

The Thankful Life - Part 2: Thankful For Country Sermon Notes

(slide 1)

Picture of Yeonmi Park

(Slide 2)

Gallup Poll June of 2025

Are you proud or very proud of your country?

58% said “yes” (a record low)

Gen Z: 41% (18 to 29 years old)

Millennials: 58%

Gen X: 71%

Boomers: 75%

Silent Gen: 83%

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“Do everything without complaining and arguing, so that no one can criticize you.

Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people.”

Philippians 2:14-15 NLT

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- 1. We have religious freedom.**

(Slide 5)

Picture of the Mayflower

(Slide 6)

Picture of Nigerian persecution

(Slide 7)

- 2. The separation of church and state**

(Slide 8)

- 3. Many of our Founders were Christians, or influenced by Christian Principles when they put forth our founding documents**

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Picture of our Founders

(Slide 10 &11)

Of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence...

- 29 of the signers graduated from seminaries or (what we would call) bible school**
- By 1815, there had been over 1400 government issued calls to prayer and fasting, largely by our founding fathers**
- John Hancock himself offered 22 of them.**
- 52 of the 55 founders of the Constitution were members of established orthodox churches in the colonies**
- Their own words describing God seemed to indicate sincere faith**

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4. America is still a land of opportunity

If America is so Bad, WHY DO SO MANY PEOPLE STILL WANT TO COME HERE, TRAVELING BY BOAT AND DESERT TO GET INTO THIS COUNTRY???? And when they get here, why are they able to be successful, sometimes more successful many citizens? Might they see opportunity while we complain?

(Slide 13)

Arnold Schwarzenegger on “The View”

(Slide 14)

5. Because of our Constitution, we can change and get better

(Slide 15)

Our country is the model for every other developing country in the world for achieving justice and equality for its citizens. Our constitution has lasted longer than any other constitution in modern history. We cannot take these blessings for granted. We must share these gifts from God. Whether we are 13 or 83 we must show the world that we are able to correct our mistakes, including homelessness, poor race, relations, and violence, and move forward to a better society. I know that we can. this nation has always overcome the obstacles it has faced.

-Rosa Parks

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In the beginning of our conquest with Great Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayer in this room for divine protection. Our prayers, sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered. All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a superintending providence in our favor... And have we now forgotten that powerful friend? Or do we imagine we no longer need his assistance?- Ben Franklin, 1787