

The Flag of Freedom

When you think about July 4th, what comes to mind? Perhaps a day off from work, picnics, fireworks? How about the United States flag, a symbol of freedom?

My dad served under the banner of the U.S. flag in World War II. Both of my grandpas served in World War I. I have relatives and friends who served in Vietnam, Korea, Desert Storm, and Afghanistan. I am extremely thankful for those who have served in our military. They all served under the banner of our flag, securing and maintaining our freedom.

In our country, we are free to voice our opinions. We are free to vote for the people of our choice. We are free to worship. We are free to work whatever job we are offered. We are free to seek higher education. We are free to travel where we want. Not every country affords these freedoms.

Our nation's flag stands for freedom, but what about the symbol of our spiritual freedom? Our spiritual flag of freedom is the cross.

Colossians 2:13–14 (CSB) tell us, “And when you were dead in trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, he made you alive with him and forgave us all our trespasses. He erased the certificate of debt, with its obligations, that was against us and opposed to us, and has taken it away by nailing it to the cross.

Romans 8:1–2 states, “Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, because the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.”

Second Corinthians 3:17 adds, “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”

Jesus says in John 8:36, “So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free.”

The cross of Christ has delivered to us independence from the condemnation of sin. The believer is free to get to know, follow, and serve God as a result.

It is good to fly our nation's flag proudly from our houses, for it is a wonderful symbol of freedom for which many have given their lives. However, don't neglect the beauty of allowing the spiritual flag of the cross to fly both inside and outside of your hearts. It represents eternal freedom for which Jesus gave His life.

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AFLC Promotion for June is the General Fund