

Politics

VIDEO LINK

<http://youtu.be/SW9SUaai5n0>

GOAL SUMMARY

The goal of this session is to help young people understand the meaning of freedom of religion, the separation of church and state, and how those two things are often misunderstood today.

VIDEO SUMMARY

In this video, Chris Stefanick explains what the founders of the United States intended when they established freedom of religion in the U.S. He explains the crucial difference between freedom of religion and freedom of worship. Chris explains the intention of the founding fathers when they put the wall of separation between church and state.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who gives us our rights? What is our most sacred freedom?
2. What role does the government play when it comes to our rights?
3. Why is it significant that there are so many religious references throughout the buildings in the Nation's Capital?
4. How would you explain the freedom of worship versus the freedom of religion?
5. Why is it important to pay attention to the recent change of phraseology from 'freedom of religion' to 'freedom of worship'?

SEND

We are grateful to live in a country that was founded upon freedom of religion. Each of us has a duty in our country to do our part to protect this freedom. As an adult, one-way this duty is made manifest is by the casting of a ballot; until then, there is still much that can be done by young people through prayer.

Pray together the Prayer for the Protection of Religious Liberty:

O God our Creator, from your provident hand we have received our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You have called us as your people and given us the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God, and your Son, Jesus Christ. Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society.

We ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty. Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.

Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father, a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters gathered in your Church in this decisive hour in the history of our nation, so that, with every trial withstood and every danger overcome— for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and all who come after us— this great land will always be "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.