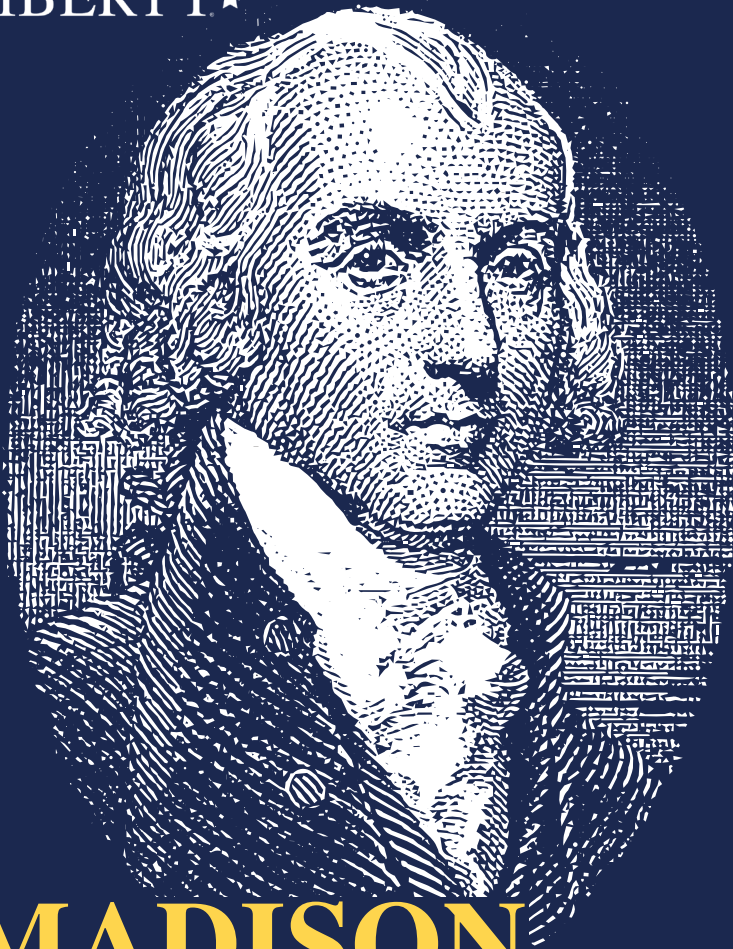


MOMS *for*
★ LIBERTY ★



MADISON MOVEMENT

52 WEEKS OF MADISON MINUTES

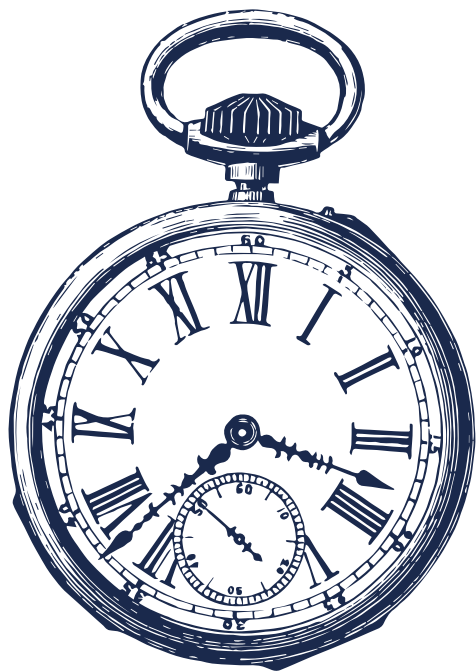


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Dear Friend,

Before Moms for Liberty was a national organization, before there were chapters across the country and before thousands of parents joined together to defend parental rights, there was a small group of friends gathered in my living room.

We were just friends getting together to have a conversation about what we saw happening in America.

We started gathering to read our founding documents, ask questions, and talk about what the ideas of liberty, self-government and individual rights actually meant for our families and our communities.

And you know what?

It was fun!

We laughed and shared with each other our thoughts and ideas. We learned things we didn't know and we challenged each other. Somewhere along the way, those evenings reminded us just how powerful it can be when average people get together and start talking.

Those gatherings eventually helped inspire Moms for Liberty. That's why the Madison Movement feels so personal to me. It's an invitation to do what we did in 2020, but make it your own.

You can invite a few friends over and meet in your living room like we did. Or you can meet at a coffee shop, a work lunch, a social event or wherever your people naturally gather.

