

# Let's Talk CHANGE DEVOTIONALS



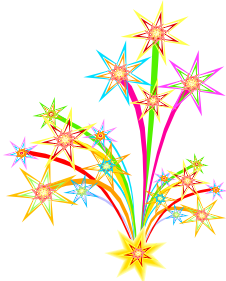
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## INDEPENDENCE DAY

Dr. Vanessa Dantzler Ussery | June 29, 2016

The fireworks went off, the flashing lights, sounds of thunder and cheering. There was excitement in the air. Music was playing and people were singing, clapping and rejoicing. The heavens were rejoicing and God was so pleased. What happened, you ask? Independence Day! Whenever someone gives their life to Jesus Christ, and decides to repent and be identified with Christ through baptism, and receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost, that person experiences INDEPENDENCE DAY!

They were singing the "Windows of Heaven are Open" on my Independence Day, back in New Haven, CT at Beulah Heights. I was a young 8 year old girl who was set free from sin. I'll never forget it. It was the summer of 1962 and the late Sis. Lawson (wife of the late Bishop Lawson) was our guest speaker. I was determined to receive the Holy Spirit and speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave me utterance, like it happened on Pentecost.



I'm not dealing with the theology of when one is saved, here. I just want to celebrate being FREE!!! I was baptized in water in the name of Jesus and that August when the Holy Ghost fell on me, I spoke in tongues for hours. I was excited beyond words. That experience has confirmed my knowledge that "Sin is not my Boss!" Home Assembly members can relate to that, as I preached that series for two months. When tempted to sin, and we all are, my mind is triggered by the Holy Ghost that I can resist the devil and he will flee from me.

Being born again is anyone's Independence Day. No longer being held hostage by sin is freedom that everyone should have. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July is when this country celebrates its Independence Day. What day do you celebrate your soul's Independence Day?

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