

Thoughtful Thursday August 28, 2025

The upcoming weekend is Labor Day Weekend. Summer is over.... not by the calendar, but by tradition. Summer ends on September 22nd. It is not a Christian holiday, but it can help us remember and celebrate Biblical principles in our everyday lives.

It seems like summer had barely arrived and now it's gone. This summer has been unusual to say the least. I don't remember one like this, ever. Above average rain and hotter than average temperatures. It was not a summer to be spent outside and enjoyed. The air conditioning was running almost non-stop. While I am not a fan of Fall, simply because Winter is the next season up, however, I can honestly say I am enjoying the temperature change.

Labor Day is an end-of-summer celebration that honors those who work, or labor. That pertains to a good share of the population who work in one form or another. It is one last chance for a trip to the beach, a picnic, a back-yard cookout, or to start on fall yard and garden clean up. It is always on the first Monday in September. The first Labor Day celebration was held on September 5, 1882 in New York City. The Central Labor Union proposed the idea. In 1894, President Grover Cleveland signed into law a bill making Labor Day a National Holiday.

There are references to labor and work in the Bible. Colossians 3:23: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not human masters"* Exodus 20:9-11 KJV 9-Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work. 10 - but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God.." It tells us we should work, but we should also rest. Sunday is one day we should give back to the Lord. It was once a day that consisted of church, fried chicken, and a ride in the country or spent with family. Businesses as a rule were closed, except the manufacturing or medical sectors. There were minimal opportunities for work or shopping. Sports were not as popular; soccer was almost unheard of. Little League games didn't start until 1 PM. Do you have any special plans this weekend? Enjoy the extended weekend, but remember to rest and give thanks to God for your blessings!

We remember in our prayers the victims and their families of the school shooting in MN. Regional prayers this week are for Woodlawn Christian Church, Lake City, IA, Roy Karlen, Kristin Peters and David Vernon. Runnells Christian Church, Katie Russell-Hainline and the Christian Churches in South Carolina and Florida.

Sunday is Luau Sunday, wear your Hawaiian floral shirt or favorite mu-mu, sandals, and a lei (if you have one). Suntan oil, sunglasses and ukuleles are optional, as well as sand toys. This will be the last Sunday of 9 AM start time. Next week church will start at 10. We will have the monthly congregational meeting and potluck immediately following the service on the 7th.

See U Sunday!

*Tithe.ly