



BECOME A KINGDOM CITIZEN – PART 2

SUMMARY:

Last week we began the discussion on what it means to be a Kingdom citizen. God invites us to be part of His Kingdom and Jesus is the entry. This week, we want to discover how being a Kingdom citizen comes with certain blessings and certain expectations.

Being a Kingdom citizen means that (1) we are God's holy people, set apart and members of His family, (2) we are the Body of Christ, multiethnic and multigenerational, and (3) we are the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the dwelling place where God lives. When we really pause to think about these three truths, we stand in awe of a Holy God who loves and accepts us. We have value.

We also have a purpose. We enjoy these blessings not for ourselves, but so that we can embody the Kingdom of God in this world and invite others to meet this great King we serve.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Pastor Derwin shared an illustration involving paper plates and fine China. Many of us may be walking around as if we are paper plates, but in the eyes of God we are actually fine China. *Do you have any fine China? How do you treat these plates compared to paper plates? How does your outlook change when you see yourself and (and others) as fine China versus a paper plate?*

Read Ephesians 2:19. In the Old Testament, the Israelites are established as God's people. In this verse the Gentiles (non-Jews) are now brought in as full members of God's family.

Why is this significant?

The word "holy" means to be set apart. Why are God's people set apart?

Read Romans 12:4-8. A body has many parts—eyes, hands, toes, head—and each has an important role

How is Jesus' body represented on earth?

What part do you see yourself playing in the body of Christ?

Why is it important for all the parts of the body to come together as one?

Read Ephesians 2:20-22. These verses say that we are collectively the temple of the Holy Spirit.

STORMPROOF

FINDING FAITH IN LIFE'S DIFFICULTIES

What is a temple?

Why is it significant that this is not seen as an individual reality but a collective reality?

There are many benefits to being a Kingdom citizen, but there are also responsibilities.

What are the two responsibilities Pastor Derwin mentioned in his sermon?

Read Romans 14:17-19.

In what ways can we build each other up?

Read Matthew 4:19-20.

Who is someone you can invite to be part of the Kingdom?

Pastor Derwin also mentioned an upcoming opportunity to learn how we can use our gifts for the Kingdom. Transform U: Serve is happening on Sunday, October 8 and Wednesday, October 25. Take some time to discuss serving as a group. If there is anyone in the group who hasn't found a place to serve yet, encourage them to register for Transform U: Serve.

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.

Pastor