

HomeTouch

is a weekly ministry of
Orange Coast Church



Pastor Ken Studer

Sunday, July 1, 2007

Scripture Reading: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

TODAY'S THOUGHT: Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves, and, under a just God, cannot long retain it.

—Abraham Lincoln

In a few days, our country will celebrate its 231st birthday! The country was born when our forebears set forth in the Declaration of Independence, 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.

Of course, we have struggled to make the vision of those a reality for everyone. And the struggle continues. Yet, we can be very thankful that — as imperfect as we may be, and with as much room for improvement that there may be — we live in a country that values freedom. We value the freedom to worship, to assemble, to express our viewpoints, to vote, and the freedom to make choices. Every morning when we arise, we have the freedom to make decisions about how we are going to spend the day and the attitude we're going to have while we spend it.

Viktor Frankl, the noted psychoanalyst who spent time in a Nazi concentration camp talked about this very thing: "We who lived in concentration camps can remember the men who walked through the huts comforting others, giving away their last piece of bread. They may have been few in number, but they offered sufficient proof that everything can be taken away from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms — to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way."

As we near the Independence Day celebrations, let's remember that we enjoy the freedom to choose our attitude!

Prayer: Lord Jesus, when I consider what You gave so that I might receive, I cannot continue to be downcast. Today I choose an attitude that honors You and that is profoundly grateful for the freedoms I enjoy. Amen.

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ACTIVITY PAGE for the week of July 1, 2007

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** John 18-21
- Monday:** Isaiah 10-12
- Tuesday:** Isaiah 13-15
- Wednesday:** Isaiah 16-18
- Thursday:** Isaiah 19-21
- Friday:** Isaiah 22-24
- Saturday:** Psalms 67-69



JULY FOURTH

“ ... that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation shall have a new birth of freedom; and that this government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

—Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg Address, November 19, 1863.
2nd Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865

AMERICAN HISTORY QUIZ

Directions: At the bottom, fill in the letters that complete the sentences begun in Group I about these events in U.S. history. Take a letter from each group (II through IV) to complete the sentences.

Group I

- A. Alaska joins
- B. The National League
- C. The government approves AZT
- D. The Whig Party
- E. JFK,
- F. George Washington is chosen

Group II

- G. the 35th President of the United States,
- H. in the treatment
- I. the union
- J. is established
- K. becomes
- L. Commander-in-Chief

Group III

- M. the first professional baseball league
- N. by opponents of Andrew Jackson
- O. of AIDS patients
- P. is born in Brookline, MA
- Q. as the 49th state
- R. of the Continental Army

Group IV

- S. on June 15, 1775
- T. on April 14, 1834
- U. on Feb. 2, 1876
- V. on May 29, 1917
- W. on Jan. 3, 1959
- X. on March 20, 1987

A. ____ ____ ____ B. ____ ____ ____ C. ____ ____ ____ D. ____ ____ ____
E. ____ ____ ____ F. ____ ____ ____

Answers to "American History Quiz": AIQW, BKMU, CHOX, DJNT, EGPV, FLRS