Then add a little James Madison to the conversation.

As America celebrates 250 years, imagine living rooms, kitchen tables, offices or coffee shops across the country filled with people rediscovering the ideas that made this extraordinary experiment possible.

That's what a Madison Meetup can be.

Bring your questions, your opinions, your friends and co-workers too. Bring the kids if you want them to listen in. Make it dinner, dessert, coffee, or a backyard happy hour.

There isn't one "right" way to do it. The goal isn't to create a room full of constitutional scholars. ***It's to create a room full of engaged Americans.***

At the time of the first gatherings in my living room, I had no idea where those conversations would lead. That's part of what makes this so exciting.

Your Madison Meetup might simply be a really great night with friends. Or it might inspire someone to get involved in their community, learn more about our history, speak up for something they believe in or become a leader.

So consider this your invitation:

Pick a date. Invite your people. Open the Declaration of Independence or The U.S. Constitution and start talking.

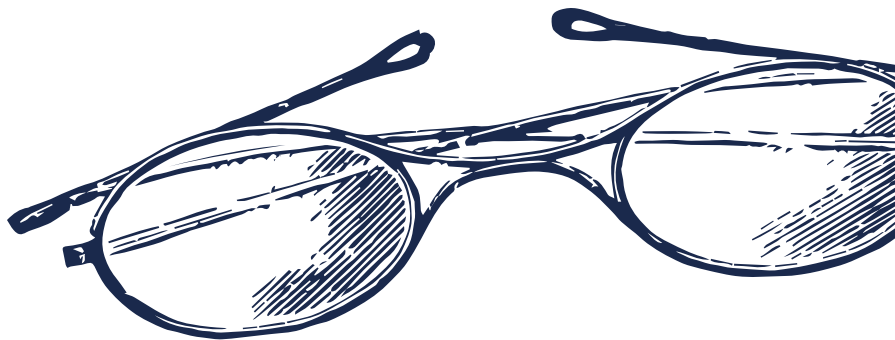
Host a Madison Meetup and join us in bringing the Madison Movement to kitchen tables, backyards, patios, and living rooms across America.

After all, Moms for Liberty started with conversations like these.

In Liberty,

Tina Descovich

Co-Founder & CEO
Moms for Liberty





HOW TO DO A MADISON MINUTE

ONE FOUNDER. ONE QUOTE. ONE PRINCIPLE. 1-5 MINUTES.

WHAT IS A MADISON MINUTE?

A **Madison Minute** is a brief moment of civic education designed to reconnect Americans with the principles and wisdom of our nation's Founders. Using the Madison Movement **52-Week Master Quote List**, choose a verified Founder quote that fits your meeting, event, season, or topic. Read the quote, briefly explain its meaning or historical context, and connect the founding principle to American life today.

It is not a speech, lesson, or group discussion. It is meant to be simple, informative, and memorable. *Aim for 1 minute and keep it under 5 minutes.*

1. READ

SHARE THE QUOTE

Choose a quote from the Master Quote List. Identify the Founder and, when appropriate, the document, speech, letter, or historical moment. *Let the Founder's words be the focus.*

2. EXPLAIN

WHAT DID THE FOUNDER MEAN?

In a few sentences, explain the quote in everyday language. Briefly share what was happening, the principle being expressed, or why it mattered. *A little context goes a long way.*

3. CONNECT

WHY DOES IT STILL MATTER?

Close with one brief thought connecting the principle to today - liberty, character, self-government, civic responsibility, constitutional government, individual rights, or citizenship.

A SIMPLE FORMULA:

READ the quote:

"For today's Madison Minute, I chose a quote from..."

EXPLAIN the meaning or historical context:

"In this passage, [Founder] was addressing..."

CONNECT the principle to the present:

"This is still worth remembering today because..."

That's it. Your Madison Minute is complete.



WHEN CAN YOU SHARE ONE?

A Madison Minute can be shared **anytime** you want to bring a moment of American civic education into a gathering. Use one at a Madison Meetup, community meeting, civic organization, homeschool or family gathering, church or small group, club, or special event. It can also be adapted into a short video, social media post, email, or other educational content.

There is no required schedule. Use the 52-Week Master Quote List as a resource and choose the quote that best fits the moment.

REMEMBER:

KEEP IT SHORT - Aim for 1 minute; never more than 5.

KEEP IT ACCURATE - Start with a verified quote and reliable historical context.

