

# Enlightening the Nation

Starting and  
Conducting Your  
Principled  
Studies Group



The Foundation for  
American Christian Education



## Vision Statement

Raise an army of individual lives prepared to build  
the family, the church, and the nation through  
education in a Biblical-theistic worldview  
to glorify God above all and bless the people  
by applying wise principles to all areas of life.

# Enlightening the Nation

## Starting and Conducting Your Principled Studies Group

The Foundation for American  
Christian Education

*Resolute in teaching Biblical principles that sustain liberty*



P.O. Box 9588, Chesapeake, Virginia 23321 800-352-3223 FACE.net

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## I am with you heart and soul

*Jonathan said to the young man who carried his armor, 'Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised. It may be that the LORD will work for us, for nothing can hinder the LORD from saving by many or by few.' And his armor-bearer said to him, 'Do all that is in your heart. Do as you wish. Behold, I am with you heart and soul.'* (v. 6). 1 Samuel 14:6-7



Matthew Henry comments that “an active faith will venture far in God’s cause upon an ‘it may be.’” The future might be uncertain, but if we pursue good, and we are confident in God’s power, we should not be afraid to pursue it. We have the liberty to attempt great things in faith knowing the Lord may bless it.

Nothing is certain this side of eternity, except eternity. But the Word of God is both eternal and certain; it is sure. It is Truth in which we are confident.

Though many say today that the degeneration of the times warrants God’s judgment, and while I cannot say with certainty what God will do about the apostasy of our nation, my responsibility is to trust His power.

The Scripture warns us that we have no “out” when it comes to dealing with the realities of the world, the flesh, and the devil. Our responsibility is to have confidence in the Lord’s power, to deliver, and to redeem. God is sovereign.

God honored Jonathan’s courage and trust in the “it may be” of God’s purpose.

It may be that God intends to redeem the nation, one community at a time, word of mouth, neighbor by neighbor, church by church. It may be that God is calling you to invite your friends, or your neighbors, or your Sunday school class to study with you and be part of the “it may be” for the nation.

That’s exactly where I want to be. How about you? I am with you heart and soul.

*Carole Adams*

Carole Adams

President

The Foundation for American Christian Education

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## The Mission of Enlightening The Nation Community by Community

To secure the future liberty and prosperity of our children, it is essential to rebuild the culture upon the founding principles that formed the idea of America, structured its liberty, and upheld the inalienable rights belonging to its people.

Rebuilding culture upon Biblical principles begins with equipping the family, the church, and the school in local communities with Godly truth applicable to all areas of life. The Principled Studies Groups can help restore Godly channels of knowledge and wisdom to parents and children, to pastors and Sunday school teachers, and to patriots and community-minded organizations.

The influence of a teaching and learning community over time brings lasting change as history has proven. As Principled Studies Groups are initiated in local communities and churches, FACE plans to provide a network of support of families and schools across the country.

The FACE five-year plan establishes **50 FACE Teaching Centers** across the nation within driving distance of every major center of population.

As American Christians refuse to succumb to the waves of secularism in the present culture that appear to wipe away the influence of Christ, the sanctity of life, and the prosperity and opportunity that have long distinguished the American system—the moral foundation of the nation—the FACE center re-energizes the families, the churches, and the schools to influence the culture locally and sustainability through education.

The community is composed of the family, the church, and the school. Each component has a role to play in building the community—the role of the family, to form the character; the role of the church, to form the conscience; the role of the school to build wisdom and knowledge upon the base of strong character and good conscience.

Because the American system of government is structured by eternal, Biblically-defined principles, the sustenance of the Republic depends upon educating each generation of our young in those principles that are germane to America and that enable “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” “Without Christ there would be no America.” (Verna M. Hall)

## Principled Studies Groups Goal and Support

FACE will train and equip leaders to establish Principled Studies Groups to teach, learn and live the Biblical principles that will bring liberty to individuals, families, churches, businesses and civil governments.

We provide the tools to ensure your success as you engage and energize your church or community to rediscover America's founding principles and method of education. Included is our cutting-edge Principled Studies Groups training that enables leaders to address even emotionally-charged topics, and to do so comfortably, lovingly and winsomely.

