

A Kingdom Call: Reclaiming Our Citizenship

Session 1

Scriptures:

- *Philippians 3:20* – "But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ."
 - *Colossians 1:13* – "For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of the Son He loves."
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Focus:

We live in a world that demands our allegiance at every turn, through politics, culture, economy, and identity. But Scripture reminds us:

Our primary identity is not found in the systems of this world, but in the unshakable Kingdom of God.

We are not merely visitors here, we are *citizens of Heaven*, commissioned to live *from above*, not just *survive below*.

When we understand this, it reshapes:

- **Our spiritual authority** (we don't beg for favor; we carry it)
- **Our belonging** (we are not orphans; we are sons and daughters)
- **Our way of living** (we are not conformed; we are transformed)

Topic 1: Spiritual Authority

Introduction:

Authority flows from *where you belong*, not *what you achieve*.

As citizens of Heaven, we walk in spiritual authority *because* we have been commissioned, not because we have earned it.

Key Truth:

You were not just saved from something, you were saved into something: citizenship, sonship, and authority.

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A. Authority Flows From Citizenship, Not Performance

- An ambassador's authority is not about their personal skill, but about *who they represent*.
- Our spiritual authority comes from our citizenship in Heaven, not from our spiritual "resume."
- We do not beg for favor, we carry it because we belong to Him.

Scripture:

- *Luke 10:19* – "I have given you authority... to overcome all the power of the enemy."

Teaching Point: Authority is inherited, not manufactured.

B. Authority Without Identity Is Dangerous

- Authority without rooted identity can lead to:
 - Striving and burnout,
 - Insecurity and control,
 - Abandonment when results don't come quickly.
- Knowing whose you are anchors your ability to walk in authority.

Scripture:

- *Acts 19:15* – "Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are you?"

Teaching Point: Identity anchors authority. Without secure identity, authority is fragile.

C. True Authority Looks Like Jesus: Humble, Clear, Unshakable

- Jesus demonstrated spiritual authority by serving, not by demanding.
- His confidence came from knowing the Father, not defending His position.
- True Kingdom authority is seen through:
 - Peace in chaos,
 - Boldness without arrogance,

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- Quiet words that carry weight.

Scripture:

- *John 13:3-5* – "Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands... laid aside His garments, and took a towel."

Teaching Point: True authority serves; it doesn't self-promote.

D. Authority Is for Representation, Not Domination

- Our authority is for building up, freeing, healing, not controlling or tearing down.
- We represent *Heaven's heart*, not just Heaven's power.

Scripture:

- *2 Corinthians 13:10* – "The authority the Lord gave me for building you up, not for tearing you down."

Teaching Point: Authority builds up; it doesn't tear down.

Visual Summary Flow:

Belonging → Identity → Authority → Representation

You *belong* to Heaven,
which establishes your *identity* as a son or daughter,
which grants you *authority*,
which you use to *represent* Heaven to the world.

Mini-Activation: Reclaiming Your Spiritual Authority

Step 1: Reflection (1–2 minutes)

- Ask the Lord silently:
 - "*Father, where have I been striving for authority instead of receiving it?*"
 - "*Where have I doubted my right to walk in what You've given me?*"
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Step 2: Declaration (Say Together)

"I am a citizen of Heaven.

I am authorized by my Father, not by my performance.

I renounce striving, insecurity, and fear.

I receive the authority Jesus gave me, rooted in identity, carried in humility, and used for the good of others.

I walk boldly, but gently, as an ambassador of the King."

Step 3: Group Discussion

Question to ask yourself:

"Where in your life have you felt like you needed to *prove* your authority, instead of simply walking in it?"

I bless you to walk in your citizenship.

I bless you to carry Heaven's authority with Heaven's heart.

You are sent. You are secure. You are enough in Him.

Topic 2: Belonging

Bridge from Topic 1:

"When we understand our spiritual authority, it naturally leads us to a deeper truth: *We belong*. Belonging is not a reward for good behavior, it's a gift of adoption into a Kingdom that cannot be shaken."

A. We Are Not Cultural Refugees, We Are Kingdom Citizens

- Many believers feel spiritually "homeless" because they are trying to find belonging in a world that was never meant to be their home.

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- If you don't know where you belong, you'll always chase acceptance in the wrong places: politics, success, trends, even church subcultures.
- True belonging is found in being "seated with Christ in heavenly places" (Ephesians 2:6).

Scripture Tie-In:

- *Colossians 1:13* – "For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of the Son He loves."

Teaching Point: Belonging to the Kingdom is not future tense, it's now.

