



WEEK THREE

Citizens of a Better Country

September 6



BIG IDEA

Heaven is our true home, and that hope helps us invest in what will last.

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

**Hebrews 11:13–16
Philippians 3:20**

The people of faith in Hebrews 11 lived with their eyes fixed beyond this world. They trusted God's promises, even though they did not receive everything in full during their lifetime. They were described as strangers and exiles, not because this world didn't matter, but because this world was not their final home. They were looking for what Hebrews calls "a better country," a heavenly home prepared by God.

That kind of hope changes the way we live our lives on earth. Heavenly citizenship does not make us careless about life on earth; it teaches us to live here with faithfulness, courage, and purpose. Because our deepest security is not found in comfort, success, possessions, or control, we are free to give generously, sacrifice joyfully, serve patiently, and invest wisely. When we remember where we truly belong, generosity becomes less about losing what we have and more about making an eternal investment with what God has entrusted to us. After all, our lives are anchored in a kingdom that cannot be shaken.

PRAYER FOR YOURSELF

Lord, remind me my true citizenship is in heaven. Help me live faithfully here without making this world my final hope. Loosen my grip on comfort, status, security, and control. Teach me to see the opportunities before me and invest my life in what will last, with joy and trust. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

God, make us a people who live as citizens of heaven while serving our city and world faithfully. Keep us from settling too deeply into temporary things. Give us courage to sacrifice, wisdom to steward what You have entrusted to us, and joy to invest together in Your kingdom. Amen.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

1. **A Better Country:** Hebrews 11 describes men and women who lived by faith, looking ahead to what God promised. What stands out about their willingness to trust God without receiving everything in full? What does that reveal about the faith God wants to form in us?
2. **Home and Hope:** How does knowing heaven is your true home reshape how you think about comfort, money, possessions, and future plans? Where might God be inviting you to invest more intentionally in what will last?
3. **Faithful Here:** Living for heaven does not mean ignoring earthly responsibilities. What does it look like to keep eternity in view while being faithful to the people, work, and needs God has placed before us?
4. **Security Check:** Most of us look for security in what we can see, save, build, or control. Where are you most tempted to seek security, and how might God be inviting you to trust Him more deeply?
5. **Kingdom Citizenship:** Philippians 3:20 says, "our citizenship is in heaven." What earthly loyalties, comforts, ambitions, or priorities compete with your identity in Christ? What helps you remember your first allegiance belongs to Him?
6. **Living Lighter:** What would it look like to loosen your grip on something temporary so you can invest more freely in God's kingdom? What might God be asking you to hold more loosely?
7. **Eternal Investment:** When you hear "eternal investment," what comes to mind? Where do you see opportunities to invest through giving, serving, discipling, encouraging, praying, or hospitality?
8. **Sacrifice and Joy:** How does eternity help you see sacrifice not simply as giving something up, but as joining with joy in what God is building?