

# Citizens of Heaven



SMALL GROUP GUIDE

SEPT 8, 2024

## The Politics of Hope and Humility

We live in the present in light of our promised future.

Our society has grown increasingly divided. In a world with less faith, many in the broader culture have made politics their identity. This has divided families, friends, and even churches. As followers of Jesus, we are called to be Citizens of Heaven, to live in this world with the value system of the world to come. We make the world a better place by serving its needs and pointing people to a God who loves them.

**Read Philippians 3:17–21.**

- What are the reasons that our present society has become so divided politically? Why have politics become so important to so many today?
- What do these verses say about our future and the world's future (Philippians 3:20–21)? (see Romans 8:22–23; Revelation 5:10; 21:1). How might this future vision better influence your daily life and attitudes?
- What does it mean that our citizenship is in heaven? What idea is the Apostle Paul trying to communicate (Philippians 3:20)? (see 2 Corinthians 5:20; 1 Thessalonians 4:11–12; 2 Peter 3:11–13)
- In what specific ways did the Apostle Paul and other leaders mentioned here model this kind of citizenship in their lives (Philippians 3:17)? (see Philippians 1:29–30; 2:3–4; 3:9; 3:12–14). Which of these modeled behaviors most challenges the living out of your citizenship today?
- What small act of service or caring toward another can you take to demonstrate your heavenly citizenship today?

## Praying together

Holy Spirit, give me greater strength and courage to think, act, and love more like Jesus today.