FACE Supports Principled Studies Group Leaders:

- Mentoring, training, on-going support, guidance and resources for the study group leader
- Customizable, downloadable materials for organizing and sustaining the study group
- Live and on-line video workshops to enhance the study program
- Monthly live and online lectures with speakers who are experts and leaders in their fields
- Support and resources at [FACE.net/PAstudies](http://FACE.net/PAstudies)
- Community influence—support for outreach to your neighbors and friends through study, prayer and principled community action
- Comprehensive curriculum of Biblical worldview materials
- Continual alerts of resources and venues to enhance the study

The Principled Studies Group can also:

- Enhance the presence and influence of Principle Approach educators in the community
- Train parents, patriots, families, individuals, and pastors
- Certify master Principle Approach teachers
- Promote learning opportunities and events nationwide by social media
- Supply leadership for study groups, Sunday school classes, homeschool co-ops, and Principle Approach K-12 schools

## Getting Started

Have you been looking for a way to impact the culture in America for Christ? Consider becoming the affiliate leader of a FACE Principled Studies Group.

One of the first steps is to articulate why such a study group is necessary. A Principled Studies Group ministry makes it easy to:

1. Educate and equip your community or church congregation to apply a Biblical worldview to every area of life, especially to those issues undermining our Judeo-Christian culture.
2. Empower others to make a meaningful difference in our society by standing up for Biblical values in the public square.
3. Keep you informed about current events relating to life, marriage, education, the family, religious liberty, business and more.
4. Restore the Bible's relevance in the critical areas of government, education, media, and business/economics.
5. Multiply the impact and influence of Study Group members.
6. Live out the Great Commission in self and civil government that leads to the restoration of our Christian Constitutional Republic.
7. Use social media to reach others with the truth that you are learning and, therefore, to maximize your efforts.
8. Engage and activate the next generation as you teach truth to those in your sphere of influence.



## Finding A Venue

After deciding to lead a Principled Studies Group, the first step is to find a venue for your group meeting. You might explore establishing a study in your church, as this is where believers meet weekly already. It provides the facility needed, and it provides the opportunity to give members of your congregation access to this critical information.

Others will decide to have the study in their home or in another community setting. Doing so enables you to reach out to all of the churches in your area for potential study group members.

How often should you meet? Answers may vary on this question as individual situations differ. However, the ideal is weekly. Meeting once per week for an hour yields about 50 hours of meeting time per year. **Twice per month should be considered a minimum.** Your goal also should be to have a year-round group. The course is scalable and can be tailored to your individual group. We all need time to be equipped in these valuable truths and to take action.

*Approval from your church leadership:* Every church has an adult education program. This is the place to start with gaining approval to have a Principled Studies Group in your church. Some churches have adult education on Sundays while others have small groups that meet during the week. Some churches have both. Either one will work for your study group. Begin by approaching the person in your church responsible for adult education. You can present the letter on page 14 to them and talk through the details while answering their questions. Feel free to customize the letter as appropriate.

## Teacher or Facilitator?

You have a place to meet, a time, a targeted group and are almost ready to announce your first class. Now you must ensure the best curriculum and instruction. If you are already a seasoned teacher, you are confident that you can choose one of FACE's books or curricula and get started. As you are probably aware, FACE has many excellent print-only curricular items for you to use.

If you are not an experienced teacher, the prospect of presenting material may be daunting. For you, there are programs, pre-recorded, with Power Point slides, and printed materials for the Principled Studies Group meetings. With these programs you will need to do only minimal preparation. You will be the class facilitator, learning together with your friends. In this role you will guide all of the components of the class: announcements, prayer, presentation of recorded materials, discussion, application and action. Our library of over seventy reasonably-priced courses, workshops, lectures, and training videos are available in the FACE bookstore at FACE.net under the "SHOP" tab then go to *Training Courses*. All courses include:

- Recorded lecture
- The presenter's PowerPoint slides (you can print if you like)
- The presenter's handouts, if any (you can print)

If you would like the free PDF catalog FACE Digital Training Resources, log onto FACE.net/PAstudies to download.

