

# Citizens of Heaven

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

SEPT 22, 2024

## True Power

**We change the world not by seeking power but by a life of surrender.**

To be a citizen of heaven is to live out its value system within the world God has placed us in. This system—called in the Bible the Kingdom of God—is not from this world but is for this world. Therefore, to live as a Christian means we cannot choose to be indifferent to the needs and injustices in the world around us. Our citizenship has political implications for various reasons, including how we understand and exercise power.

**Read Mark 9:1-13.**

- How has the relationship of the Christian church and political power been a good or bad thing in your lifetime?
- How does this vision on this mountain resemble the experience of Moses on Mount Sinai in the book of Exodus? (see Exodus 24:15-18; 34:29-35). How is it different? (see Exodus 34:29; Hebrews 1:3)
- What is the possible significance of the presence and absence of Moses and Elijah in this scene (Mark 9:5-8)? (see Romans 10:4; 2 Corinthians 1:20).
- How might a greater understanding of the person of Jesus revealed in this vision impact your ability to live and serve the world today (to exercise your heavenly citizenship)? (see Psalm 62:11; 73:25-26; 2 Corinthians 3:18)
- How does Jesus begin here to redefine the use of power to his disciples (Mark 9:9-10)? (see 2 Corinthians 13:4; Philippians 2:5-8)
- In what specific ways can you exercise power more like Jesus modeled in your relationships with others around you today?

## Praying together

Holy Spirit, lead me into a deeper knowledge of the person of Jesus that my life and my mindset might be more like His.