



Pacific Community Church

Growth Group Sermon Questions

Date: October 4th, 2026

Sermon Series: Standalone

Sermon Title: “Loyalty and Citizenship in Dangerous Days”

Primary Text(s): Genesis 12:1-5, Philippians 3:18-21

1. **Read Genesis 12:1-5 and Philippians 3:18-21.**
2. **Icebreaker Question: What stood out to you most from the sermon and why?**

Leader’s Notes: Start broad and let people identify what resonated with them. Don’t rush to “correct” or direct the conversation. Listen for themes like national identity, anxiety about the world, heavenly citizenship, generosity, or the hope of the resurrection.

3. **Errol said, “I belong to Jesus and not to any narrative that any vested interest is pushing.” What are some narratives that compete for our allegiance or attention?**

Leader’s Notes: The goal is not to discuss which political narrative is right or wrong. Bring the group back to allegiance and formation. The sermon challenged us to ask, “How can I seek and maintain the mind of Christ?” rather than simply asking which side we belong to.

4. **The sermon says, “If Jesus is to be my Lord and King, every other loyalty must be subordinated to him, including my loyalty to Canada.” What might it look like for a Christian to love their country without making it their ultimate identity? What does faithful allegiance to Jesus look like in the middle of all these competing loyalties?**

Leader’s Notes: This could become politically charged, so keep bringing people back to Jesus as the standard. Loving one’s country can include gratitude, service, responsibility, compassion, and seeking its good. But Christians are called to recognize that no nation is their ultimate home.

5. **Paul contrasts people whose minds are “set on earthly things” with those whose citizenship is in heaven. What do you think it means practically to have your mind set on heavenly things?**

Leader’s Notes: Avoid making this sound like “ignore earthly problems.” The sermon gives very practical practices: asking better questions, maintaining a critical mind rather than a critical spirit, giving things away, and thinking more often about God’s presence and the new creation.

6. Which of the four spiritual practices from the sermon do you most need right now, and why?

- **Ask better questions**
- **Talk back to your TV and phone**
- **Give stuff away**
- **Think and dream more often about God, heaven, and the new heavens and new earth**

Leader's Notes: Give people time to actually choose one. Encourage specific answers rather than "I should pray more." Ask: What would that look like this week?

7. What is the difference between having a critical mind and having a critical spirit? Where do you personally find it hardest to maintain this distinction?

Leader's Notes: This is a particularly good discussion question because Christians can easily confuse discernment with cynicism. A critical mind can thoughtfully evaluate information, while a critical spirit can become suspicious, contemptuous, angry, or constantly negative.

8. Errol said that costly generosity can help keep us from becoming "enmeshed" in our culture and its sins. Why might generosity have that effect? Is there something you currently have a hard time holding loosely?

Leader's Notes: Connect this to Jesus' teaching about the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches. Generosity loosens our grip on possessions, status, security, and the idea that having more is what makes us safe.

9. Paul's hope is not simply that Christians "go to heaven," but that Jesus will transform our lowly bodies into glorious ones. How does the promise of resurrection change the way we face suffering, aging, loss, or uncertainty?

Leader's notes: This is an opportunity to move the discussion from political anxiety to Christian hope. The sermon repeatedly returned to the fact that Jesus is the one who will ultimately make all things right. You could ask people to share a personal longing or loss that makes the promise of resurrection especially meaningful to them.

10. If you lived this week as a citizen of heaven first, what might be different about the way you think, speak, consume media, spend money, relate to people, or respond to the world?

Leader's notes: End with concrete application. Encourage everyone to name one specific change, not five vague intentions.