

Explanation of the Pledge Ceremony

We often recite the Pledge of Allegiance without really listening to or understanding the meaning of the words we are saying. You can have each girl recite a portion, then the explanation. You can also have the girls put the meaning into their own words.

I - Me, an individual, a committee of one

Pledge - Dedicate all of my worldly possessions to give without self pity

Allegiance - My love and devotion

To the Flag - Our standard - Old Glory - a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves there is respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts "Freedom is everybody's job!"

Of the United - United - that means we have all come together

States Of America - States - individual communities that have united into fifty great states - fifty individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose; all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united in a common purpose - love for country.

And to the Republic - Republic, a state in which power is given to representatives chosen by the people to govern; and the government is the people; and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

For Which it Stands - This is what our Flag stands for - Our United States

One Nation Under God - meaning so blessed by God

Indivisible - Incapable of being divided

With Liberty - Which is freedom - the right to live one's own life without threats or fear of retaliation.

And Justice - The principle or qualities of dealing fairly with others.

For All - For all - which means, boys and girls, ladies and gentlemen, it's as much your country as it is mine.

- adapted from a recording by Red Skelton