

**To print a copy of
The Liberty Letter pamphlet:**

- 1. Print pages 2 and 3 back-to-back.**
- 2. Fold the panel with questions 8 to 10 over the middle panel.**
- 3. Then fold the panel with questions 1 to 4 over the panel you just folded to the middle.**
- 4. Print pages 4 and 5 back-to-back.**
- 5. This will yield two inserts (each including questions 14 to 20). Cut out one of them close to the lines.**
- 6. Add the insert you cut out into the middle of the folded paper (on top of the panel with questions 5-7). Save the other insert for when you print another pamphlet.**



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II. Do I understand the free-market system and the consequences of governmental interference in it? Am I personally fiscally responsible (living w/in my means, saving...)?

Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. I Corinthians 4:2

"The statesman who should attempt to direct private people in what manner they ought to employ their capitals, would . . . assume an authority which could safely be trusted, not only to no single person, but to no council or senate whatever, and which would nowhere be so dangerous as in the hands of a man who had folly and presumption enough to fancy himself fit to exercise it." – Adam Smith

12. Am I a thinking person? Do I seek to know both sides of an issue, to discover truth, to appreciate history? Do I evaluate the evidence for the things I hear, see, and read?

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Philippians 4:8

"Difference of opinion leads to enquiry, and enquiry to truth." – Thomas Jefferson

13. Do I know from personal experience that America is not as free as she once was? Would I cherish the opportunity to live a quiet and peaceable life? What am I willing to sacrifice to rebuild the foundations of liberty for future generations?

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour. I Timothy 2:1-3

And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to thee still in. Isaiah 58:12

"And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor." – the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence

There are certainly more questions we could have included, but for the sake of space, we have limited it to these. We hope these questions, verses, and historical quotes will spur you to serious thought and to godly action. For further study, please consider the following resources:

As I Read It: One Man's Understanding of the Constitution at store.roots-by-the-river.com

Think on These Things podcast for the whole family at roots-by-the-river.com/podcast

Various articles on faith, family, and freedom at articles.roots-by-the-river.com

Foundations of Freedom series by David Barton

Agenda and *Agenda 2* films by Curtis Bowers

<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript>

heritage.org/constitution (with detailed notes)

A Word in Season series and *Our Threatened Freedom* by R. J. Rushdoony

Financial Freedom Seminar by Jim Sammons

Economics 101: The Principles of Free Market Economics at online.hillsdale.edu/#home

hslda.org (homeschool advocacy organization)

Live Not by Lies by Rod Dreher

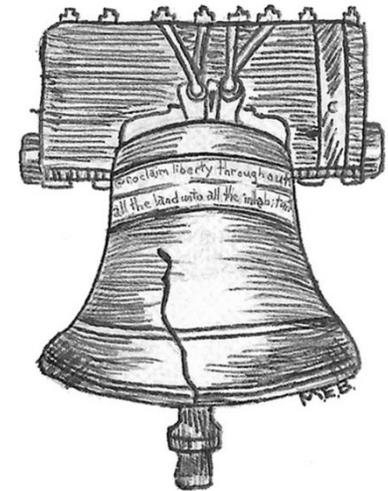


To print additional copies of this pamphlet to share with friends, visit:

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roots-by-the-river.com

The Liberty Letter



**Proclaim LIBERTY throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.
Leviticus 25:10b**

Am I living as a free man or woman?

Twenty sets of questions to prompt reflection and discussion, encourage self-education, and inspire renewal

1. Is the state of my home and family strong? If not, what can I do to improve it? Also, how can I build up the families around me?

That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace . . . Happy is that people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the LORD. Psalm 144:12, 15

"They brought up their families in sturdy virtue and a living faith in God, without which nations perish." [inscription on the Pilgrim Mother Monument in Plymouth, Massachusetts]

2. Do I value all life from cradle to grave? Do I believe each person has worth and purpose?

Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. Psalm 127:3

Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD. Leviticus 19:32

"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." – the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence

3. Do I appreciate civility? Do I exercise good manners? Am I respectful even with those with whom I disagree?

For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Galatians 5:14

"Nothing is more certain than that a general profligacy and corruption of manners make a people ripe for destruction. A good form of government may hold the rotten materials together for some time, but beyond a certain pitch, even the best constitution will be ineffectual, and slavery must ensue. On the other hand, when the manners of a nation are pure, when true religion and internal principles maintain their vigour, the attempts of the most powerful enemies to oppress them are commonly baffled and disappointed." – John Witherspoon

4. Am I practicing contentment, or am I coveting my neighbor's possessions?

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's. Exodus 20:17

"I know no condition happier than that of a Virginia farmer might be,

conducting himself as he did during the war. His estate supplies a good table, clothes itself and his family with their ordinary apparel, furnishes a small surplus to buy salt, sugar, coffee, and a little finery for his wife and daughter, enables him to receive and to visit his friends, and furnishes him pleasing and healthy occupation. . . ." – Thomas Jefferson

5. Do I love my neighbor? Do I practice true (private) philanthropy in my community?

But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. II Corinthians 9:6-7

"Let your heart feel for the afflictions and distresses of everyone, and let your hand give in proportion to your purse. It is not everyone who asks that deserves charity; all, however, are worthy of the inquiry, or the deserving may suffer." – George Washington

