



While only a child at the time, I still vividly remember then-President John F. Kennedy's famous statement, "Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country." Our teachers, even in elementary school, discussed with us the genius of living in a country where people were willing to sacrifice to a cause larger than themselves, sacrifice personally for the good of others.

While for many of us the coming weekend primarily brings thoughts of outdoor barbecues, picnics, and a welcome day off, hopefully we will pause at some point over the next few days to reflect on the ultimate sacrifice several have made in the past to ensure the freedoms and benefits we enjoy living in this country. This is especially important at a time when so many in our country seem overly self-

absorbed and focused upon what our country can do to benefit them personally.

As members of a Christian university, memory plays a critical role in our lives and behavior. Memory functions not to imprison us in the past but to energize us in the present. Many of us gather weekly around tables at church often inscribed with the line, "Do this in memory of me," a line deriving from the One who gave the ultimate sacrifice so that we might have life.

As we enjoy this weekend, may we not forget but remember those who have modeled for us the importance of being willing to sacrifice for something greater than themselves, and honor those who focused far more on what they could do for their country than what their country could do for them.

Rick R. Marrs
Provost

