

DISCUSSION GUIDE

AMERICA IS A CHRISTIAN NATION
A Message by Dr. Robert Jeffress, FBC Dallas

ICEBREAKER: If you could visit with any person in history, who would it be and why?

OVERVIEW: If you listened to radical leftist groups like the ACLU and the Freedom From Religion Foundation, they would try to convince you that America was founded by a group of men from a wide variety of religions. They were all united by one dream: A completely secular nation devoid of any religious or Christian influence; to build an unscalable wall around this country protecting any influence of religion from seeping into public life. As Dr. Robert Jeffress pointed out, this is a myth. In this discussion we will continue to think about America's Christian foundation, and why we must work hard to secure that foundation for future generations.

1. **Read Psalm 33:12.** What insight, principle, or observation from this week-end's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. What makes America a Christian nation?
3. What does it say about America's foundation that 52 of the 55 men who attended the Constitutional Convention were orthodox Christians, and that two of the founders, Elias Boudinot and John Jay, went on to become the leaders of the American Bible Society with the goal of distributing the Bible to as many people as possible?
4. What does it say about America's foundation that in the early years just about every state had a religious test for political office holders — professing faith in the core tenets of Christianity?

5. Consider the writings of the Founding Fathers. A 1996 study by two University of Houston professors showed that the founders quoted the Bible more than any other source in their writings (more than 1/3 of their quotes). Why is this significant in considering America's foundation?
6. John Jay, founding father and first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court said, "Providence has given our people the choice of their rulers; and it is the duty as well as the privilege of interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers." What do these words say about our nation's foundation, our present state of affairs, and our future?
7. In explaining our nation's detour from its Christian foundation, Dr. Jeffress pointed to a series of Supreme Court decisions beginning with *Everson v. the Board of Education* (1947). These poor decisions seem to have their root in the following words: "I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof', thus building a wall of separation of church and state." How has the Supreme Court misinterpreted and misapplied this statement?
8. What have been the consequences of our nation's renunciation of our Christian foundation and heritage? Are we better or worse as a result?
9. Read 2 Chronicles 7:14. What does America need to do to return to God? How can you personally contribute to this returning to God?

The Last Word: "The nation that reverences God will be blessed by God. The nation that rejects God, will be rejected by God. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." Dr. Robert Jeffress