

Lesson 7: A Heavenly Citizenship

Scripture Song: Rejoice always – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Philippians 4:6

A. Choosing good role models

1. Philippians 3:17 Why did the Apostle Paul present himself as a role model for Christians in Philippi? (see also 1 Corinthians 11:1, Galatians 2:20)
2. What is the danger of choosing poor role models who are not following in the footsteps of Jesus? Philippians 3:18-19, Romans 16:17-18, etc.
3. Who has been a good role model for you as you have sought a closer walk with Jesus?

B. Remembering our glorious destiny

1. Philippians 3:20-21 What glorious destiny is ours as followers of Jesus?
2. Where else in the Scriptures can we find inspired testimonies about the marvelous transformation we will experience when Jesus returns in glory? 1 Corinthians 15:42-44,50-54, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17, 1 John 3:1-2, etc.
3. Philippians 4:1 While waiting for the glorious return of Jesus, what appeal did the Apostle Paul make to Christians in Philippi and also to us?
4. What does it mean to “stand fast in the Lord”? (see also 1 Corinthians 16:13)

C. Rejoicing in the Lord

1. Philippians 4:4 What counsel did the Apostle Paul give to Christians about how to live regardless of our external circumstances?
2. How is it possible to rejoice in the Lord always, even when we are facing hardship and trials?
3. What is the secret for experiencing inner peace no matter what is happening around us? Philippians 4:6-7 (see also 1 Peter 5:6-7, John 14:27, etc.)
4. Share a time when God granted you peace when you were tempted to worry and be filled with anxiety, fixing our attention in the right place
5. Philippians 4:8-9 Why is it important to fix our attention on that which is true, noble, just, and pure?
6. Who is the ultimate embodiment of all good things? Hebrews 12:1-2
7. What are some ways Satan tries to distract us from fixing our attention on Jesus and all that is good?

D. Learning to be content

1. Philippians 4:10-13 What is the secret for finding true contentment as followers of Jesus?
2. Philippians 4:19 What assurance did the Apostle Paul give in his closing comments to Christians in Philippi? What are our greatest needs?
3. How has God fulfilled this promise to you?