](#)

Our Mission

The mission of Royal Rangers coincides with the mission of the church, as given by Christ in Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV) - *Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

The mission of Royal Rangers is to provide churches with a platform to evangelize boys for Christ, equip them to become the next generation of Christlike men, and empower them for service as lifelong servant leaders.

- **EVANGELIZE** - We will reach the world with Gospel of Jesus Christ by bringing together a community of men and boys who will connect with others through a variety of activities guys commonly enjoy.
- **EQUIP** - We will train and resource our adult and junior leaders to effectively apply the Royal Rangers program within their areas of responsibility.
- **EMPOWER** - We will provide opportunities for men and boys to improve their churches and communities through the practice of servant leadership.

Our Methods

The Royal Rangers program utilizes seven methods to guide boys on their journey to Christlike manhood. The manner in which each method is employed may vary from one church to another according to the style and culture of the church but all seven methods are represented in some way in every outpost. Additional information on the seven methods can be found in Chapter 4 of the [Royal Rangers Leader Manual](#).

Friendship

Building healthy, Christ-centered relationships among men and boys

Men and boys build relationships side by side as they do fun things together. In Royal Rangers, boys have the opportunity to develop lasting, healthy relationships with other boys as well as men of multiple generations.

Activities

Bringing men and boys together around a variety of activities that provide something for every boy

Boys today have a variety of interest – sports, technology, outdoor activities, trade skills, arts, and more. The Royal Rangers ministry features a vast collection of resources to support these diverse interests. Outpost leaders are encouraged to plan a wide range of activities to appeal to the many interests of today’s boy.

Identity

Inviting boys to connect and belong to a community of Christlike men

Every boy needs to know he is significant and has a valuable role to play in something big and important. The various uniforms worn by Royal Rangers men and boys serve to identify them as a part of a worldwide organization that is building the kingdom of God in the hearts and minds of men and boys all around the world.

Achievement

Providing every boy with a pathway for growth and recognition

The Royal Rangers [advancement system](#) provides a systematic discipleship & leadership development process that provides boys with a roadmap to Christlike manhood. Through a combination of Bible studies, leadership lessons, and skill development boys develop a complete image of manhood as modeled by Jesus Christ in Luke 2:52 where “*Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.*”

Discipleship

Growing boys into Christlike manhood through a systematic, guy-specific discipleship process

The Royal Rangers program provides boys with a picture of Christlike manhood and process for pursuing it - a lifelong effort that requires endurance, patience, and persistence.

Leadership

Developing servant leadership and personal growth within a small group environment

The Royal Rangers program provides boys with opportunities to learn leadership skills and practice them in a small group setting. As they get older, boys play an increasing role in planning and leading the activities of their group.

Service

Engaging boys in service to God, their family, church, and community

Service to others is a central part of the Christian faith. Therefore, any effort to help boys grow into healthy Christian men must include regular opportunities for serving others. Royal Rangers outposts are regularly engaged in activities that service their communities as they seek to make the world a better place.

Our Mentoring Process

The Royal Rangers program is built on the premise that learning should be fun and interactive. Learning in Royal Rangers therefore follows a “*hear-see-do-teach*” mentoring process where boys hear instruction on a topic, sees the skill demonstrated, and are given the opportunity to do it themselves. Then, as their skills improve, they are given the opportunity to teach others, further developing their own understanding of the material.

The Ideals of Royal Rangers

The ideals of Royal Rangers represent the core principles by which we are defined. Our ideals are reflected in our pledge, code, motto, and the points of our emblem.

The Royal Rangers Pledge

"With God's help, I will do my best to serve God, my church, and my fellowman; to live by the Ranger Code; to make the Golden Rule my daily rule."

