

And finally, in order to make sure we have jobs, in order to make sure the economy expands, we've got to have good economic policy out of Washington, DC. I know there's a difference of opinion on about what's good economic policy, but mine starts with saying this: When the economy slows down, one of the best things we can do is let people keep their own money so they can spend it. If the economy slows down, one of the best answers is tax relief. It trusts local people to spend the money the way they want to see fit. If you have more money in your pocket, you buy more things, which encourages more production. Consumer demand is stimulated by tax relief. And the great thing about our society is when consumers demand, generally somebody's there to produce, and so there's more jobs as more production takes place.

Now, there's going to be a debate when we go back to Washington about tax relief. But I've made up my mind: The tax relief plan we passed, which you're now beginning to feel the effects of, is going to be permanent.

There are some more things that we can do. We need to take care of the workers whose lives were affected as a result of the evil ones' attacks, by extending unemployment benefits and by helping with their health care. I'm confident we can find common ground in Washington, DC, and a way to help people. But you know something? Americans don't want an unemployment check; Americans want a permanent paycheck, and that's got to be the mission of any good stimulus package.

So we need to work together to figure out ways to create stimulus: deductibility for more equipment purchased, speeding up tax relief. There are some positive things we can do, if we make up our minds to do it, that will give a little extra oomph to an economic recovery that I hope is beginning to happen.

So those are some of the thoughts I wanted to share with you as I travel down

the Mississippi River: Good stimulus policy, good economic policy based on trusting people with their own money, good education policy, good trade policy, and a good policy to bring these terrorists to justice.

You know, I am amazed that anybody would think they could attack the country. They just didn't understand us. But I understand the great strength of our country, and it's the people—it's the people that live all across our land. I don't care whether you're Democrat or Republican or independent, it's the people that make us great. You know why? Because this Nation is a nation of heart and soul and strength.

I am so pleased to hear the stories of moms and dads sitting around their dinner table, asking the fundamental question about life, people assessing their values: What's the most important thing in life? And moms and dads are realizing it's to love your children with all your heart and all your soul. No, the evil ones struck us, and they did serious damage. But in so doing, they really lifted the spirit of the country in a unique way. They brought out the very best in America.

The best in America takes place when somebody walks across the street and says to a neighbor in need, "What can I do to help you?" Somebody knows there's somebody's shut in and says, "I think I'm going to go spread a little love today." The best of America takes place is in our churches and synagogues and mosques, when people walk out and listen to that call to love a neighbor like you'd like to be loved yourself, and then do something about it.

All this takes place, by the way—these millions of acts of kindness on a daily basis, which helps define the soul and spirit of America—it takes place not because of Government; it takes place because of the people of the greatest land on the face of the Earth.

My call to you is: Work hard like you do; love a neighbor like you'd like to be loved yourself; love your children; tell them