

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the United States flag, showing the stars and stripes in a wavy pattern. The colors are muted and soft, with the blue field containing white stars and the red and white stripes. The text is overlaid on this background.

LIFE 101: FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

THINGS THAT MATTER – PART 5

JULY 3, 2016

THREE MEMORABLE TRUTHS TO ESTABLISH YOUR FREEDOM THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Romans 5:5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

1 Corinthians 13:8 Love never fails.

THINKING STRAIGHT IN A CROOKED GENERATION

1. Living by faith is the opposite of **SELF-DETERMINATION.**

-from the Declaration of Independence...

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires

that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

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.-- That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed...

“We must hang together, gentlemen, else, we most assuredly will hang separately.”

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Benjamin Franklin

Romans 10:8 The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart, that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: 9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and

are saved. 11 As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame."
12 For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile-- the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, 13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

2. Living with hope means life beyond OPTIMISM.

Romans 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces

perseverance; 4 perseverance, character;
and character, hope. 5 And hope does not
disappoint us, because God has poured out
his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
whom he has given us.

Romans 8:20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

3. The Basics: The Christian life is lived according to LOVE not POWER.

Romans 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 13:8 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as

yourself." 10 Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.