

LIVING BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

# HEAVEN EARTH

Philippians 3:20

**Big Idea:** As believers in Jesus, we should love our country while always keeping in mind that our ultimate citizenship belongs to heaven.

## I. Remember Where Your Ultimate Citizenship Lies [Philippians 3:20]

**Application Question:** If someone observed my life, would they know Christ defines me more than anything else does?

## II. Honor Earthly Authorities While Serving the Heavenly King [1 Peter 2:13-14]

**Four ways to honor earthly authorities**

- [1] Praying for leaders even when disagreeing with them
- [2] Speaking respectfully
- [3] Being good citizens
- [4] Obeying laws unless they directly conflict with God's commands

## III. Refuse to Turn Politics into an Idol [Psalm 146:3-5]

**Application Question:** Do political outcomes affect my joy more than God's promises?

## IV. Live as Ambassadors of Christ [1 Peter 2:11-12]

**As believers we should be known for:**

- [1] Truth without harshness
- [2] Conviction without hatred
- [3] Courage without arrogance
- [4] Love without compromise

### Study Question [Challenge and Prayer]

**Question:** How can we faithfully love and serve our country while remembering that our true citizenship is in heaven?

**Challenge:** This week, intentionally live as an ambassador for Christ by choosing one practical action: pray for a leader, show Christlike kindness to someone with different views, or share the hope of Christ with another person.

**Prayer:** Thank God for making you a citizen of heaven through Christ and ask Him to help you live as a faithful ambassador who reflects His truth, love, and grace.

[Philippians 3:20-21] <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> 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.

[Ephesians 2:19 - CSB] ... you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God's household, ...

[Hebrews 13:14] For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.

[Colossians 3:1-2] If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth

[1 Peter 2:13-14] Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, <sup>14</sup> or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.

[Romans 13:1-2] Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup> Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

[Psalm 146:3-5] Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. <sup>4</sup> When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. <sup>5</sup> Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God, ...

[Jeremiah 17:5-7] Thus says the Lord: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. <sup>6</sup> He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. <sup>7</sup> "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

[John 18:36] ... "My kingdom is not of this world..." - Jesus

[1 Peter 2:11-12] Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

[2 Corinthians 5:20] "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ..."

[Matthew 5:13-14] "You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world."

[Jeremiah 29:7] "But seek the welfare of the city..."