

Find Us Faithful

*Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!*

Psalm 33:12

Just about every year, I walk through the church cemetery where my great-grandparents, grandparents, parents, brothers, aunts, uncles, and cousins are buried. Many I knew personally, and I am especially grateful as I remember their faith in Christ. Like it says in Psalm 33:12, their God was the Lord. What a difference their testimony made to me. I think about them as I walk through the cemetery.

On Memorial Day weekend, I can't help but think about the ways my Christian relatives pointed me to Jesus Christ. Proverbs 14:34 says "Righteousness exalts a nation," and "sin is a reproach." But Christ Jesus is the answer. The heritage of knowing Christ not only blesses a nation, it blesses a family. I was blessed by the lives of my family, and I want to live my life as a living sacrifice for Christ out of gratitude for His saving grace.

A few years back in 2017, I prepared a family heritage booklet for my aunts and cousins. In the preface I included the following quote from an unknown author: "Like branches on a tree, we may grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one. Each of our lives will always be a special part of one another." The booklet for me is more than just a testament of names, places, and dates. It includes the testimonies of ancestors who immigrated to American soil for religious freedom and lived their lives for Christ. It's my spiritual family memorial book.

Each generation has the responsibility and opportunity to live out the Christian faith. The faith of previous generations has impacted us. Lyrics by Jon Mohr in the song "Find Us Faithful" provide a beautiful picture of this impact: "We're pilgrims on the journey on the narrow road, and those who've gone before us line the way, cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary, their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace." Every believer and prayer warrior played a part in who we are today. I'm thankful for the legacy they have left for us. My hope is that our faith in Christ will be a positive impact on the generations to come.

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AFLC Promotion for May is Home Missions