

Press on in Confidence

Lesson #12

Philippians 3:15-21, John 14:3

HOOK: Think about where you live. Many of us live in a house that is in a city that is on planet earth! We are called “citizens” of where we live. Because we live in the United States, we are called United States citizens.

BOOK: When we open the Bible, we read in the book of Philippians that as Christians our forever citizenship is not on earth, but in heaven! Philippians 3:20 says: “**But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.**” God has given us wonderful things here on earth. Our earthly home is very special because we have our family and our warm bed, which are all gifts from God. We have good food to eat, fun things to do, and think about all the amazing animals God has made! But, we know from God’s Word that there is even more wonderful things in store for us forever with Him in heaven!

LOOK: God’s Word tells us that Jesus will come back to earth from heaven someday. He is preparing a place in heaven for you, me and for all who believe in Him. **John 14:3** says: “**And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me...**” We are to look forward to living with Jesus for all eternity in heaven so even while on earth we need to remember who we are—citizens of heaven.

TOOK: Close your eyes and picture your bedroom and then your whole house. Now think about your neighborhood and then the city that you live in. Okay, open your eyes! Where we live is special to us. Now, picture heaven—picture colors and beauty. No one is mad or sad and Jesus is there, hugging and welcoming us. Heaven is actually better than we can even imagine! Think about heaven this week and thank God you can be a citizen there. (Sing the “Heaven” song from last week.)

Bible Verse: “**But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.**”
Philippians 3:20 NLT

Prayer: “Dear Jesus, Thank You for preparing a place for us in heaven and that one day we will live with You there. Help us to remember while on earth that we are citizens of heaven. Amen.”

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what we
learned

We live in a home that is in a city that is on planet earth! We are called “citizens” of where we live. Because we live in the United States, we are called United States citizens. God has given us wonderful things to enjoy here on earth. But, we know from God’s Word that there are even more wonderful things in store for us with Him in heaven! As Christians, even though we live here on earth right now, our forever citizenship is actually somewhere else—it’s in heaven!



memory
verse

“But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.” Philippians 3:20 NLT



parent/child
activity

Talk with your child about some events coming up that he is excited about. It could be his birthday or a birthday party he will attend. It could be a visit from a special relative or a trip your family is planning to take. Explain that these things are something we look forward to. As Christians we are to also eagerly look forward to Jesus’ return and living in our permanent home in heaven. Then, learn the verse above together. (For very young children, learn the first half of the verse and repeat it to each other with gusto and excitement!)



daily prayer

“Dear Jesus, Thank You for preparing a place for us in heaven and that one day we will live with You there. Help us to remember while on earth that we are citizens of heaven. Amen.”

the learning
TLC
continues

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