

Celebrate Constitution Week: A Cross-Curricular Family Unit Study

Constitution Week provides an exceptional opportunity to bring history to life across your entire household. Rather than confining civic instruction to a single textbook, you can integrate the study of our nation's founding document across multiple subject areas to engage learners of every age.

Here is how your family can build an immersive, multi-subject Constitution Week study using traditional, Christ-centered learning:

Reading & Primary Source Analysis

- **Primary Source Study:** Read the Preamble and selected sections of the U.S. Constitution together. Compare the Founders' stated aims, such as "insure domestic Tranquility" and "provide for the common defense," with biblical principles of justice and order found in Exodus, Deuteronomy, and Romans.
- **Biographical Literature:** Introduce younger students to biographies of key Constitutional Convention delegates like James Madison and George Washington, highlighting how their personal convictions and worldview shaped their leadership.

Writing & Language Arts

- **Scripture & Document Copy-work:** Use the Preamble or Scripture passages on law and liberty (Galatians 5:1; 2 Corinthians 3:17) for penmanship, grammar, and memorization exercises.
- **Essays on Self-Governance:** Challenge older students to write an essay exploring why personal moral restraint under God is essential for political freedom to endure.

Geography & History Mapping

- **1787 Delegate Mapping:** Map the travels of the 55 delegates who gathered in Philadelphia during the summer of 1787. Identify the original 13 states, major rivers, and political boundaries of the post-Revolutionary Confederation.
- **Territorial Expansion Trace:** Examine how Constitutional principles and the Northwest Ordinance guided the orderly creation of new states as the nation expanded westward.

Art & Historical Crafting

- **18th-Century Calligraphy:** Teach students basic calligraphy techniques using parchment-style paper and ink pens to transcribe key lines from historical documents.
- **Symbolism & Heraldry Design:** Study the biblical and historical symbols used in the Great Seal of the United States, then invite students to design a family crest emphasizing spiritual virtues.

Heritage Cooking: Colonial "Election Cake" & Liberty Tea

- **Bake an American Election Cake:** Explore early American civic traditions by baking a classic Election Cake: a naturally leavened fruit-and-spice cake once prepared in large quantities for voters and town assemblies.
- **Brew Herbal Liberty Tea:** Brew herbal berry or mint teas to recreate the spirit of colonial self-reliance, discussing how families chose local herbs over taxed imports as an expression of principle and conviction.