



Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

Sermon Based Questions

Date- Sunday 25th November
Christ Centred Community prt 6

Citizens of Heaven

*Their mind is set on earthly things. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven.
And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.*

1. Press on to take hold of the one who took hold of you. (Phil 3:11-16)

2. Live as citizens of heaven. (Phil. 3:17-21)

A. Examining the texts.

1. Read Phil 3:12-16. What do you think Paul means when he says that Christ has taken hold of him? What does this suggest about the way Paul saw his own conversion?
2. Read Philippians 3:12-17. What do you think Paul means by saying that he is eager to take hold of for which Christ took hold of him? Verse 13-14 suggest that salvation involves both receiving, gift and pressing- straining forward. What do you think Paul is saying with this contrast?
3. Read Philippians 3:17-21. How does Paul encourage the Philippians in their lifestyle- were are they to look for their lead?
4. Read Philippians 3:17-21. What do you think Paul means by- "their God is their stomach and enemies of the cross of Christ?"

B. Meditation & application

1. "What does it mean to you- that if you have a faith in Christ- God has taken hold of you? What do you think it means practically for you to take hold of Christ- the one who took hold of you? Why do you think Paul puts these together?"
2. What "pattern of life," do you see Paul holding up? Is imitation important to your understanding of what it means to follow Christ? What kinds of people should we imitate?
3. How could you turn from "having god as your stomach, and being enemies of the cross of Christ?" Why do you think it is important to forget that which is behind and press on toward that which is ahead?
4. What would it take for you to be reminded that your citizenship is in heaven and that you eagerly await for a Messiah from there?

Dear heavenly Father, We want to thank you for your love and kindness. You are so good and gracious and we thank you for showing your kindness to us and setting your affection on us- taking hold of us. Bless us with resolve and strength- taking hold of you and living for you. Pressing on and straining forward. In Jesus Name- Amen.