KEEP IT FOCUSED - One Founder. One quote. One principle.

KEEP IT EDUCATIONAL - Share the Founder's words and help others understand why they matter.

A few minutes to remember the ideas that helped shape America.

JANUARY

LIBERTY & JUSTICE

WEEK 1 - THOMAS JEFFERSON

"It behooves every Man who values liberty of conscience for himself, to resist invasions of it in case of others."

Source: Letter to Benjamin Rush, 1803

WEEK 2 - GEORGE MASON

"That all men are by nature equally free and independent, and have certain inherent rights..."

Source: Virginia Declaration of Rights, 1776

WEEK 3 - JOHN WITHERSPOON

"There is not a single instance in history in which civil liberty was lost, and religious liberty preserved entire."

Source: The Dominion of Providence Over the Passions of Men, 1776

WEEK 4 - ABIGAIL ADAMS

"May justice and Liberty finally prevail and the Friends of freedom enjoy the Satisfaction and tranquility which ever attends upright intentions..."

Source: Letter to Mercy Otis Warren, February 3, 1775

THINK & DISCUSS

1. What is the difference between a right that government gives you and a right that government is responsible for protecting? Why does that distinction matter?

2. Justice sometimes requires defending the rights of people with whom we disagree. When is that hardest to do, and why is it important?

READ

Book of the month: *The Law* by Frederic Bastiat

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Visit a local courthouse and observe how the judicial system works.
- Visit the National Constitution Center and Independence Hall area in Philadelphia.

MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:



FEBRUARY

LEADERSHIP & CHARACTER

WEEK 5 - GEORGE WASHINGTON

"A good moral character is the first essential in a man..."

Source: Letter to George Steptoe Washington, December 5, 1790

WEEK 6 - BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

"Well done is better than well said."

Source: Poor Richard's Almanack, 1737

WEEK 7 - THOMAS JEFFERSON

"Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom."

Source: Letter to Nathaniel Macon, January 12, 1819

WEEK 8 - GEORGE WASHINGTON

"That the foundation of our National policy will be laid in the pure and immutable principles of private morality..."

Source: First Inaugural Address, 1789

THINK & DISCUSS

1. Which matters more in a leader - what he or she promises or the character demonstrated when no one is watching?

2. What three character traits would you require of someone entrusted with political power? Do we hold today's leaders to those standards?

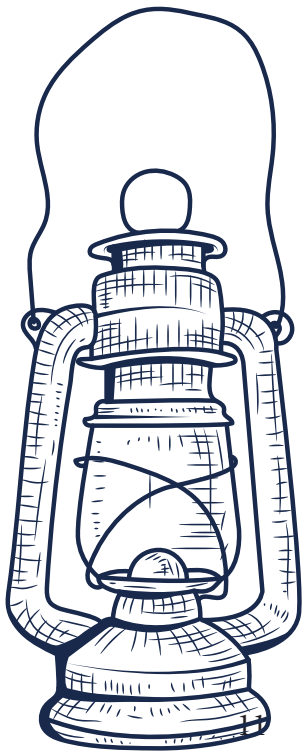
READ

Book of the month: *George Washington on Leadership*
by Richard Brookhiser

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Visit George Washington's Mount Vernon and discuss Washington's leadership.
- Tour your state capitol or local government building.

**MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I
want to remember or act on this month:**



MARCH

FREEDOM & ACCOUNTABILITY

WEEK 9 - JAMES MADISON

"The essence of Government is power; and power lodged as it must be, in human hands, will ever be liable to abuse."

Source: Speech in the Virginia Convention, December 2, 1829

WEEK 10 - JAMES MADISON

"Liberty may be endangered by the abuses of liberty as well as the abuses of power."

Source: Federalist No. 63, 1788

WEEK 11 - ALEXANDER HAMILTON

"To usurp dominion over a people, in their own despite...is to violate that law of nature..."

Source: The Farmer Refuted, February 23, 1775

WEEK 12 - JOHN JAY

"No power on earth has the right to take our property from us without our consent."

Source: Address to the People of Great Britain, October 21, 1774

WEEK 13 - THOMAS JEFFERSON

"Whenever the people are well informed, they can be trusted with their own government; that whenever things get so far wrong as to attract their notice, they may be relied on to set them to rights."

