

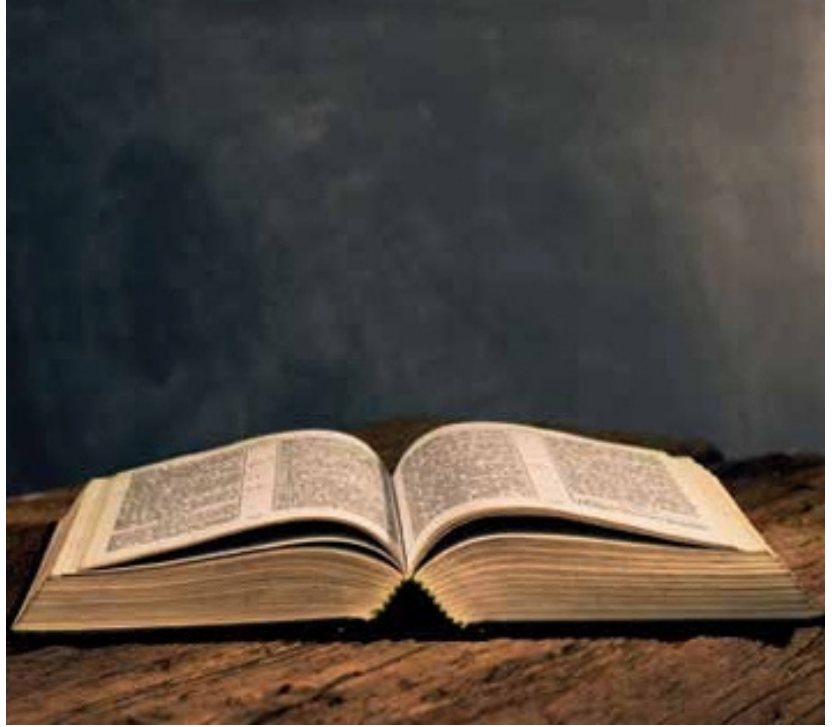
DISCOVER AMERICA

Course 24 - Faith Supplement



Franklin's Footsteps:
Exploring the Legacy of Ben
Franklin

Memory Verse



Matthew 5:16

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Relevant Scripture

1 Peter 4:10

Galatians 6:10

James 2:14-17

Faith Supplement

Instructional Goals

- Students will learn about Benjamin Franklin’s life, his contributions to society, and his role as a Founding Father, emphasizing how historical figures can inspire civic engagement.
- Students will explore how Biblical principles guide civic responsibility and personal action, applying these insights to understand the connection between faith and community service.
- Through activities like poster creation and group discussions, students will develop creative expression and enhance critical thinking skills by relating Franklin’s virtues to modern community challenges.
- Foster values of stewardship, responsibility, and community involvement, encouraging students to appreciate their potential impact within their communities inspired by both Franklin’s legacy and Biblical teachings.
- Motivate students to identify practical ways they can use their talents for community betterment, fostering a long-term commitment to civic participation and reflective personal growth.



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Benjamin Franklin - Course 24

Benjamin Franklin: Faith and Civic Responsibility

A Mini-Lesson

This lesson provides elementary students with a comprehensive view of how faith and civic responsibility intersect, using the historical example of Benjamin Franklin to inspire personal growth and community involvement.

Objectives

- Understand Benjamin Franklin's role in shaping America and his emphasis on civic duty.
- Learn how Biblical principles can inspire us to contribute positively to our communities.
- Develop a sense of personal responsibility and community engagement in the spirit of Christian stewardship.

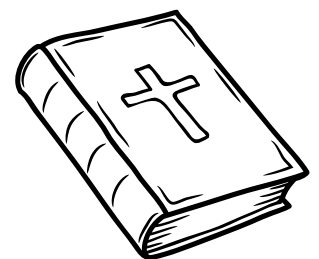
Materials Needed

- Bible
- Pictures or illustrations of Benjamin Franklin
- Copies of selected Franklin quotes on civic responsibility
- Art supplies for posters (markers, poster boards, stickers)



Introduction

- Discussion: Start with a brief introduction to Benjamin Franklin, emphasizing his roles as a Founding Father, inventor, and civic activist.
- Memory Verse: Introduce the memory verse, Matthew 5:16. Discuss what it means to do good and how this applies to civic responsibility.



Benjamin Franklin - Course 24

Benjamin Franklin: Faith and Civic Responsibility (Continued)

Main Activity: Benjamin Franklin's Civic Contributions

- Review Time: Review Benjamin Franklin's life, focusing on his efforts like founding the first public library, organizing the first volunteer fire department, and his role in drafting the U.S. Constitution.
- Scripture Link: Discuss 1 Peter 4:10 and ask how Franklin used his talents and resources for the community. Encourage students to think of ways they can use their abilities to help others in their community.

Activity: Franklin's Virtues Posters

- Poster Making: Divide students into groups and assign each group one of Franklin's virtues (like industry, sincerity, or frugality). Each group creates a poster that illustrates how this virtue can lead to community improvement today.
- Sharing: Allow each group to share their poster and explain how the virtue they depicted can be applied in their lives to serve others.

Reflection and Application

- Reflection Questions:
 - What is one thing you admire about Benjamin Franklin?
 - How can you use your talents to help your community?
 - Why is it important to help others and be active in our community?
- Discuss the importance of being involved and helping out, using Franklin as a model.

Closing Prayer

Close with a prayer asking God to help each student discover their gifts and use them to serve their community, inspired by the memory verse and the life of Benjamin Franklin.



Benjamin Franklin - Course 24

Benjamin Franklin: Faith and Civic Responsibility (Continued)

Extension Ideas

- **Community Service:** Plan a community service day where students can practice civic responsibility by participating in a local cleanup, visiting a nursing home, or helping at a community center.



- **Family Involvement:** Send home a newsletter to parents outlining the lesson and suggesting family activities that promote civic engagement, like volunteering together or supporting a local charity.