The Royal Rangers Code

A Royal Ranger is:

- **ALERT** - He is mentally, physically, and spiritually alert.
- **CLEAN** - He is clean in body, mind, and speech.
- **HONEST** - He does not lie, cheat, or steal.
- **COURAGEOUS** - He is brave in spite of danger, criticism, or threats.
- **LOYAL** - He is faithful to his church, family, outpost, and friends.
- **COURTEOUS** - He is polite, kind, and thoughtful.
- **OBEDIENT** - He obeys his parents, leaders, and those in authority.
- **SPIRITUAL** - He prays, reads the Bible, and witnesses.

The Royal Rangers Motto

"Ready" - Meaning of Motto: Ready for anything! Ready to work, play, serve, worship, live, and obey God's Word.

The Golden Rule

"In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you." (Matthew 7:12 NIV).

The Points of the Royal Rangers Emblem

The design of the Royal Rangers Emblem is based on the points of a compass to represent the direction and pathway God has given us through His Holy Word. The colors of the points have the following meaning:

- The four **GOLD** points represent the four ways a boy grows. The Royal Rangers program has been designed to help boys grow *mentally, physically, spiritually, and socially*, following the example of Jesus Christ in Luke 2:52.
- The four **RED** points represent the four core beliefs of the Church: *Salvation, Baptism in the Holy Spirit, Divine Healing, and the Second Coming of Christ*.
- The eight **BLUE** points represent the eight points of the Royal Rangers Code. A Royal Ranger is *Alert, Clean, Honest, Courageous, Loyal, Courteous, Obedient, and Spiritual*.



HISTORY OF ROYAL RANGERS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Since its inception in 1962, the Royal Rangers ministry has influenced the lives of over 2 million men and boys in the United States and around the world. Today, many former Royal Rangers serve their families, churches, and communities as businessmen, pastors, church leaders, missionaries, teachers, soldiers, police officers, and in many other roles. The following provides a brief overview of the history of the program.

Royal Rangers History Timeline

- **1962**—Royal Rangers started under the direction of Rev. Johnnie Barnes, district youth director from North Texas, as a ministry designed to disciple young men and keep them in our churches.
- **1963**—The Leadership Training Course (LTC) is created to train leaders to disciple future men.
- **1964**—The first district-wide summer camps were held. The Gold Medal of Achievement and Medal of Valor awards are first offered.
- **1966**—Royal Rangers ministries are established in Latin America and Asia. The Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship (FCF) is formed.
- **1968**—The first National Training Camps (NTC) are held.
- **1972**—The first national event, a National FCF Rendezvous, was held near Springfield, Missouri.
- **1974**—The first National Camporama was held at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. 1978—The second National Camporama was held in Farragut, Idaho.
- **1982**—The third National Camporama was held in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.
- **1986**—The National Royal Rangers Center, also known as Camp Eagle Rock, near Eagle Rock, Missouri, was dedicated. The fourth National Camporama is held there.
- **1989**—Johnnie Barnes, who led Royal Rangers from its inception, passes away. He led Royal Rangers for twenty-seven years, leaving an extensive legacy and thousands of men and boys who are serving Jesus Christ. Rev. Ken Hunt becomes the second national Royal Rangers commander.
- **1990**—The fifth National Camporama is held at Camp Eagle Rock.

- **1994**—The sixth National Camporama takes place at Camp Eagle Rock.
- **1998**—The seventh National Camporama is held at Camp Eagle Rock.
- **1999**—Rev. Richard Mariott becomes the third national Royal Rangers commander.
- **2002**—Royal Rangers International (RRI) is formed to help coordinate the efforts and needs of the approximately forty-five countries using Royal Rangers at the time. The eighth National Camporama takes place at Camp Eagle Rock.
- **2006**—The ninth National Camporama is held at Camp Eagle Rock.
- **2007**—Rev. Doug Marsh becomes the fourth national Royal Rangers commander.
- **2012**—The tenth National Camporama and fiftieth anniversary celebration takes place at Camp Eagle Rock.
- **2014**—Rev. Karl Fleig becomes the fifth national Royal Rangers commander.
- **2016**—The eleventh National Camporama is held at Camp Eagle Rock.