



BECOME A KINGDOM CITIZEN – PART 1

SUMMARY:

This week we are continuing in our series called, Stormproof: Finding Faith in Life's Difficulties. Pastor Derwin shared with us about the extraordinary privilege we have of being invited by King Jesus to live in His Kingdom. We are more than mere visitors or tourists; we are welcomed to become citizens. We don't have to navigate a complex immigration system. We are welcome by personal invitation of the King to become citizens by becoming sons and daughters of God (John 1:12), coheirs with Christ, citizens of the Kingdom of light (Colossians 1:11-14).

In the storms of doubt and darkness, we can live a stormproof life knowing our truest identity is as citizens of the Kingdom. As such, we participate in Kingdom work. The work of the Kingdom is to announce the reign of Christ and thereby to advance the Kingdom.

If you are a follower of Christ, you are a citizen of His Kingdom. How will you live this Kingdom reality more fully this week?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Pastor Derwin shared the Immigration Roadmap outlining how immigrants *might* attain a green card in the United States. He then showed the diagram for becoming a citizen of the Kingdom of Jesus. Take a moment to consider circumstances that might make you seek a new country and a new citizenship. *What would it take for you to uproot your life and take that kind of journey?*

Read Mark 1:15 to see a surprising fact about the journey.

Which party did the traveling, the immigrant or the kingdom?

Why is that good news?

Read John 1:12-14.

What is Jesus' role in the Kingdom?

What is our role in the Kingdom?

Read Colossians 1:11-14.

STORMPROOF

FINDING FAITH IN LIFE'S DIFFICULTIES

What is it like to be in total darkness?

What do you think an entire kingdom of darkness would be like?

Romans 6:11 says that we move from 'dead in the power of sin' to 'alive in Christ.'

What do you imagine being alive in Christ is like?

In what ways is God calling you to more fully experience life?

Being alive in the Kingdom of Christ means participation in Kingdom work.

What kind of work do you think you are called to participate in as a citizen of the Kingdom of Jesus?

How can you practically do that within your particular daily rhythms?

1 John 2:1-2 tells us that we have a righteous advocate in King Jesus whose atoning sacrifice covers our sin and the sin of the world. If you have sin, confess it and live as a citizen of Jesus' Kingdom. Invite others to do the same and begin walking in their true citizenship.

Who do you want to see gain their citizenship?

Have you told them how to become a citizen?

End your time by praying the words of the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may Your name be kept holy. 10 May Your Kingdom come soon. May Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today the food we need, 12 and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. 13 And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.