



“Joy in Everything: Citizens of Heaven” February 12

Discussion Questions

1. How does your Canadian citizenship (if you have it) impact your daily life?
2. Read Philippians 3:20. Why is the image of being a “citizen of heaven” so powerful and how might those early Christians have experienced that image?
3. How did you grow up thinking of heaven and how has that image changed as an adult? How does your understanding of heaven relate to how the sermon described heaven?
4. Read Philippians 3:18-19. How does Paul describe the difference between “citizens of heaven” and those who are “enemies of the cross of Christ”? How do you see both of these working in your own life?
5. Jenny said that Christians are “citizens of heaven and servants on earth”. How does being a citizen of heaven empower you to be a servant on earth?
6. Read Philippians 4:4-5 Why is “rejoicing in the Lord” such an important part of being a servant on earth?
7. What spiritual practices (Rhythm of Life!) can enable you to rejoice in the Lord more frequently during your daily life?

Philippians 3:17-4:7

17 Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. 18 For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Closing Appeal for Steadfastness and Unity

4 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

2 I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. 3 Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Final Exhortations

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.