## Gathering a Group

You have a place to meet, have chosen a course to teach and are ready to go! The only thing left to obtain is...some eager students! If you are in a church, marketing of your class should be fairly easy. You will contact church leadership and ask to have access to all of the marketing venues of the church: church bulletin, live or video announcements, church website, bulletin boards, etc.

If your meeting is not in your church, you have to find other ways to market. Here is a sample marketing piece:

*Come and join a new Principled Studies Group designed to equip members to learn every subject from the Biblical perspective. Members learn to apply what they have learned to their own lives, their family, the church, business and the marketplace, and to civil governments. We have what some consider a lofty vision, but we know that this is God's vision for His people.*

*We envision the United States restored as a culture based on Biblical principles of personal responsibility, individual self-government, maximized individual liberty, limited civil government, federalism, rule of law, moral, free-market capitalism, "with malice toward none and charity for all." God is not a respecter of persons, so we also have this same vision for all 196 nations of the world!*

*To realize our vision, we will educate ourselves on the Biblical principles of government, economics, family, business, health, religion, education and media. We will advocate for principled political action. We will actively promote Biblical solutions.*

*As we "take every thought captive for Christ" we will educate members of our community on the Biblical worldview, to include the practical application of Biblical liberty and individual responsibility to all areas of our lives. We will endeavor to give our members practical opportunities to be salt and light in our community, our Commonwealth, and our nation by expressly advocating for Biblical positions on the many issues that confront us in our world today. We want to influence public policy for the sake of the Kingdom. We want to advocate for Biblical standards of holiness, righteousness and justice at all levels of our national life.*

*Most of all, and supremely, we want to have the knowledge to pass on to the children of this generation to ensure the liberty that is their birthright and our responsibility to pass on.*

## Conducting a Class

Class formats will vary as individual leaders will structure their studies differently. A typical study will include these elements:

- **Introduction and announcements:**

The leader/facilitator will give instructions and make announcements concerning actions that members of the class should take. Included are discussions of upcoming events or activities that might interest class members.

- **Prayer:**

Principled Studies Group prayer typically focuses on the needs of the corporate community, whether they are local, state or federal. Pray for all public servants, “First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior...” (I Timothy 2:1-4).

- **Lesson:**

The lesson presentation, by video or by leader, should be participatory, including group member questions and comments, and recording key points.

- **Discussion of the lesson:**

Discuss the application of the timeless truths presented from God’s Word and how these truths relate to the individual, family, church, voluntary associations and civil governments.

- **Call to action:**

Every lesson will end with a call to action, such as a specific item or items that class members can implement.



## How FACE Will Assist You

The Foundation for American Christian Education is committed to your success. Consider these ways that we pledge to support you:

- **Access to expert help.** Call anytime, Monday-Friday 8 am-4:00 pm EST.
- **A community of like-minded believers.** Join the FACE Facebook Commonwealth Community. Here you can find out about resources, ask questions, help others, etc. Visit [FACE.net/Commonwealth](http://FACE.net/Commonwealth) for more information.
- **Curriculum.** Finishing up a study and not sure what to do next? We can help. FACE has over 200 curricular resources including over 70 video-based courses in the areas of education, government, economics, science, Biblical worldview, history and geography, current cultural issues, and more.
- **Affordable materials.** FACE offers discounts to Principled Studies Group Leaders for the products that they use to teach their Group.
- **Like Minded ministries.** Visit [FACE.net/PAstudies](http://FACE.net/PAstudies) for a list of FACE Like-Minded Ministries. These organizations provide Biblically-based materials and other resources that can also be a source of support for you.

## Real Change Happens When...

1. We educate Christian citizens in Biblical principles, in a Biblical worldview and in the Christian heritage and foundation of America.
2. We properly apply these principles to the moral issues decimating our culture.
3. We act on these Biblical principles, implementing the will and way of God in every area of life.

We can address the culture in ways relevant to the problems people face today. We can see change. Society has largely lost its moral bearing. Jesus is the answer, and He has given us the keys to open hearts. Please consider allowing us to help you create and conduct a Principled Studies Group in your church.

## Sample Letter to Leaders

Dear Pastor/Church Leader:

We know that our church desires to make the Bible relevant to the culture. We also know that culture is shaped and made by the people of God. It has been said, “As goes the church, so goes the nation.”