6. Do I value lifelong education? Am I engaging in instructing my family personally?

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. Deuteronomy 6:6-7

"If Virtue and Knowledge are diffused among the People, they will never be enslaved. This will be their great Security." – Samuel Adams

"Let us tenderly and kindly cherish therefore, the means of knowledge. Let us dare to read, think, speak, and write." – John Adams

7. Do I remember that we live in a republic, not a democracy? Do I understand the difference?

Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens: And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee. Exodus 18:21-22

"A pure democracy, by which I mean a society, consisting of a small number of citizens, who assemble and administer the government in person, can admit of no cure for the mischiefs of faction. A common passion or interest will, in almost every case, be felt by a majority of the whole. . . . [S]uch democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security, or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives, as they have been violent in their deaths. . . . A republic, by which I mean a government in which the scheme of representation takes place, opens a different prospect, and promises the cure for

which we are seeking." – The Federalist #10 (believed to be James Madison)

8. Do I self-govern? Am I teaching my children to self-govern and to esteem and safeguard the freedom to do so?

He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls. Proverbs 25:28

"Men can never escape being governed. Either they must govern themselves or they must submit to being governed by others." – Theodore Roosevelt

9. What is the state of my heart? Do I recognize God as the Author of liberty? Am I living life submitted to the lordship of Christ?

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. James 1:17

And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? Luke 6:46

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness—these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. . . . [R]eason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles." – George Washington

10. Do I respect the property rights of others (including their hard-earned income)? Do I recognize and reject the tenets of socialism?

Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you. Deuteronomy 4:1 [spoken to Israel but applies in principle to America as well]

For the labourer is worthy of his hire. Luke 10:7b

"That alone is a just government which impartially secures to every man whatever is his own." – James Madison

"To take from one, because it is thought his own industry and that of his fathers has acquired too much, in order to spare to others, who, or whose fathers, have not exercised equal industry and skill, is to violate arbitrarily the first principle of association, the guarantee to every one the free exercise of his industry and the fruits acquired by it." – Thomas Jefferson

14. Have I read our seminal documents and other writings by the early settlers and the Founders? Do I understand the limits on federal power? Am I helping maintain and protect the costly endowment we were given?

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. Proverbs 3:13

When asked what sort of government the delegates had created, Benjamin Franklin answered, "A republic, if you can keep it."

"It [learning] is favourable to liberty. Freedom can exist only in the society of knowledge. Without learning, men are incapable of knowing their rights, and where learning is confined to a few people, liberty can be neither equal nor universal." – Benjamin Rush

15. Do I invest my time wisely? Am I fulfilling the work God has for me to do?

See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:15-16

"The leading rule for the lawyer, as for the man of every other calling, is diligence. Leave nothing for tomorrow which can be done today." – Abraham Lincoln

16. Do I enjoy unrestricted freedom to travel, engage in trade, participate in society? Am I free to choose or change my vocation? Do I believe my neighbor should enjoy the same?

And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing. I Thessalonians 4:11-12

"The policy of the American government is to leave its citizens free, neither restraining them nor aiding them in their pursuits." – Thomas Jefferson

17. Am I pressured to conform to any action that would violate my conscience? If so, how can I justly / honorably defend my autonomy?

We ought to obey God rather than men. Acts 5:29b

"Rightful liberty is unobstructed action according to our will within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others. I do not add 'within the limits of the law' because law is often but the tyrant's will, and always so when it violates the rights of the individual." – Thomas Jefferson

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18. Do I recognize the Bible and its principles as foundational to freedom? Do I read it, apply it the best I'm able, and share it with others?

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments. Psalm 119:105-106

"To the kindly influence of Christianity we owe that degree of civil freedom, and political and social happiness, which mankind now enjoys. . . . Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government—and all blessings which flow from them—must fall with them." – Jedediah Morse

19. Is local government limited (town, county, state), or is it growing year by year? Am I continually laboring under more laws, more regulation, more taxation, more oversight?

And [Rehoboam] spake to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, and I will add to your yoke: my father also chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions. Wherefore the king hearkened not unto the people. . . . I Kings 12:14-15a

"Guard with jealous attention the public liberty. Suspect everyone who approaches that jewel." – Patrick Henry

20. Do I still have true freedom of speech? Freedom of press? Freedom of religion? Freedom of assembly? An unfringed right to bear arms? Security in my person and papers? If not, what can I do to re-secure these rights?

And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman, and uncondemned? When the centurion heard that, he went and told the chief captain, saying, Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman. Then the chief captain came, and said unto him, Tell me, art thou a Roman? He said, Yea. And the chief captain answered, With a great sum obtained I this freedom. And Paul said, But I was free born. Acts 22:25-28

"What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly. . . ." – Thomas Paine

"The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people." – Amendment IX of the Bill of Rights

"The sacred rights of mankind are not to be rummaged for among old parchments or musty records. They are written, as with a sunbeam, in the whole volume of human nature, by the hand of the Divinity itself, and can never be erased or obscured by mortal power." – Alexander Hamilton

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