

Worship Discussion and Reflection Questions

Sermon Series: Rejoice! (A Study of Philippians)

Sermon: Citizens of Heaven

Scripture: Philippians 3:17-4:3

¹⁷ Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

⁴ Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

² I entreat Euodia, and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. ³ Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Reflection Questions:

- How does the idea of being an embassy of heaven change the way you view yourself and this world?
- When you consider your daily habits, priorities, and conversations, do they more closely resemble a citizen of heaven or a citizen of earth? What change could you make to resemble your citizenship in heaven?
- Is there a relationship in your church or community where, like Euodia and Syntyche, a secondary disagreement has begun to eclipse your unity in Christ — and what would it look like to "agree in the Lord" rather than agree on the issue?
- If following Jesus as Lord carried a real cost (socially, professionally, or personally) what in your life reveals whether you would stand firm in allegiance to King Jesus?
- Paul anchors his hope not only in personal resurrection but in the restoration of all things under Christ — how does that ultimate hope change the way you are facing whatever feels most broken or uncertain in your life right now?

Guided Prayer:

Thank God for being our ultimate King and ultimate hope. Ask Him to search your heart and show you how you live more as an earthly citizen rather than a heavenly citizen. Repent and ask forgiveness for those things. Ask Him to show you one way you can live more as a citizen of heaven. Ask Him to help you to stand firm, even if you were to face persecution or suffering. Praise Him for the hope that one day, all things will be “subject” to Jesus. In Jesus’ name, Amen.