We need change in America, badly. We know it will only come as the Church exercises faith through education, activation and engagement in God’s moral issues, publicly.

We propose that our church takes the step to teach the principles of God’s Word as they relate to education, civil government, and every other area of life. In II Corinthians 10:5 we are commanded to “take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ”. There is no area of thinking that is not under God’s jurisdiction, so this includes thoughts concerning every subject area. With Principled Studies Groups in our churches, we can ensure that our members have a truly Biblical worldview, and are passing this worldview to the next generation.

Pastors and ministry leaders nationwide have teamed with The Foundation for American Christian Education (FACE), engaging their congregations in the “new” mission field of education and self- and civil government. If we exercise our historical, rightful authority as the moral guides of America, by God’s grace we will see revival.

Is this allowed in churches? Absolutely it is! Visit Liberty Council Political and Legislative Guidelines for Pastors and Churches. Here’s the link: [LC.org/project/pastors-and-churches](http://LC.org/project/pastors-and-churches).

## Sample Marketing Copy

Here are a few samples of marketing pieces that were used to advertise an upcoming class in a church:

### **The Bible and the Constitution**

Are you concerned about the direction our country is headed?

Do you want to be better informed and better able to discuss current issues? Do you want to understand the foundations of our Constitution better—from a Biblical worldview?

The Christ and Culture Class is pleased to announce the start of a five-session course entitled *The Bible and the Constitution*, on Sunday morning. The course will explore Rosalie Slater's and Verna Hall's *The Bible and the Constitution* which examines American history and the connection between the Bible and the U.S. Constitution. This rich study will be taught by [insert names of teachers, titles, time, date, place, etc.].

### **The Seven Principles of Liberty**

**What are the Seven Principles of Liberty?** These basic, Biblical principles are the pathway to restore and maintain true liberty in our nation.

Today, if we would preserve both liberty of conscience and civil liberty for every individual in America, we must base our convictions in every issue on these principles that built our American Christian Constitutional Republic.

Liberal pundits most often sway public opinion by debating issues. However, Christians can once again win the day by learning to present the principles of liberty, because principles always trump issues. This is the pathway forward to restore our nation to truth and life.

## Courses for Principled Studies Groups

The Principled Studies Group will be building a “community of thought” as the five courses are followed. It isn’t necessary for the leader to be the teacher. It is most important that the participants commit to learn together, attend the agreed upon calendar of meetings, discuss ideas gleaned from the study freely and respectfully, and prepare to share the understanding of Christian history and Principles of Liberty with others.

There are many resources available to the leader that can be downloaded at [FACE/PAstudies.net](http://FACE/PAstudies.net). (See page 26 for ordering information on resources specific to these courses.) We recommend keeping the study simple, accessible and lively. The FACE mentor is available to coach the leader and answer questions as they arise. The following courses progress from introductory level to a more advanced level.

### INTRODUCTORY SESSION

**Why Learning Principles is Essential.** To set in place a strong purpose for your Principled Studies Group, an introductory session is suggested to present the case for why Christians must gain a Biblical worldview that they can teach their children and grandchildren. A one-hour video, *Principle Approach vs Common Core*,\* explains the role of education in forming a philosophy of government resulting in liberty or bondage.

### COURSE ONE

***The Bible and the Constitution of the United States of America: A Primer Of American Liberty.*** Why are Americans so willing to relinquish the ideal of self-government to an enlarging and ever-encroaching federal government? Why are we relinquishing our property rights? How can we accept as inevitable the imposed limits to our religious freedom? After witnessing the holocausts spawned by socialism and communism in recent history, why are Americans in denial of its sinister strings threatening our lives and our children’s future? Why are most American Christians passive about government while often animated about politics? Each participant uses the published book, *The Bible and the Constitution*,\* for this course.



