

Sermon Notes for July 5, 2026

Title: Pilgrims, Patriots, & True Freedom

Text: Hebrews 11:13-16; 13:14; 1 Peter 1:1; 2:9-17

1. Christians have a _____ citizenship.
 - a. Our _____ citizenship is _____. (Acts 5:29; Philippians 3:20; Colossians 3:2; Hebrews 13:14)
 - b. Our _____ citizenship is _____. (Romans 13:1-7; Galatians 6:10; 1 Peter 2:13-17)
2. Christians are called to be _____ citizens.
 - a. As citizens of God's kingdom we submit to _____ and serve his kingdom faithfully through the church for the glory of God. (Matthew 6:33; 28:18-20; 1 Timothy 2:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 2:9-12)
 - b. As citizens of earthly countries, we are to submit to the _____ and serve our neighbors for the Lord's sake. (Romans 13:1-7; Titus 3:1-2; 1 Peter 2:13-17)
3. Christians are called to _____ freedom.
 - a. True freedom
 - i. Found in _____ not _____. (John 8:34-36; Galatians 5:1)
 - ii. From _____ and for _____. (John 8:34-36; Galatians 5:13; 1 Peter 2:16)
 - b. Civic freedom
 - i. From _____ and for _____. (Romans 13:1-4; 1 Peter 2:13-17)
 - ii. For _____ and against _____.

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Discussion Guide

1. What stood out to you in today's gathering?
2. In what way do Christians hold dual citizenship? (see Philippians 3:20 and Romans 13:1) How should our heavenly citizenship take priority over our earthly citizenship? Should Christians be good earthly citizens? Explain.
3. How would you define freedom? Do you think freedom is the ability and pursuit of what we should do or the opportunity to do whatever we want? Consider 1 Peter 2:16 and Galatians 5:1, 13. Do you agree with Trevin Wax's definition of freedom, "True freedom is submission to God. Freedom is not casting off all restraints and pursuing whatever we want. It is embracing the right restraints and aligning our wants with God's will, so we can pursue what is true and good and beautiful"?
4. The Declaration of Independence states, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Do you find these truths self-evident? Do you find these truths to be Scriptural?
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