

Developing a New You: Citizenship

February 18, 2024

Text: Philippians 3:17-21; Hebrews 11:13-16; 1 Peter 2:11-12

Earthly Citizenship Versus Heavenly Citizenship

- Earthly citizenship focuses on _____.

- Heavenly citizenship is focused on Christ and the _____.

The Mindset of Heavenly Citizens

- The mindset of a _____.

- We are here _____.

The Benefits of Eternal Longing

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- How do you see a longing for home in books, movies, and magazines? Is this an American experience, or do you see it across cultures?
- In what ways do we attempt to create perfect homes, both physically and relationally? How can this pursuit grow idolatrous at times?
- What words would you use to describe your own desires for home? How would you describe the home you are trying to create?
- Read Philippians 3: 17- 21. Paul contrasts those who are citizens of heaven with those who walk as enemies of Christ. What are the characteristics of each?
- How would we live differently if our identity were firmly rooted in our heavenly home? What would it look like to spend our time and efforts for that kingdom?
- C. S. Lewis writes, "I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country . . . I must make it the main object of life to press on to the other country and to help others do the same." How can we encourage a desire for our true home in both ourselves and in others?
- Read Hebrews 11: 13- 16. What can we learn from saints before us about how to live as "strangers and exiles"?
- How does knowing that something better is coming allow us to be of good courage and live hopeful lives in the midst of our groaning and longing?

*Questions taken from *Identity Theft: Reclaiming the Truth of Who We are in Christ* edited by Melissa Kruger.