**Course One topics include:**

- Our Heritage of Christian Character and Government
- The Capacity of Mankind for Self-Government; The Bible is the Source of Individual Liberty
- American Federalism: Local Self-Government with union; The Birth of Local Self-government
- A Bible for the Government of the People; Magna Charta; John Wyclif
- The Birth of American Character; Pilgrim Preparation for the Mayflower Compact
- The American Home: Foundation for Constitutional Character
- The American Church: Conscience and Constitution
- American Education: Maintaining the Character of American Liberty
- The Achievement of Self-Government with Union
- The Constitutional Convention: God's Providential Direction
- George Washington and the Constitution
- The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance

**COURSE  
TWO**

**Seven Principles of Liberty.** Building upon the understanding gained from Course One in the Principled Studies series, *Seven Principles of Liberty*\* presents basic Biblical principles that frame American Christian and civil liberty in video with hand-outs and study helps. The eight lectures can be seen and discussed over two sessions each and are taught by Dr. Max Lyons, Dr. Carole Adams, Dr. Rodd Rodriguez, Dr. Gai Ferdon and Gary Porter. The principles are presented with relevance to current issues, Christian history and application to life.

Each participant will need the hand-outs and study helps that accompany the *Seven Principles of Liberty* eight-part video lecture series.\*

\*See page 26 for ordering information on all recommended resources.

## COURSE THREE

**Renewing the Mind for Teaching and Learning.** The third course in the Principled Studies Group series demonstrates authentic Christian education practiced as the Principle Approach. The study relies on the book, *Renewing the Mind for Teaching and Learning*\* that guides the group through the philosophy, methods, and curriculum that form a Biblical worldview, Christian character, and leadership skills as taught before the devolution into progressive education. Video lectures\* are available to augment the study as needed.

Each group member will use the book *Renewing the Mind for Teaching and Learning*. The group leader should also have a copy of *The Christian History of the Constitution of the United States of America: Christian Self-Government Vol I* (CHOC I), *Teaching and Learning America's Christian History: The Principle Approach* (T&L), *American Dictionary of the English Language*, Noah Webster 1828 and *The Christian History of the American Revolution: Consider and Ponder*.\*

### Course Three lesson topics include:

- Gaining the Mind of Christ in Education
- The Notebook Approach
- Education—a Whole View
- Our Heritage of Christian Education
- Gaining a Providential View of History
- The Curriculum and the Method
- Education for the Twenty-First Century: the Principle Approach

### Advanced Studies:

For the study group leader who wants to go beyond the basics with a group that is well-grounded in Biblical worldview, we suggest the following two courses that support a study of the “red books”—*The Christian History of the Constitution of the United States of America: Christian Self-Government Vol. I* (CHOC I), *Teaching and Learning America's Christian History: The Principle Approach* (T&L).\*

\*See page 26 for ordering information on all recommended resources.

Courses Four and Five require that each participant have a set of the following books:

*The Christian History of the Constitution of the United States of America: (Vol. I) Christian Self-Government* (CHOC I), Verna M. Hall\*

- Compiled by Verna M. Hall, with the sources identified on each page, CHOC I gives the setting of Leading Ideas in the chronology of America's Providential—or God-directed history.
- CHOC I is dedicated to each American and to the Christian principle on which this nation was founded, so that we may once again raise the standard of individual liberty.

*Teaching and Learning America's Christian History: The Principle Approach* (T&L), Rosalie J. Slater\*

- T&L researches America's Christian History from CHOC I documentation, and identifies The Principle Approach—the recognition that the same Biblical principles which govern the individual through Christ, are the governmental principles which established our nation as the world's first Christian Constitutional Republic.
- Education modeled on the Principle Approach is dedicated to restoring the Christian character which can support our Republic and extend its blessings of liberty to all nations.

## COURSE FOUR

**Seven Leading Ideas of America's Christian History and Government.** NOTE: *The Leading Ideas* are found on pages 305-368 in *Teaching and Learning America's Christian History: The Principle Approach* (T&L).<sup>\*</sup> These pages

constitute the study guide to the following leading ideas:

1. The Christian Idea of Man and Government: CHOC I pp. 1-2; T&L pp. 306-310
2. The Chain of Christianity Moves Westward: CHOC I, pp. 3-9; T&L pp. 311-316
3. The Principle of Representation: CHOC I pp. 10-16, T&L pp. 317-323
4. The Republicanism of Christianity: CHOC I pp. 16-28, T&L pp. 324-331
5. The Bible in English: CHOC I pp. 28A-36, T&L pp. 332-342
6. Christian Rights and English Law: CHOC I pp. 37-50, T&L pp. 343-352
7. Principles of Christianity and Government: CHOC I pp. 372-390; 50A-125, T&L pp. 353-362

