

Memorial Day Remembrances

By Christy Huffman



Make time amidst beginning-of-summer picnics and celebrations to honor the sacrifices others have made on our behalf.

For
Young Family

Season

Spring, Memorial Day Weekend

Needed

Small national flags or small bouquets of flowers

Prepare in Advance

Prior to Memorial Day weekend, conduct an Internet search to find the nearest veteran's cemetery. An alternate idea is to visit the gravesite of a member of the armed services who died in combat and was a member of your faith community. Or, find out where the gravesites of veterans are located in your local cemetery.

Activity Plan

1. Before you gather with families and friends to celebrate the unofficial beginning of summer, take a moment to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their nation. It is not necessary to go into detail with young children about death or war; simply explain to them that you are taking time this weekend to honor men and women who died in war so that your family and every family in your country might live in freedom.
2. Choose a time over the Memorial Day weekend to visit a veteran's cemetery, or to visit the gravesites of veterans in your community cemetery.
3. Once you arrive at the location, give each family member a couple of flags or some small bouquets of flowers. Encourage each family member to place a flag or flowers near the grave markers of fallen service members. Adults will need to help small children place them respectfully. *Please note: There may be family members at the gravesites over Memorial Day weekend. Remember to honor their space and time at the grave of their loved one.*
4. Before you get back in your car, gather and pray aloud:

Gracious God we remember and give thanks for the men and women who died in war so that everyone in our nation might live in freedom. Thank you for the promise of new life that you give to all through the death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

