

# THE **crossing** **small groups**

Keith Simon | Philippians 3:20  
Sermon Discussion Participant's Guide

**Purpose of Discussion:** To dwell on the truth that our citizenship is in heaven.

**Icebreaker:** What was the first election you remember and what do you remember about it?

**Discussion:**

1. Why is it sometimes easier to put hope in a political figure or party than in Christ's kingdom?

**Read:**

[Philippians 3:20](#)

<sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. As Christians heaven is our primary citizenship, it supersedes our status as citizens of any other country, including the United States of America. How does Philippians 3:20 challenge the idea of placing too much loyalty in earthly parties or powers?
3. What are some differences between living for earthly powers and heavenly powers, earthly citizenships and heavenly citizenships?

**Read:**

"*Only God is great. Only Christ is King.*" Bishop Massillion response to Louis the Great's life when performing his funeral.

4. What practical ways can you take this simple, yet profound truth into your week?
5. In what ways do you think Jesus' title as King confronts modern political authority?

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**Read:**

**Matthew 6:33**

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

**Matthew 22:21**

“Give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

**Colossians 3:1-3**

“Set your hearts on things above, where Christ is...Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.”

**Romans 12:2**

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

6. What do these verses share in common? How do they help you approach a healthy Christ-centered kingdom mentality?
7. Where do you struggle the most with living out these beliefs and commands?

Keith said that diversity is important to God but can make our lives a bit messier. As Christians our relationships are reoriented, the priority is not on what divides us, but instead on what brings us together. God is glorified when we live out our unity in Christ for all to see.

8. How can we ensure that our political actions reflect our faith in Jesus?
9. What are some practical ways to cultivate unity within a politically diverse church or community?

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## Sharing and Prayer:

Spend some time taking prayer requests and praying as a group in the appropriate way.

-OR-

Below is a prayer from *Every Moment Holy Vol 3* for election day. Pray this together as you prepare your hearts for this important but difficult day.

*If we are pleased with the results of today's election, let us yet in humility remember that every earthly authority must one day give way to your eternal rule—so let us in grace love all our neighbors well.*

*Or, if we are disappointed, let us resist all fear, anger, accusation, and bitterness, but instead renew our trust in you—and let us in grace love all our neighbors well.*

*Whatever the outcome of this election, let our citizenship and our hope be rooted first in your heavenly kingdom, that we might live in exile here as winsome ambassadors of our soon-returning King—always in grace loving all our neighbors well.*