## COURSE FIVE

**Learning to Reason with the Biblical Principles of Government.** Seven Biblical principles identify the foundation of our American Christian Constitutional Republic. They are also the Biblical principles by which God governs the individual

to produce the Christian character which will support a Republic. These principles can be taught to the youngest child. Defined Biblically and historically in *Teaching and Learning America's Christian History: The Principle Approach* (T&L), the study references their documentation in *The Christian History of the Constitution of the United States: Christian Self-Government* (CHOC I). The seven principles are presented in T&L using its “Key to the Principles” and the readings by page number below.\*



### 1. God's Principle of Individuality

T&L pp. 65-68, 113-117; KEY: pp. 141-183

We state this principle Biblically and then follow it historically. On page 154 of the KEY, we learn how this principle is illustrated in God's Word and the individuality of the writers He chose to bring His message to mankind. On page 155, we teach each individual the verse:

*Starting With Me:*

*God made me special—Like no one else you see*

*God made me a witness—To His diversity.*

What follows are points which illustrate the distinctions which God gives each individual He creates. T&L, pages 156-183 provide an overview of the historical appearing of God's Principle of Individuality. It begins with the remarkable work of Arnold Guyot, Christian geographer, who identified the Continents which God created His Story to be Geographic Individuals. What a wonderful way to glorify our Creator as we teach geography from His Story of men and nations!

\*See page 26 for ordering information on all recommended resources.





## 2. The Christian Principle of Self-Government

T&L pp. 69-72; pp. 119-121; KEY pp.184-209

Here you will find teaching information as this principle appears in America's Christian history. On page 188 of T&L are two charts which begin to describe the actions of a self-governing student at home or in school. On page 189 we find those Pilgrim qualities of self-government which became so important to our nation:

*Thrift and Economy*

*Industry and Initiative*

*Self-Reliance and Confidence*

As we survey our Colonial history, we can see how important Christian self-government became as God gave us 150 years of preparation throughout all the Colonies to become “one nation under God”, able to be self-governing.



## 3. America's Heritage of Christian Character

T&L pp. 73-75; 123-124; KEY pp. 210-224

The Pilgrims of England who came to America, looked to the first century Christians for their model of character. From these early Christians they learned to practice the following qualities:

*Faith and Steadfastness*

*Brotherly Love and Christian Care*

*Diligence and Industry*

*Liberty of Conscience*

William Bradford wrote our first American Christian Classic in his account of the Pilgrims. Since he was a teenager himself and took part in so many of the Pilgrim adventures, his book is a moving Christian testimony to that character which became a model for our nation. You can read an excerpt from the *History 'Of Plimoth Plantation'* in CHOC I\* beginning on page 182, with a contrast between Pilgrims and Puritans.



#### 4. Conscience is the Most Sacred of All Property

T&L pp. 77-78;125-127; KEY: pp. 225-239

This statement by James Madison, Father of our Constitution, reflects our Biblical conviction that “we are the Workmanship” of God. We must have a “conscience void of offence” to God and man. And, as John Locke wrote, “consent is our title to conscience”.

We can teach this principle to our youngest child in these words found on page 230 of the KEY to this principle of Property:

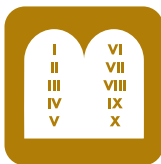
**I am God’s Property**

*God made me for His purpose; He fashioned me to be*

*An image for His glory, Almighty Father He.*

Our property is represented in our God-given talents and our use of them for the service of the Lord. We are also given the responsibility of stewardship—the care of all that God created. Property needs to be protected and preserved, as that is the “end and purpose of government”. Only a Christian Constitutional Republic can properly preserve our rights of conscience as well as the external property which we have produced.

In our American history, a turning point came when our Colonists took a firm stand for “No Taxation Without Representation”.



#### 5. The Christian Form of Our Government

T&L pp. 79-81; 129-130; KEY: pp. 240-249

Both the Law and the Gospel are foundational to America’s Christian constitutional form of government. Our founding generations looked to the Bible for the principle of representation: *Take you wise men, and understanding and known among you and I will make them rulers over you...Captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, and captains over fifties, and captains tens, and officers among your tribes.*

See page 26 for ordering information on all recommended resources.

