

The Fourth of July

Follow these steps for a meaningful celebration:

- 1) Host a "flag raising ceremony" using a house flag or by placing a small flag in your yard.
- 2) Sing any of the patriotic songs listed in this guide.
- 3) Select one or more of the activities described in this guide that best matches your family.
- 4) Say the Pledge of Allegiance together while facing the flag with your right hand over your heart.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

- 5) Celebrate with a cake and sing "Happy Birthday" to America.
- 6) Take turns voicing short prayers of thanks for ways in which God has blessed America.



Going Further

Resources

It should be noted that Calvary Chapel Chino Hills does not necessarily endorse any particular resource and the entirety of its content.

Recommended Books:

Can be purchased at the CCCH Bookstore



America's Black Founders: Revolutionary Heroes and Early Leaders: With 21 Activities
by Nancy I. Sanders

This book weaves the histories of dozens of men and women, who have earned proper recognition among the founders of the United States of America (for children ages 9 and above).



The Declaration of Independence from A-Z
by Catherine L. Osornio

An alphabet book that tells the story of how our nation's founding came to be (for children ages 4-9).



NKJV The American Patriot's Bible: The Word of God and the Shaping of America
by Thomas Nelson

A unique Bible connecting the history of the United States and events of the Bible to our lives in a modern world.

Recommended Websites:

Wallbuiders.com is an organization dedicated to presenting America's forgotten history.

Mantleministries.com helps parents pass a mantle of America's Christian heritage from one generation to another.

A ministry of Calvary Chapel Chino Hills • calvarych.org
Go to www.athomecalvary.org
for more information and resources.
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4th of July @ Home



A Family Guide to Our Nation's Godly Heritage

America was founded on godly principles. Use this guide to celebrate that heritage while teaching the truth about America's history to the next generation.



Try one or more of these activities to help your family learn about the biblical principles on which our nation was founded.

PRAY FOR GODLY LEADERSHIP

Read: 2 Chronicles 7:14



Do: Make a prayer flag together with your family to pray for national and local leaders. Cut several stars from white paper. On each star, write the name of a local, state, or national leader. Glue the stars onto blue paper. Glue red and white ribbon in a row across the top. Hang the prayer flag on the refrigerator or any visible area for the family. Invite everyone to choose a different leader from the flag to pray for each day.

Pray: Dear God, please give our leaders the courage to do what's right and guide them into wise decisions. We specifically pray for INSERT NAME/POSITION that he/she will follow Your leading in his/her position.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

Read: Psalm 91

Do: Make a card for a soldier. Design your own or download and print out a card at athomecalvary.org under "Campaigns" or pick one up in the @Home Room. Write an encouraging note on the inside. Invite younger children to draw a picture. Write out comforting Scriptures. When finished, drop off the card in the @Home Room for the Support Our Troops ministry to deliver.

Pray: Take turns reading each of the verses of Psalm 91 aloud as a prayer for our soldiers both at home and all around the world.

OUR NATION'S GODLY HERITAGE

Read: Proverbs 29:2



Do: Read the Declaration of Independence (It can be found on our website athomecalvary.org under "Campaigns") and see if you can find four references to God. As believers, we celebrate that our country was founded on faith!

Read: Ephesians 3:12 (NIV) together: *"In Him (Christ) and through faith in Him we may approach God with freedom and confidence."*

Optional: Make an American Flag (or use one that you already have) and use instruments to put on your own family parade, or join in a community parade. Red represents bravery, blue signifies perseverance and white represents purity. These are three strong principles that our country is founded upon.

Pray: Thank God for the freedom that we have living in the United States of America. Pray for those who are serving in the armed forces protecting our freedom.

*We recognize no sovereign but God
and no King but Jesus.*

- John Adams & John Hancock

DEPEND ON GOD

Read: Psalm 33:12

Do: Read portions of the Declaration of Independence aloud together. (It can be found on our website athomecalvary.org under "Campaigns.") Then, work together to write a simple document declaring your own family's dependence on God. In this document include such statements as "We declare our dependence on God as the King of kings and Lord of lords." Invite your family to sign it and then read aloud your family's testimony of your dependence upon God. An example of this might be:

"Family is central to the Creator's plan. We declare our marriage is a sacred covenant before the Lord and each other and that our children are a heritage from the Lord. We declare our dependence on God as the King of kings and Lord of lords. Therefore as a family, we promise to love and care for one another."

Pray: Finish in prayer telling Him that you trust His divine leadership for America and for your family.

PATRIOTIC SONGS TO SING TOGETHER

*This Is My Country
God Bless America
America the Beautiful
God of This City
My Country 'Tis of Thee*