

# *"The Ripple Effect of Freedom"*

## *May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021*



### **Key Phrase: What we celebrate people aspire to**

- So often we celebrate the wrong things.
- As believers we are being sanctified (purified by the word).

### **Americans have much to celebrate, much to remember.**

- Freedoms, like the ability to chase our dreams.
- We live in a Land of Plenty.
- Rights.

### **It is God's idea that we remember.**

- The Feasts / Altars / Memorials.  
**Joshua 4:1-8 (NLT); Judges 2:7-10 (NLT)**

### **God wants us to remember the right things.**

- We remember part but not all.
- We celebrate the wrong things.
- We often give people credit for what God does.  
**John 6:30-33 (NLT)**

### **We commemorate (to remember).**

1. We don't take blessings for granted. Freedom isn't free. We have what most want.
  - When something is given to us for free it often loses its value.
2. We remember how we got what we have. People who sacrificed lived honorable lives.
  - There is a definition of honor that we find true in God's character.
  - If we forget how we got it, we won't know how to keep it.
  - Before people fought for what was right, there was wrong.
  - We often celebrate the person, even the event, without any thought to what motivated them to stand for it.
  - People like William Wilberforce, Abraham Lincoln, Jackie Robinson, Martin Luther King, etc.
3. We can inspire others to stand up for those rights and even make life better for others.

### **We as believers celebrate righteousness and loving sacrifice.**

- We change the world by being honorable.
- Jesus' kind of soldier is a soldier of love.
- We celebrate and thank those who have done this for us.

**Matthew 5:13-14 (NLT)** <sup>13</sup>You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. <sup>14</sup>You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.

**Philippians 2:29-30 (NLT)** <sup>29</sup>Welcome him with Christian love and with great joy and give him the honor that people like him deserve. <sup>30</sup>For he risked his life for the work of Christ, and he was at the point of death while doing for me what you couldn't do from faraway.

### **Questions to ponder:**

1. What passage helps you remember and celebrate God's heart of righteousness and sacrifice?
2. In our slice of history how do you determine what is '*honorable*'?
3. What does '*being honorable*' look like from what God says in his word? How does your understanding of '*honorable*' compare to that?
4. How do you celebrate what is honorable in your life and your home?
5. What are some '*right*' things that God is showing you which are worth remembering, celebrating, or fighting for?