Read for yourself, CHOC I, pp. 249-251, how Pastor Thomas Hooker preached a sermon on these verses and this produced America's first Constitution, known as the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut.

The Separation of Powers, or the Legislative, Executive and Judicial aspects of our governmental action, is found in Isaiah 33:22, "For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king."

How do we teach these principles of government to our youngest children? Government begins with individual action. When the individual child or adult Christian plans some action—perhaps it is as simple as coming home from school or taking a vacation—he or she is in effect legislating. Putting a plan into action is the executive function. And when we review our action, from both our internal conscience, or from the external law of the land, we are performing a judicial function (T&L p. 244).

Determining what area of government is the supreme law of the land, we consider the State and the Nation which operate over the same territory. If we consider the two commandments of our Lord, we shall recognize that the supreme law of the land is the nation first, then the state. Thus, when we travel outside our country, we are not protected as citizens because we are Virginians, Californians, Arizonians, but because we are Americans.

The Pastors of America preached in churches, in the halls of government in their election sermons, for the artillery companies, on fast days and days of Thanksgiving. They taught Biblical principles of self- and civil government. Oh, that we had such pastoral leadership today to clearly identify the force and power of government to be Christ in the life of the individual American.



## 6. How The Seed of Local Self-Government is Planted

T&L pp. 83-84; 131-133; KEY: pp. 250-261

America's Biblical Samuel was Samuel Adams of Boston who gave an example of uniting the American Colonies “not by external but by the vital force of distinctive ideas and principles” (T&L p. 257). His Committees of Correspondence prepared the Colonies to clearly understand Biblical principles of government so that they could take the proper action when principles were threatened.

Samuel Adams taught the principles of Liberty under Law, once again beginning in the Christian character of each American. He wrote: “While the People are virtuous, they cannot be subdued; but when once they lose their Virtue they will be ready to surrender their Liberties to the first external or internal Invader.... If Virtue and Knowledge are diffused among the People, they will never be enslaved. This will be their great Security” (T&L p. 251).



## 7. The Christian Principle of American Political Union

T&L pp. 85-87; 135-136; KEY: pp. 262-268

Consistent with the Biblical principle that action begins within, our nation came together internally, two years before we declared our Independence as a separate nation under God. The occasion was the punitive action which England took against Boston, because the tea was dumped into the harbor in 1773—the well-known Boston Tea Party.

England discounted the Biblical education of our American Colonies. She thought when she closed the Port of Boston December 3, 1774, that the other colonies would take advantage of Boston's economic distress and grasp her trade. But instead, they began with a Day of Fasting and Prayer throughout the colonies. After that, each of the other colonies sent aid to Boston. They gave not only prayer support, but sent food and other assistance, so that Boston could endure her economic trial. This outpouring of love helped emphasize the internal unity. Externally, each colony appointed delegates to a First Continental Congress so that they might together determine their united action. **American Unity is Christian Unity.**

See page 26 for ordering information on all recommended resources.



## Testimonies

The following are endorsements/testimonies from a Principled Studies Group Adult Sunday School class in a church in Virginia Beach, Virginia. This class meets each week during the Sunday School hour and has done so continuously for two decades.

*“The curriculum provided by the Foundation for American Christian Education (FACE) fills a major need in our churches. FACE provides basic Sunday school curriculum to help equip the saints for their mission in the world. George Barna’s research indicates the lack of Biblical literacy among most Christians in America. FACE materials, taught diligently on a regular basis, ensure that class members obtain a Biblical worldview.”*

*“The (FACE) worldview class has opened my eyes to Biblical truths as it relates to our government. It has shown me my responsibility as a Christian to teach my children and grandchildren these principles. It has shown me that even one person can make a difference.”*

*“I have learned so much in the past year that I feel I should have learned long ago.”*

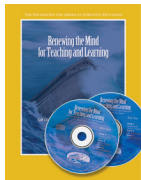
*“I believe that I’ve now been informed about one of the biggest battles going on here on earth between good and evil. We must be informed to act properly, and this class gives us the vital information that we need.”*