Source: Written to Richard Price, January 8, 1789

THINK & DISCUSS

1. Can a society remain free if citizens demand freedom for themselves but refuse responsibility for their choices?

2. The Founders were deeply concerned about the abuse of government power. What safeguards against that abuse do Americans have today?

READ

Book of the month: *A Conflict of Visions* by Thomas Sowell

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Attend a city council, county commission, or school board meeting.
- Take a family trip to your state capitol and identify the three branches of state government.

MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:



APRIL

COURAGE & REVOLUTION

WEEK 14 - THOMAS PAINE

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country..."

Source: The Crisis, December 1776

WEEK 15 - PATRICK HENRY

"Should I keep back my opinions at such a time, through fear of giving offense, I should consider myself as guilty of treason towards my country..."

Source: Second Virginia Convention, March 20, 1775

WEEK 16 - THOMAS PAINE

"...most men have more courage than they know of, and that a little at first is enough to begin with."

Source: The Crisis II, January 13, 1777

WEEK 17 - MERCY OTIS WARREN

"May nothing ever check that glorious spirit of freedom which inspires the patriot in the cabinet, and the hero in the field..."

Source: Letter to John Adams, August 2, 1775

THINK & DISCUSS

1. Patrick Henry was willing to risk his life for liberty. What principles are important enough that they should be defended even when doing so is unpopular?



2. Courage does not always involve battle. What does civic courage look like in ordinary American life?

READ

Book of the month: *1776* by David McCullough

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Walk Boston's Freedom Trail.
- Visit Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, where the Revolutionary War began.

MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:

MAY

SACRIFICE & SERVICE

WEEK 18 - THOMAS PAINE

"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigues of supporting it."

Source: The Crisis, 1777

WEEK 19 - THOMAS PAINE

"If there must be trouble, let it be in my day, that my child may have peace."

Source: The Crisis, December 23, 1776

WEEK 20 - GEORGE WASHINGTON

"Perseverance and spirit have done wonders in all ages."

Source: Letter to Major General Philip Schuyler, August 20, 1775

WEEK 21 - BENJAMIN RUSH

"The love of liberty is the only principle of Action that will make a man uniform in his conduct..."

Source: Letter to John Adams, August 8, 1777

THINK & DISCUSS

1. Freedom has been preserved through the sacrifices of generations before us. What responsibilities does that inheritance create for us?

2. What is one sacrifice you could make this month to strengthen your family, community, or country?

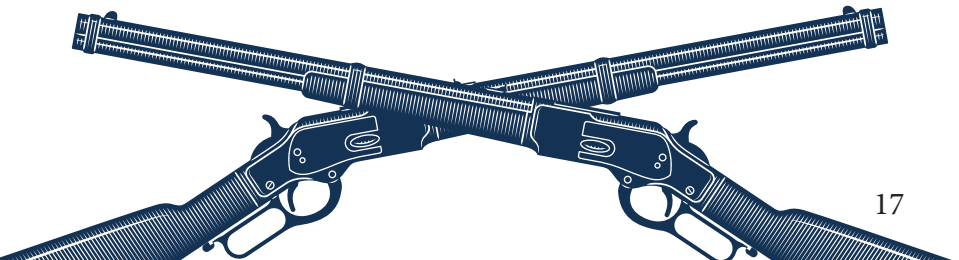
READ

Book of the month: *American Founders: Leaders at the Creation of the Republic*
by The Heritage Foundation

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Visit a veterans cemetery or military memorial around Memorial Day.
- Visit a local American Legion or veterans organization and ask a veteran about his or her service.

MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:



JUNE

UNITY UNDER THE FLAG

WEEK 22 - JOHN JAY

"This country and these people seem to have been made for each other, united to each other by the strongest ties..."

Source: Federalist Paper, 1787

WEEK 23 - GEORGE WASHINGTON

"Against the insidious wiles of foreign influence...the jealousy of a free people ought to be constantly awake..."

Source: Farewell Address, September 19, 1796

WEEK 24 - THOMAS PAINE

"America will never be happy till she gets clear of foreign dominion."

Source: The Crisis, December 23, 1776

WEEK 25 - BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

"A Brother may not be a Friend, but a Friend will always be a Brother."

Source: Poor Richard's Almanack, May 1752

THINK & DISCUSS

1. Americans can disagree strongly about politics and still share a country. What principles should unite us even when our opinions differ?

2. What does the American flag represent to you personally - and what responsibilities accompany the freedoms it symbolizes?

