

4. **DECIDE** to make a difference

~ ~ ~ GOD BLESS YOU ~ ~ ~

God bless America, land that I love,
Stand beside her, & guide her,
Through the night, with the light from above.
From the mountains. To the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam;
God bless America, my home, sweet home.

“Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”
Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV)

“Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.”
Colossians 3:16-17 (NLT)



“A Declaration of Dependence”

Fourth of July Worship - 2021

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, “You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. ³² And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free...³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.” John 8:31-32; 36

JOHN ADAMS’ QUOTE

John Adams said, “Whether we live or die, sink or swim, succeed or fail, I stand behind this Declaration of Independence. And if God wills it, I am ready to die in order that this country might experience freedom.”

I. DECLARE your dependence upon God

“When you have eaten your fill, be sure to praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹ But that is the time to be careful! Beware that in your plenty you do not forget the LORD your God and disobey his commands, regulations, and decrees that I am giving you today.”
Deuteronomy 8:10-11 (NLT)

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

The 2nd paragraph of the Declaration of Independence begins with these words:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

The closing words of the Declaration of solemnly states:

“With a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence (that’s God), we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes & our sacred Honor.”

2. WATCH OUT that you do not forget God

“But that is the time to be careful! Beware that in your plenty you do not forget the LORD your God and disobey his commands, regulations, and decrees that I am giving you today. ¹² For when you have become full and prosperous and have built fine homes to live in, ¹³ and when your flocks and herds have become very large and your silver and gold have multiplied along with everything else, be careful! ¹⁴ Do not become proud at that time and forget the LORD your God, who rescued you from slavery in the land of Egypt.”

Deuteronomy 8:11-14 (NLT)

“Godliness makes a nation great, but sin is a disgrace to any people.” Proverbs 13:34 (NLT)

“Once we, too, were foolish and disobedient. We were misled and became slaves to many lusts and pleasures. Our lives were full of evil and envy, and we hated each other.”

Titus 3:3 (NLT)

3. Believe that REAL FREEDOM comes in Christ

“For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people. ¹² And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, ¹³ while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed. ¹⁴ He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds.”

Titus 2:11-14 (NLT)

“But—When God our Savior revealed his kindness and love, ⁵ he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. ⁶ He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. ⁷ Because of his grace he made us right in his sight and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.”

Titus 3:4-7 (NLT)