*“The curriculum we cover in this program has made me think about and even change my thought on what is true liberty.”*

*“This class has been a benefit in many ways. I have been learning much about Christian citizenship, our founders and other leaders in history and about the Biblical worldview. I have learned about many sources, books, articles and courses, that I previously was unaware of. I became much more active in my community and am taking part in my civic responsibilities. The curriculum has been excellent and has been invaluable for my worldview development over the years.”*

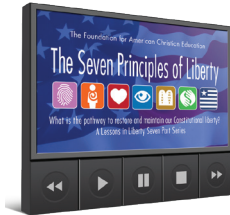
## Principled Studies Group Resources

The following resources referenced throughout this guide are essential to your study. Receive 25% off as a Principles Studies Group participant. Visit [FACE.net/PAstudies](http://FACE.net/PAstudies) and apply code PASTUDY at checkout.



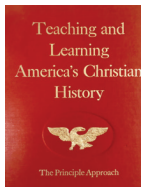
**Renewing the Mind for Teaching and Learning (RTM)** This in-depth study, a succinct overview of the basic method and philosophy of the Principle Approach®, is fundamental in preparing you to teach and leads you to a refreshing new perspective on learning and reasoning. Paperback,

134 pages, includes 2 CDs. Regular price \$37.95

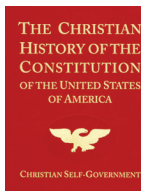


**The Seven Principles of Liberty** taught by Dr. Carole Adams, Dr. Max Lyons, Dr. Rodd Rodriguez, Dr. Gai Ferdon, and Gary Porter. In this 8-session course we uncover and discuss each of the Seven Principles that undergird our U.S. Christian

Constitution. You will become an influencer, able to readily defend our liberty and restore light to our nation. 14 hour online course. Regular price \$60.



**Teaching and Learning America's Christian History: The Principle Approach (T&L)** Rosalie Slater's classic volume (designed to accompany Verna Hall's CHOC I) describes a curriculum for teaching and learning America's Christian history and the historic method of education, the Principle Approach®. Hardback, 400 pages. Gold-stamped red vellum cover. Regular price \$42.95.

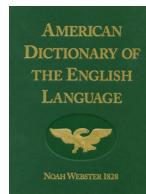


**The Christian History of the Constitution: Christian Self-Government (CHOC I)** by Verna Hall, In CHOC I, discover America's Christian history and God's providence in the foundation and forming of the world's first Christian constitutional republic and the United

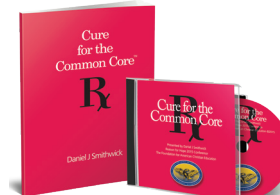
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**Principle Approach vs. Common Core** This CD set includes the book *Cure for the Common Core* by Daniel J. Smithwick and presented by the author. Smithwick, founder of The Nehemiah Institute, guides us as

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For more information and help in starting a Principled Studies Group in your neighborhood, church, school, or book club, visit [FACE.net/PAstudies](https://face.net/PAstudies), call FACE at 800-352-3223, or email us at [Max@FACE.net](mailto:Max@FACE.net). Dr. Max Lyons is ready to answer questions and mentor you as you begin this adventure.



Max Lyons serves as Director of Teaching Services at FACE. He is a teacher, curriculum writer, and conference speaker, specializing in the areas of Bible, history, government, law, economics, and Biblical worldview. He has taught a Biblical worldview adult Sunday school class for two decades and served as teacher and administrator in three Christian schools since 1979. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics from Virginia Wesleyan College, a Masters in Christian School Administration from Regent University, and a Ph.D. in Christian Education from Whitefield Theological Seminary. Max and his wife Margie have four children and seven grandchildren, and they attend Kempsville Presbyterian Church.

To learn more about The Foundation for American Christian Education and how you can become a partner in this vital mission visit [FACE.net](https://face.net).

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*The answer then as to how to stop America's drift into further socialism, is education in our Christian history and heritage; it is to restore Christianity as the vital spirit of America in every avenue of its life, to acknowledge Christianity with its Christian idea of man and government as the life, vitality, and inspiration of our Republic.*

Verna M. Hall

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