

FIVE-DAY DEVOTIONAL

Day 1: Kingdom Allegiance and Heavenly Citizenship

As believers, our allegiance is to a kingdom not of this world, as Jesus declared before Pilate. This kingdom, characterized by sacrificial love, humility, and justice, stands in stark contrast to worldly power structures. Our citizenship in this heavenly kingdom calls us to embody its values in our daily lives, challenging us to live out a commitment to justice and peace. This allegiance requires us to examine where our true loyalties lie and to prioritize the ethos of God's kingdom over earthly systems. [\[02:14\]](#)

John 18:36 (ESV): "Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.'"

Reflection: In what ways can you embody the values of God's kingdom in your interactions today, especially in situations where worldly power dynamics are at play?

Day 2: Historical Lessons on Trust and Authority

The story of Israel's desire for a king, as recorded in 1 Samuel, serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of seeking security in human institutions rather than in God. This narrative highlights humanity's recurring temptation to conflate political power with spiritual authority, leading to significant crises throughout church history. By reflecting on this story, we are reminded to place our trust in divine sovereignty rather than in earthly power structures, recognizing the limitations and fallibility of human institutions. [\[20:27\]](#)

1 Samuel 8:6-7 (ESV): "But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, 'Give us a king to judge us.' And Samuel prayed to the Lord. And the Lord said to Samuel, 'Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them.'"

Reflection: Consider a time when you have placed your trust in human institutions over God. How can you shift your trust back to divine sovereignty in your current circumstances?

Day 3: Enmeshment and Identity in Christ

Our identities can become enmeshed with political affiliations, leading to defensiveness and a loss of perspective. This enmeshment can cause us to forget that our primary allegiance is to Christ and His kingdom, which transcends national and political boundaries. As followers of Jesus, we are called to be a non-anxious presence in the world, reflecting the peace and hope of the gospel even amidst societal turmoil. This requires us to disentangle our identities from political affiliations and to root ourselves in the values of God's kingdom. [25:09]

Philippians 3:20 (ESV): "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."

Reflection: In what ways have your political affiliations influenced your identity? How can you re-center your identity in Christ and His kingdom today?

Day 4: Thoughtful Engagement in Democracy

Living in a representative democracy requires thoughtful and critical engagement, always prioritizing our witness to the kingdom of God. As citizens of heaven, our ultimate hope and identity are found in Christ, and this should guide our interactions and decisions in the political sphere. We are encouraged to engage with the political systems of our world thoughtfully, ensuring that our actions and attitudes reflect the values of God's kingdom. This involves a commitment to justice, peace, and humility in all our interactions. [36:15]

Micah 6:8 (ESV): "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Reflection: How can you engage thoughtfully and critically in the political sphere today, ensuring that your actions reflect the values of God's kingdom?

Day 5: Bearing Witness to the Kingdom of God

Our task as followers of Jesus is to bear witness to the kingdom of God through our actions and attitudes. This involves embodying the values of the kingdom in our daily lives, reflecting the peace and hope of the gospel even amidst societal turmoil. As we navigate the complexities of the world, we are called to be a light, demonstrating the transformative power of God's love and grace. Our witness to the kingdom is a powerful testimony to the world, inviting others to experience the peace and hope found in Christ. [\[42:57\]](#)

Matthew 5:14-16 (ESV): "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Reflection: What specific actions can you take today to bear witness to the kingdom of God in your community, reflecting the peace and hope of the gospel?