



“Proclaim Liberty” Discussion Guide Lesson Eight

Lesson Eight: Blanks

Throughout Lesson Seven, there are places to fill in the blanks. Here are the answers.

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|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. majority | 6. ruler | 11. changes |
| 2. minority | 7. laws | 12. public |
| 3. tyranny | 8. preserve | 13. earthquake |
| 4. equal | 9. read | 14. Bible |
| 5. center | 10. understood | 15. youth |

Lesson 8: “Principles of Liberty 20-23”

Section 1, The Twentieth Principle

Read: PL, Section 1, Introduction and Part A

Discuss: What would happen if everyone had to agree to every law that was passed?

Read: PL, Section 1, Parts B-C

Discuss: What are examples of laws that the majority may agree to that would violate the rights of the minority? What are ways that a society can protect the rights of the minority? In this context, what is meant by the minority?

Section 2, The Twenty-first Principle

Read: PL, Section 2, Introduction

Discuss: What are examples from history that illustrate that political power automatically gravitates towards the middle?

Discuss: What are the results when government, especially central government, starts solving local and individual problems?

Read: PL, Section 2, Part A-B

Discuss: In what ways do people change when they are involved in governing themselves?

Read: PL, Section 2, Part C

Section 3, The Twenty-second Principle

Read: PL, Section 3, Introduction and Parts A-B

Discuss: Why must a nation have fixed laws in order to be free?

Discuss: What are examples of current laws that preserve and enlarge freedom? What are examples of current laws that abolish and restrain freedom?

Activity: Read the 10 commandments. For each commandment, discuss how that commandment preserves and enlarges freedom.

Section 4, The Twenty-third Principle

Read: PL, Section 4, Introduction and Part A

Discuss: John Adams wrote: "Liberty cannot be preserved without a general knowledge among the people." Do you agree? Why or why not?

Read: PL, Section 4, Parts B-D

Discuss: Benjamin Franklin said, "Wise and good men are, in my opinion, the strength of the state; more so than riches or arms..." Do you agree? Give example to support your opinion.

Commitments

Each week, we make commitments to act on what we have learned and share our learning with others.

Act

From your individual pondering and group discussion, choose one thing you will do this week to act on what you learned.

Ideas

- Do research to discover what is being done in your local government.
- Express your appreciation in writing for a public official whom you believe to be wise and honest.
- Write a letter to an elected official explaining why you think a proposed law will either support or restrain freedom.

Share

Share what you learned today with someone else.

Ideas

- Share a quote from this lesson, along with your thoughts, on social media.
- Discuss the role of laws in preserving or restraining freedom with your family or friends.
- Discuss a current piece of legislation with a neighbor. Listen to their opinion and share your own thoughts.