

# American Monuments and American Exceptionalism

## Faith Supplement



## Icons, Ideals, and Impact

## Memory Verse

*2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)*

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

- Application: Discuss how this verse can reflect the idea of a nation founded under God's guidance and the role of faith in national prosperity and justice.

## Relevant Scripture

*Psalms 33:12 (NIV)*

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance."

- Application: Discuss how this verse might reflect the concept of American exceptionalism in the belief that America has a unique role or blessing in history.

*Galatians 5:13*

"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."

- Application: Relate this to the responsibilities that come with the freedoms enjoyed in America, emphasizing service and humility.

## *Instructional Goals*

- Enhance Knowledge of Historical Foundations
  - Students will identify key Judeo-Christian values that influenced the founding and development of the United States.
- Promote Understanding of Scriptural Relevance
  - Students will relate selected scripture passages to principles of American exceptionalism and national identity.
- Develop Critical Thinking and Ethical Reasoning
  - Students will analyze how foundational values influence current American societal issues.
- Encourage Reflection and Personal Application
  - Students will reflect on their role in embodying and promoting Judeo-Christian values in their community.
- Foster Engagement and Interactive Learning
  - Students will actively participate in group discussions and interactive activities to reinforce their learning and understanding of the material.



# Faith and Foundations

## Exploring American Exceptionalism

### *Objective*

To help students understand how faith has influenced America's development and how American exceptionalism can be viewed through a spiritual lens.

### *Interactive Activity 1: "Building Blocks of a Nation"*

- Objective: To illustrate how different values contribute to the strength of a nation.
- Materials: Blocks or LEGO sets, markers, labels.
- Setup: Each block represents a value (faith, liberty, justice, service, innovation).
- Activity:
  1. Students label blocks with different foundational American values highlighted during the lesson.
  2. In groups, students build a structure using these blocks, discussing how each value supports the others.
  3. Reflection: Students share how removing one block affects the stability of the structure, drawing parallels to how each value contributes to the nation's strength and stability.

### *Interactive Activity 2: "Role-Playing Real-World Applications"*

- Objective: To connect the values discussed to real-world actions and decisions.
- Materials: Scenario cards, role-play instructions.
- Setup: Prepare age-appropriate scenario cards that depict various situations where students can apply Judeo-Christian values in the context of American society.
- Activity:
  1. Students draw scenario cards and role-play the situation in small groups or pairs. Scenarios could include dilemmas involving civic duty, ethical decisions, or community service.
  2. Each group presents their scenario and explains their decision-making process.
  3. Class Discussion: Discuss how the decisions reflect the values discussed in the scriptures and the memory verse.

# Faith and Foundations

## Exploring American Exceptionalism



### *Closing*

- Reiterate the memory verse and discuss how today's lesson can be applied in their daily lives, encouraging them to think about how they can contribute positively to their community and country.
- Encourage students to pray for their country, leaders, and for wisdom to uphold the values discussed in class.