

Sermon Reflections

Living as a Gospel Citizen (Philippians 1:27-30)

Summary: Let your belonging to Christ and His kingdom direct everything about how you live.

Introduction: As an illustration, Rick used a song from the past that had motivated Americans concerning their citizenship.

1. Recall the Gospel's Priority • Stand in the Gospel's Power • Unite for the Gospel's Advance (v. 27)

- What motivates you as a citizen of Heaven? List and explain the importance to the believer.
- As a citizen of America, are you complacent about your freedoms, benefits, and rights?
- Do you find any complacency living out your heavenly citizenship? If no, *Praise the Lord* and excel still more. However, if yes, what can you do to correct this?
- If Paul were alive today, what do you think he would hear about Grace Bible Church? Are we standing firm in the Gospel? Are we striving side by side for the faith? Are we 'standing firm in one spirit' driven by the Holy Spirit?
- "We" is used as a collective term describing the entire body, yet each one of us plays an individual part. How are you living out your part at GBC? How are you progressing with your walk at GBC?
- How does "living as a heavenly citizen" set your daily priorities? What characteristics are reflective of a "Gospel Citizen"?
- Rick mentioned that our "standing firm" must be done with one another and in the Holy Spirit, how is this accomplished?
- How do you think our neighbors in Midlothian would respond to a unified church body at GBC? What can you do to help?
- Our dependence on the Holy Spirit is revealed by two characteristics. What are they? Which of these do you need to work on and what steps can you take to resolve it?

2. Focus on the Gospel's End-Result • Rest in the Gospel's Control (vv. 28-30)

- Do you experience frustration when attempting to live as a "gospel citizen"?
- How can you tell if you're living your life for the Gospel or living for yourself? What is the difference?
- Paul mentions that God has granted to you two things, what are they? What role do they play in your life today? How do they shape you as you live as a "citizen of heaven"?
- How does suffering play a part of our faith? How is suffering for the Gospel used to further advance the Gospel?
- What does dependence on the spirit look like? How can we hone our dependence on the spirit?
- **How will you unify the body this week?**