

The Second Night of Kwanzaa December 27, 2022

Pastor: We begin in the Name of the One, Eternal Love, Creator of all, and of The Only Begotten Son Christ Jesus, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: AMEN

Leader 1: Bless us, O God, as we come together to give you thanks and praise. Tonight we are pleased and grateful to continue our celebration of Kwanzaa. Tonight we are celebrating the second night of our celebration. The second principle theme tonight is Kujichagulia (koo-jee-chah-GOO-lee-ah) which is Swahili for Self Determination. We dedicate these short worship services to you as we explore and embrace the seven principles of Kwanzaa.

Veronica Floyd: (words of introduction for the second principle.)

Leader 1: Each night we will look into Scriptures for some guidance on how to apply the principle to our lives. Our reading for the second principle, Kujichagulia (koo-jee-chah-GOO-lee-ah) Self Determination tonight is four readings of verses:

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Hebrews 12:1

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

Galatians 6:9

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

2 Thessalonians 3: 10-13 ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall they eat. ¹¹ For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner,

not working at all, but are busybodies. ¹² Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.

¹³ But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Discussion follows.

Veronica Floyd: Closing prayer: O, Loving and Life-giving Good and Gracious God, as we call and relay the second principle Kujichagulia (koo-jee-chah-GOO-lee-ah) Self Determination, grant us the wisdom to develop and maintain our talents and potential and our collective interests. Teach us how to think about applying our own abilities more collectively with our family unit and our neighborhoods, and to be determined to make a difference.

**ALL: KUJICHAGULIA! We will learn to live self-determined lives knowing that our actions must help others and ourselves.
Kujichagulia!**

Pastor: May Almighty God Bless us in the name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

(** The closing prayers and responses for each Kwanzaa event are based on information found on this web site:

http://www.theafricanamericanlectionary.org/PDF/Kwanzaa_WR_Dec2808.pdf **)

=====Further Reading and Information=====

There are many symbols of Kwanzaa. The Kwanzaa candleabra is called a kinara. The straw mat that the kinara is placed on is a mkeka. Ears of corn are also placed on the mat, one to represent each child in the household. They are called the vibunzi (or muhindi). A fruit basket is placed on the mkeka, and is called the mazao. The unity cup

is also placed on the mkeka, and is called the kikombe cha umoja. The seven candles that are placed in the kinara are called the Mishumaa Saba. Finally, all the gifts are called the zawadi and are traditionally given on Imani - the last day of Kwanzaa."

These are the seven principles of Kwanzaa:

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| First Night | Umoja (oo-MO-jah) | Unity |
| Second Night | Kujichagulia)(koo-jee-chah-GOO-lee-ah) | Self Determination |
| Third Night | Ujima (oo-JEE-mah) | Collective Work and Responsibility |
| Fourth Night | Ujamaa (oo-jah-Mah-ah) | Cooperative Economics |
| Fifth Night | Nia (NEE-ah) | Purpose |
| Sixth Night | Kuumba (koo-OOM-bah) | Creativity |
| Seventh Night | Imani (ee-MAN-nee) | Faith |