

A Simple Strategy for Citizenship

Authority?

- Learning the name and rank of the authority figure will equip you to engage respectfully and accurately.
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By-Law?

- Clarifying the objective standard is essential for resolving any conflict over rules and regulations.
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Concession?

- You can now wisely and mutually determine who has to concede and what has to be done next.
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1. Consult the Scriptures.

- Our first step is always to consult the Scriptures to gain the wisdom we need to reflect Christ.
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2. Consider legal counsel.

- Consider contacting a Christian lawyer to get as well informed and wisely counselled as possible.
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3. Count the cost.

- Count the cost of applying citizenship by having a clear conscience that your goal is gospel witness.
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Live Worthy of the Gospel of Christ

Philippians 1:27-2:2

BIBLICAL  CURRICULUM

Conversations



COURSE 3

BIBLICAL CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship Basics

Name: _____

Email: _____

Citizenship Defined

Citizenship: submission and allegiance to a governing power or authority.

Our Eternal Citizenship (Philippians 3:20-21; John 18:36)

Our Temporal Citizenship (Romans 13:1-2; Acts 22:25)

Our Dual Citizenship

- As born again believers here on gospel mission, we simultaneously hold eternal citizenship in heaven and temporal citizenship on earth.
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Supreme Authority (Matthew 28:18-20)

King Jesus has supreme authority.

- Christ rules His Church under His direct authority.
 - Our supreme allegiance, ambitions, and attitudes are to faithfully reflect the King and His Kingdom.
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Sovereign Appointment (Romans 13:1-2)

God has sovereignly appointed other authorities.

- God has instituted a sovereign authority structure.
 - People are governed by layers of God-appointed authority with rules, roles, and responsibilities.
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The Canadian Context

- Federal Authority: Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (Section 2)
 - Provincial Authority: Human Rights Legislation
 - Municipal Authority: By-Laws (4 common categories)
 - Corporate and Institutional Authority: By-Laws and Codes of Conduct
 - Household Authority: "Every man's house is his safest refuge."
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Following Paul's Example

Gospel witness in Philippi (Acts 16)

- What was Paul's primary goal?
 - Did he demand his rights for personal gain?
 - Did he apply his citizenship for gospel gain?
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Gospel witness in Jerusalem (Acts 22)

- What was Paul's primary goal?
 - Did he demand his rights for personal gain?
 - Did he apply his citizenship for gospel gain?
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As an ambassador for Christ:

- Paul's goal was always gospel witness.
 - He didn't demand his rights for personal gain.
 - He did apply his citizenship for gospel gain.
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