

# Declaration of Independence

## Faith Supplement



Founding Freedoms:  
Understanding the  
Declaration of Independence

## *Relevant Scripture*

Assist students in finding each verse in their Bible. Facilitate a class discussion on each verse, ensuring student comprehension and connecting each verse to the historical lesson. Encourage students to discuss these verses with their families to continue learning.

- *Hebrews 11:1*
- *Matthew 17:20*
- *Romans 8:28*

## *Instructional Goals*

- Guide students to understand the concept of faith and its significance in both historical and religious contexts.
- Teach students about the role of faith in shaping society and inspiring change.
- Assist students in analyzing how faith can empower individuals and communities to overcome challenges and pursue their goals.
- Afford students the opportunity to reflect on personal experiences or examples of faith in their own lives or the lives of others.

# Understanding the Transformative Power of Faith

## *Objective:*

Students will explore the concept of faith and understand its transformative power in society through an examination of the Declaration of Independence and selected Bible stories.

## *Materials Needed:*

- Printed copies of the Declaration of Independence.
- Images of historical figures involved in drafting the Declaration.
- Bible story books or printed copies of selected Bible stories about faith (teacher driven).
- Chart paper and markers.
- Note-taking materials (notebooks, pencils).
- Handouts with key vocabulary terms related to faith and transformation.
- Access to a computer or tablet for multimedia presentations.

## *Introduction:*

- Begin by asking students what they think the word "faith" means. Encourage responses and explain that faith is believing in something even if you can't see it.
- Introduce the lesson topic: Understanding how faith can transform society. Explain that faith has played a significant role in history and continues to shape our world today.

## *Kindergarten and First Grade:*

- Read a simplified version of a Bible story about faith, such as the story of David and Goliath or the story of Daniel in the lion's den.
- Discuss the story with students, emphasizing the role of faith in helping the characters overcome challenges.
- Use visual aids and simple language to reinforce the concept of faith and its transformative power.

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## *Second and Third Grade:*

- Show images of key figures involved in the drafting of the Declaration of Independence, such as Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Benjamin Franklin.
- Provide a brief overview of the historical context surrounding the Declaration and explain how faith influenced the Founding Fathers' beliefs about freedom and independence.
- Read aloud selected excerpts from the Declaration of Independence that emphasize the importance of faith and God-given rights.

## *Fourth and Fifth Grade:*

- Distribute printed copies of the Declaration of Independence to students and have them read specific sections related to faith and freedom.
- Facilitate a discussion on how the principles of faith outlined in the Declaration have influenced American society and government.
- Encourage students to make connections between the Declaration of Independence and the Bible stories they have learned about faith.

## *Whole Group Reflection:*

- Reconvene as a whole class and discuss the similarities and differences between the Bible stories and the Declaration of Independence in terms of faith and transformation.
- Use chart paper to create a visual representation of key ideas and themes discussed during the lesson.
- Allow students to ask questions and share their thoughts on how faith can impact society.

## *Closure:*

- Summarize the main points of the lesson and emphasize the importance of faith in bringing about positive change in the world.
- Encourage students to think about ways they can demonstrate faith in their own lives and communities

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*Extension (Optional):*

- Assign students to write or draw a short reflection on a time when they demonstrated faith or witnessed faith in action.