B. Belonging Settles Your Heart

- People who know they belong to God:
 - Are not easily shaken by rejection.
 - Are less controlled by fear of man.
 - Are less desperate to be noticed, understood, or affirmed.
- Belonging produces internal security even when external conditions are chaotic.

Scripture Tie-In:

- *John 15:19* – "If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world."

Teaching Point:

Belonging settles you. When you know where you belong, you stop fighting for things God has already given.

C. Our Citizenship Defines Our Family

- The Church is not a club, a movement, or a political group, it's a family birthed from the heart of the Father.
- We are not random individuals who happen to share a religion; we are brothers and sisters, bound by a Kingdom bloodline.
- This is why forgiveness, love, and unity matter so deeply, they aren't optional for family.

Scripture Tie-In:

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- *Galatians 4:6-7* – "Because you are His sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts... you are no longer a slave, but God's child."

Teaching Point:

Citizenship makes you part of a royal family, and royal families reflect the heart of their King.

Visual Summary Flow:

Rescue → Belonging → Identity → Security

- You were *rescued* from darkness,
 - Brought into *belonging*,
 - Given a new *identity* as a son or daughter,
 - Which produces *security* no matter the world's chaos.
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Mini-Activation: Reclaiming Belonging

Step 1: Reflection (1–2 minutes)

Invite the group to quietly ask:

- "Father, show me anywhere I've looked for belonging in places other than You."
 - "Remind me where my true home is."
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Step 2: Declarations

I belong to the Kingdom of Light.

I am not a stranger or an outsider.

I renounce every false home that has tried to claim me.

My heart is rooted in Christ.

I am a son. I am a daughter. I am home.

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Step 3: Self/Group Discussion

Question to ask self/group:

"What's one place or mindset where you've realized you were trying to find belonging apart from God's Kingdom?"

Father, thank You that we are no longer spiritual orphans.

Thank You for the security of Your family.

I bless every heart here to know they are fully accepted, fully loved, and fully home in You.

Topic 3: Living From Above

Bridge from Topic 2:

Once we know where we belong, something changes in how we live.

We no longer live from the pull of earth, we live from the power of Heaven.

Belonging secures our hearts; living from above directs our steps.

A. Living From Above Means Seeing Differently

- Living from above doesn't mean ignoring the earth's realities; it means interpreting them through Heaven's perspective.
- The world screams fear, anger, urgency, but Heaven is not shaken.
- Living from above means responding to situations *through the mind of Christ*.

Scripture Tie-In:

- *Colossians 3:1-2* – "Set your hearts on things above, where Christ is... Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."

Teaching Point: You will live according to the world you're most aware of.

B. Living From Above Shapes Our Reactions

- Circumstances no longer define us; Kingdom truths do.

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- Fear, offense, outrage, despair, these reactions lose power when we live from the higher reality of Heaven.
- Our life becomes marked by:
 - Peace in pressure,
 - Clarity in chaos,
 - Faith over fear.

Scripture Tie-In:

- *John 16:33* – "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Teaching Point:

Living from above doesn't eliminate trouble; it changes how we walk through it.

C. Living From Above Means Carrying Solutions, Not Just Criticism

- When you live from above, you don't just point out problems, you carry Heaven's solutions.
- Anyone can diagnose what's wrong; Kingdom citizens carry what makes it right.
- Heaven's mindset is creative, restorative, and redemptive.

Scripture Tie-In:

- *Matthew 5:14-16* – "You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others."

Teaching Point:

Kingdom people don't just curse the darkness; they ignite the light.

Visual Summary Flow:

Perspective → Reaction → Mission

- A heavenly *perspective* shapes peaceful, faith-filled *reactions*,
 - Which fuels a redemptive *mission* to shine light into dark places.
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Mini-Activation: Living From Above

Step 1: Reflection (1–2 minutes)

Invite the group to quietly ask:

- **"Father, where have I been reacting from fear instead of living from faith?"**
 - **"Show me one area where I can choose to see from Heaven's perspective."**
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Step 2: Declarations

I set my mind on things above.

I reject fear, offense, and despair.

I embrace the peace, power, and clarity of Heaven.

I live from victory, not for victory.

I am seated with Christ, and I shine His light into every place I go.

Step 3: Self/Group Discussion

Question to ask self/group:

"Where have you seen the difference between reacting from the world versus responding from the Kingdom?"

Father, thank You that we are not prisoners of the world's chaos.

We are citizens of an unshakable Kingdom.

I bless every heart here to live from Your peace, Your authority, and Your victory.

Let us walk as light-bearers, hope-carriers, and solution-bringers, in Jesus' name.