READ

Book of the month: *We Still Hold These Truths* by Matthew Spalding

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Attend a Flag Day ceremony or patriotic community event.
- Visit a military museum, memorial, or historic battlefield.

MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:



JULY

INDEPENDENCE & SELF-GOVERNMENT

WEEK 26 - THOMAS JEFFERSON

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal... Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Source: Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776

WEEK 27 - JAMES WILSON

"We are the Servants of the People sent here to act under a delegated Authority. If we exceed it, voluntarily, We deserve neither Excuse nor Justification."

Source: John Adams's Notes of Debates in the Continental Congress, May 1776

WEEK 28 - PATRICK HENRY

"I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

Source: Second Virginia Convention, March 23, 1775

WEEK 29 - JAMES MADISON

"Knowledge will forever govern ignorance: And a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."

Source: Letter to W. T. Barry, August 4, 1822

WEEK 30 - GEORGE WASHINGTON

"Liberty, when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth."

Source: Letter to James Madison, March 2, 1788

THINK & DISCUSS

1. The Declaration says our rights are 'unalienable.' What does that mean, and why was that idea revolutionary in 1776?

2. Self-government requires more than voting. What qualities must citizens possess for a republic to remain free?

READ

Book of the month: *The 5000 Year Leap* by W. Cleon Skousen

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Visit Independence Hall, where the Declaration and Constitution were debated and signed.
- Attend an Independence Day parade, reading of the Declaration, or historical reenactment.

MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:



AUGUST

CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

WEEK 31 - ABIGAIL ADAMS

"If we mean to have Heroes, Statesmen and Philosophers, we should have learned women."

Source: Letter to John Adams, August 14, 1776

WEEK 32 - MERCY OTIS WARREN

"A people Destitute of public or private Virtue Cannot be long Happy by the Exertions of a few of the best or Wisest of her Citizens."

Source: Letter to John Adams, 1783 (Adams Papers Digital Edition)

WEEK 33 - GEORGE WASHINGTON

"The preservation of the sacred fire of liberty, and the destiny of the Republican model of Government, are justly considered as deeply, perhaps as finally staked, on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people."

Source: First Inaugural Address, April 30, 1789

WEEK 34 - JOHN ADAMS

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious People. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

Source: Address to the Massachusetts Militia, October 11, 1798

THINK & DISCUSS

1. If 'We the People' ultimately hold political power, what responsibility do citizens have to understand the issues before voting or speaking about them?

2. What happens to self-government when citizens stop participating and expect someone else to protect their liberties?

READ

Book of the month: *Liberty and Learning* by Larry P. Arnn

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Attend a public meeting and introduce yourself to an elected representative.
- Volunteer together for a community service project.

MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:



SEPTEMBER

THE CONSTITUTION

WEEK 35 - GEORGE WASHINGTON

"The Constitution is the guide which I will never abandon."

Source: Letter to Boston Selectmen, July 28, 1795

WEEK 36 - GEORGE WASHINGTON

"A free people ought not only to be armed, but disciplined...and their safety and interest require that they should promote such manufactories..."

Source: First Annual Message to Congress, 1790

WEEK 37 - JAMES MADISON

"The people are the only legitimate fountain of power, and it is from them that the constitutional charter...is derived."

Source: Federalist No. 49, February 5, 1788

WEEK 38 - BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

"They who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

Source: Objections to Barclay's Draft Articles, February 16, 1775

THINK & DISCUSS

1. Why did the Founders create a Constitution that limits government power rather than simply trusting good leaders to make good decisions?

2. Which constitutional protection do you believe Americans most take for granted today? Why?

READ

Book of the month: *The U.S. Constitution: A Reader* by Hillsdale College

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- See the original Constitution at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.
- Visit Independence Hall and stand in the Assembly Room where the Constitutional Convention met.

MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:



OCTOBER

THE AMERICAN STORY

WEEK 39 - PATRICK HENRY

"I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided; and that is the lamp of experience. I know of no way of judging of the future but by the past."

Source: Second Virginia Convention, March 20, 1775

WEEK 40 - THOMAS JEFFERSON

"I agree with you that it is the duty of every good citizen to use all the opportunities...for preserving documents relating to the history of our country."

Source: Letter to Hugh P. Taylor, October 4, 1823

WEEK 41 - JOHN ADAMS

"And liberty cannot be preserved without a general knowledge among the people..."

