

**Part #7 LIVING AS CITIZENS OF
A HEAVENLY KINGDOM**

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing our series on Inspired Letters from Prison. Today's topic: LIVING AS CITIZENS OF A HEAVENLY KINGDOM

1) Choosing good role models

- a. Philippians 3:17 Why did the Apostle Paul present himself as a role model for Christians in Philippi? (see also 1 Corinthians 11:1, Galatians 2:20)
- b. What is the danger of choosing poor role models who are not following in the footsteps of Jesus? Philippians 3:18-19, Romans 16:17-18, etc.
- c. Who has been a good role model for you as you have sought a closer walk with Jesus?

2) Remembering our glorious destiny

- a. Philippians 3:20-21 What glorious destiny is ours as followers of Jesus?
- b. Where else in the Scriptures can we find inspired testimonies about the marvelous transformation we will experience when Jesus returns in glory? 1 Corinthians 15:42-44, 50-54, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17, 1 John 3:1-2, etc.
- c. Philippians 4:1 While waiting for the glorious return of Jesus, what appeal did the Apostle Paul make to Christians in Philippi and also to us?
- d. What does it mean to “stand fast in the Lord”? (see also 1 Corinthians 16:13)

3) Rejoicing in the Lord

- a. Philippians 4:4 What counsel did the Apostle Paul give to Christians about how to live regardless of our external circumstances?

Scripture Song: Rejoice always – 1 Thess. 5:16-18, Phil. 4:6

- b. How is it possible to rejoice in the Lord always, even when we are facing hardship and trials?

- c. What is the secret for experiencing inner peace no matter what is happening around us? Philippians 4:6-7 (see also 1 Peter 5:6-7, John 14:27, etc.)

- d. Share a time when God granted you peace when you were tempted to worry and be filled with anxiety.

4) Fixing our attention in the right place

- a. Philippians 4:8-9 Why is it important to fix our attention on that which is true, noble, just, and pure?
- b. Who is the ultimate embodiment of all good things? Hebrews 12:1-2
- c. What are some ways Satan tries to distract us from fixing our attention on Jesus and all that is good?

5) Learning to be content

- a. Philippians 4:10-13 What is the secret for finding true contentment as followers of Jesus?
- b. Philippians 4:19 What assurance did the Apostle Paul give in his closing comments to Christians in Philippi? What are our greatest needs?
- c. How has God fulfilled this promise to you?

