

# Faith Component

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## Relevant Scripture

- Galatians 5:13
- 1 Timothy 2:1-2
- Psalm 33:12

## Instructional Goals

- Guide students to understand what the Bible says about freedom and the responsibility that comes with it.
  - Teach the importance of praying for our country and its leaders, fostering a sense of responsibility, and care for our nation and the world.
  - Assist students in reflecting on their own thoughts and prayers for our country, reinforcing the lesson's themes.
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# What does the Bible Say?

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## Objective

To help third graders understand the biblical perspective on freedom and the importance of praying for our country during Celebrate Freedom Week.

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## Materials

- Bible verse cards prepared in advance with verses related to freedom and responsibility.
- World map or globe.
- Art supplies: markers, colored pencils, paper.
- "Prayer for Our Country" template (a simple guide for students to fill in with their own words).

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## Introduction

- Briefly explain the significance of Celebrate Freedom Week and introduce the idea that the Bible talks about freedom and how we should pray for our country.

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## Bible Verse Exploration

- Hand out the prepared Bible verse cards to students and allow them some time to read their verse quietly.
- In a circle, have each student share their verse with the class and discuss what it might mean in the context of freedom and responsibility towards our country.

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## Mapping Our Prayers

- Show students the world map or globe and explain that people all over the world desire freedom and peace.
- Ask students to think about what it means to pray for our country and its leaders, as well as for other countries.
- Students can then draw or write on a piece of paper one prayer or wish they have for our country or another country, inspired by the Bible verses.

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## Prayer for Our Country Activity

- Distribute the “Prayer for Our Country” template and guide students to fill it in with their own words, encouraging them to pray for wisdom for our leaders, peace in our land, and that our country would be a place where freedom is cherished and protected.
- Allow students who feel comfortable to share their prayers with the class.

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## Reflection and Closing

- Wrap up the lesson with a group reflection on what they have learned about the biblical perspective on freedom and the importance of praying for our country.
- Close with a group prayer, incorporating elements from the students’ prayers and asking for God’s guidance and blessing for our country and leaders.

# Pray for our Country

*Fill in the blanks to complete your prayer for our country.*

**Dear God,**

I pray for our leaders, that they may\_\_\_\_\_. I ask for peace and unity in our country, especially\_\_\_\_\_. I hope for safety and protection for all, particularly\_\_\_\_\_. I wish for prosperity and happiness for every citizen, so that\_\_\_\_\_. I give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy, such as\_\_\_\_\_. I pray for the health and well-being of our nation, including\_\_\_\_\_.

**Amen**