

We the People



a matter of the heart

We the People! Those words have echoed through our nation in a ground swell over the last few years. We've seen them on posters and placards, written them on brochures and flyers, and heard them shouted at rallies and town halls all over America, but do we really know what they mean? Do we *really* understand what we are saying?

When Thomas Jefferson penned those words, *he* knew what they meant, all of America knew what they meant, and so did a King who lashed out at the words, knowing they would mean the eventual end of his Kingdom. The whole world sat in curious awe waiting to see what would happen in America, waiting with great anticipation to witness the answer to the unthinkable question—*Can Man Really Govern Himself?*

That was the question that resonated through the hearts of men all over the world for centuries. Can men *really* govern themselves? The world, in general, did not believe so. For most of human history people were ruled by those who were stronger, wealthier or had more clout. Tyranny and slavery ruled the world; survival of the fittest determined who ruled.

As rulers would change or power would shift, tyranny always reared its ugly head. Sometimes the tyranny was instantaneous, other times it crept in slowly or took a different shape so it wasn't recognized right away. But soon the people saw it for what it was, somebody would rise up and cry "Freedom!" and the people would follow their new ruler—or rulers—to something they were sure would be better. But all they did was trade one ruling class for another in hopes of a just master.

Through the annals of time we can see the results of these trades—from the Senate to Caesar, Czar to Lenin, Lenin to Stalin, King Louis 16th to Napoleon, the Qing Dynasty to Communist China, Yellow Emperor to Red Dictator, Wilhelm II to the Weimar Republic, and the Weimar Republic to Adolph Hitler. All through history we see it repeated over and over again. The people face intense tyranny, they rise up against it, embrace the new leaders, a new tyranny creeps in, and the people still suffer. So why is America so different? Why is it after years of history repeating itself the United States of America broke the chains of tyranny and became a free people? The answer is in that powerful phrase—*We the People!* But more importantly—what kind of people we were. Or in other words, what did our heart look like?

The people who came to America came with a spirit of adventure, a hope for something better and a desire to work and sacrifice for that something better. And no group was more committed than the Pilgrims—who were willing to give all, suffer all, and sacrifice all for the freedom to believe, worship and raise their children in peace. This small band of emigrants, the heirs of the age of enlightenment, were the beneficiaries of the blessings of the reformation. Their belief in God, the Bible, and their devotion to their families were deeply rooted in their hearts. And their heart is what guided their actions.

Our heart isn't just a place for emotions. It is the engine that *empowers* us to act and think—the place to process all of life's experiences. It is the “seat of understanding; the power of producing.” (Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary) Just as the engine of a car gives power to the vehicle to move, the engine of the soul gives man the power to act and choose. Our emotions merely serve as indicators to the *condition* of our heart—just as the instrument panel on the car serves as an indicator to the condition of an engine.

So, if we are going to heal America, we need to repair the engine that drives us—we need a *mighty change of heart!* We must take the time to read past the first three words of the preamble that we've been shouting on deaf ears and embrace the part that states “*secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity*”.

Secure is a strong word. It doesn't mean to dabble, preserve, or sustain. Webster's 1828 Dictionary defines it as “safe; free from danger of being taken by an enemy; to guard effectively from danger; to *make safe*”. Liberty cannot be secured by a president, a Congress, or a government. It can only be secured by *We the People* –in our own hearts. Through our book Raising Patriots: Restoring Our Garden of Liberty and the presentations shared in the Cottage Meeting Resource Guide you will discover the Founders formula of success—the key ingredients that led to the rare and blessed gift of freedom.

The things we present in Raising Patriots and the Resource Guide, are the simple solutions to the seemingly never-ending sea of complex problems facing our nation today. But please don't let the word *simple* fool you. These solutions *are* simple, but they are *not* easy. They require dedication, commitment, and consistency, but most of all they require a belief that they *will* work—that these simple solutions we will be introducing will, in fact, solve our complex problems and not only *protect* liberty but secure it for generations to come.

We know they work because it is these principles that led to the freedom and prosperity our nation has experienced for over 200 years. We know they work because it is these same principles the Destroyers of Liberty have used to successfully unravel the threads of freedom and virtually dismantle the Constitution that was designed to protect that freedom.

We know it is in the home and family that liberty begins and where the foundation is most securely rooted because the Destroyers of Liberty have launched an all-out assault on the home and family.

We know that a knowledge of our history and heritage is paramount in the preservation of liberty because the Destroyers of Liberty have worked very hard to make history inconsequential, boring, and undesirable.

We know stories touch the heart and pierce the soul like no other medium because the Destroyers of Liberty have done everything, they can to remove these stories from our libraries, our homes, and our lives.

We know that beautiful art, music, and literature inspire because the Marxist and Communist destroyers of liberty have spent an enormous amount of time distorting art and removing all goodness and beauty from these things.

We *know*, beyond any doubt, that women play so vital a role in the nurturing of liberty and virtue that without them and their tender influence, liberty and virtue would cease to exist. And the Destroyers of Liberty know that too or they wouldn't have spent decades defaming women and tearing down their vital role as mother and makers of the home. The Destroyers of Liberty have done everything they can to deceive, distract, and devalue women for the sole concentrated purpose of limiting their influence in the home—because they are very well aware of how powerful that influence is in determining the future of our nation.

If the solutions we present in the Cottage Meeting Program weren't the answers, then the Destroyers of Liberty wouldn't be working so hard to destroy, disrupt, and distort them. They wouldn't be spending so much time trying to distract us from these things or work so hard to try and convince us they don't matter. The fact is they *do* matter, and the Destroyers of Liberty *know* it.

It is important to understand that America is not the only place where liberty can thrive. Though it has become uniquely American, Liberty can prosper anywhere under the right conditions—but it is America that God has chosen as the *venue* for freedom. It is the United States of America where freedom was established and prospered to be an example of truth, virtue, and freedom to the world. America truly *is* that light on the hill. *We* are the light and hope of the world. If we fail here, all hope of free men and women in this world, will wither away. The experiment the world has been watching with great anticipation for two centuries will have failed. We will have proven men can not govern themselves and freedom will cease to exist.

So, we need to ask ourselves, do we *really* want freedom? Are we, like our Founders, willing

to make the sacrifices and exert the energy necessary to *secure* freedom or are we merely looking for more just masters? Do we really want *freedom*, or do we just want the government to leave us alone? These are the hard questions we need to ask ourselves. And while we are considering the answers remember that the government left us alone for decades while the Destroyers of Liberty worked their silent destruction behind closed doors, slowly dismantling everything we hold dear.

Yes, the principles we will share *are* simple, so simple we have overlooked them for decades. But let us not think them *so* simple that we dismiss them as irrelevant and allow the Destroyers of Liberty to win by the very means which we scoffed and disregarded.

“We the People” is a powerful phrase but it is the heart of “we the people” that determines the direction our nation will go, whether freedom will prevail, whether liberty can be secured—whether the experiment will prove that man *can*, in fact, govern himself.

It took well over a hundred years of parents nurturing seeds of liberty in the hearts of their children to gain this freedom; but once it took root, it sunk deep into the hearts of those little boys, who grew to be the men who would pen those immortal words—*We the People!* That is the power of simplicity. Is it easy? Absolutely not. But is it worth it?

Oh Yes! It is!