Source: A Dissertation on the Canon and the Feudal Law, 1765

WEEK 42 - THOMAS JEFFERSON

"Above all things I hope the education of the common people will be attended to..."

Source: Letter to James Madison, December 20, 1787

WEEK 43 - SAMUEL ADAMS AND JAMES OTIS

"...that in all free states the constitution is fixed, and as the supreme legislative derives its power and authority from the constitution, it cannot overleap the bounds of it without destroying its own foundation..."

Source: Massachusetts Circular Letter, 1768

THINK & DISCUSS

1. Patrick Henry said experience was his guide for judging the future. What lesson from American history do you believe Americans most need to remember today?

2. Why does preserving an accurate understanding of America's history matter to the future of the country?

READ

Book of the month: *Land of Hope: An Invitation to the Great American Story*
by Wilfred M. McClay

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Visit Colonial Williamsburg and spend the day experiencing Revolutionary-era life.
- Find the oldest historic site in your own community and learn the story behind it.



MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:

NOVEMBER

HONOR & GRATITUDE

WEEK 44 - THOMAS JEFFERSON

"The happiest moments of my life have been the few which I have passed at home in the bosom of my family."

Source: Letter to Francis Willis, Jr., April 18, 1790

WEEK 45 - JOHN JAY

"And when you have done all things, then rely upon the good Providence of Almighty God for success, in full confidence that without his blessing, all our efforts will inevitably fail..."

Source: Address of the Convention of the Representatives of the State of New York to their Constituents, December 23, 1776

WEEK 46 - PATRICK HENRY

"This is all the inheritance I give to my dear family. The religion of Christ will give them one which will make them rich indeed."

Source: Last Will and Testament, November 20, 1798

WEEK 47 - MARTHA WASHINGTON

"I am still determined to be cheerful and happy, in whatever situation I may be...the greater part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances."

Source: Letter to Mercy Otis Warren, December 26, 1789

THINK & DISCUSS

1. How does gratitude change the way we think about freedoms and opportunities we did not personally create?

2. Whose sacrifice - within your family, community, military, or American history - deserves to be remembered and passed on to the next generation?

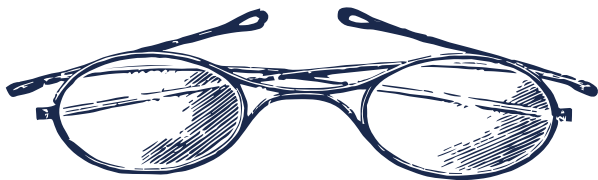
READ

Book of the month: *George Washington's Sacred Fire - Abridged Edition*
by Peter A. Lillback

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Visit a veterans memorial and choose one name to research afterward.
- Take a Thanksgiving-week family history trip: visit a cemetery, historic family location, or hometown landmark and share family stories.

MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:



DECEMBER

RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

WEEK 48 - MERCY OTIS WARREN

"The rights of individuals ought to be the primary object of all government, and cannot be too securely guarded by the most explicit declarations in their favor."

Source: Observations on the New Constitution, 1788

WEEK 49 - GEORGE MASON

That the freedom of the press is one of the greatest bulwarks of liberty and can never be restrained but by despotic governments."

Source: Virginia Declaration of Rights, 1776

WEEK 50 - SAMUEL ADAMS

"Let us contemplate our forefathers, and posterity, and resolve to maintain the rights bequeathed to us from the former, for the sake of the latter."

Source: Boston Gazette, October 27, 1771

WEEK 51 - BENJAMIN RUSH

"Liberty without Virtue would be no blessing to us."

Source: Letter to John Adams, August 8, 1777

WEEK 52 - MERCY OTIS WARREN

"Let freedom be the mistress of thy heart."

Source: Letter to Don Juan De Padilla in The Ladies of Castille, 1790

THINK & DISCUSS

1. Can rights survive if citizens insist on exercising them but refuse the responsibilities necessary to preserve them?

2. Looking back over this year's Madison Movement themes, what is one freedom you better understand and one responsibility you are willing to accept because of what you learned?



READ

Book of the month: *The Founders' Key* by Larry P. Arnn

EXPLORE TOGETHER

- Visit a historic church, courthouse, newspaper office, or other local institution connected to a First Amendment freedom.
- Have a family 'Constitution Night': read the Bill of Rights together and let everyone choose the right they believe is most important.

MONTHLY TAKEAWAY - One idea I want to remember or act on this month:
