

A Lasting Legacy

Abraham Lincoln is often heralded as the greatest American president. His spirituality was undoubtedly the greatest reason for the decisions that led to his success, and he repeatedly referred to his indebtedness to and regard for the Bible.

Lincoln began reading the Bible in his boyhood. Its influence upon him increased over the years. Whenever he addressed the public, he quoted from the Bible more than from any other book. Lincoln's literary style mirrored the style of the Bible, especially the writings of the prophets of Israel. His deeply moving second inaugural speech is strongly reminiscent of the book of Isaiah. Lincoln also thought in terms of biblical ideas and convictions to an extent that has been unparalleled among modern statesmen.

Moreover, Lincoln was a man of prayer. Without apology or self-consciousness, Lincoln did not hesitate to request the prayers of others or to acknowledge that he himself prayed often. He regarded prayer as a necessity and routinely spoke of seeking divine guidance as though it was an entirely natural and reasonable thing to do.

If Abraham Lincoln, with the enormous responsibilities he faced as president of the United States – not the least of which was, as commander-in-chief, overseeing a war that threatened to divide the nation – but with awesome power at his command, felt the urgent and frequent need of prayer, how much more should we today? Never curtail your pursuit of God. Never stop reading God's Word.

Pray often for Life Care Centers of America, for Century Park and for Life Care at Home. Pray for your center. Pray for your residents. Pray for your associates. Seek God's blessings upon the mission to which we are called, and to the daily interaction with the people we are called to serve.

It is the most important habit you can do to leave a lasting legacy of accomplishment, purpose and true leadership, as did Lincoln.

--Beecher Hunter