



**CITIZEN**  
YEAR 2 | MODULE 5

- » **Vision: A church of fully alive Jesus followers who are using their gifts and sacrificing their lives for others.**
- » **Mission: Mature disciples who are equipped and confident to join a church planting team if called.**

## Module 5: Citizen

The church is a contrast community that exists within the framework of a larger community to worship Jesus and imitate his life across all of our everyday contexts of neighboring, working, socializing, and daily living.

Naturally, a contrast community will experience friction against the typical norms and patterns of life in the world. This module focuses our attention on what is critical to preserve our identity as a church, and where we have flexibility to live life as everyday citizens of our city.

Philippians 3:17-21, 4:1

*"Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.*

***But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.***

*Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved."*

### Goals:

- Learn why the church community is distinct and set apart, but not removed from the everyday life in the world
- Consider the overlap of your spiritual convictions as a Christian and your duties as a citizen of Charlotte
- Put in regular rhythms of engagement in the city outside of the church community (civic, social, neighborhood, shared affiliation, service, etc.)  
*Every Christian should be aware of and/or supportive of a social service need, and know how they play an integral part in shaping this area of the city.*

## Personal Development Plan:

- Write a response on how your work and career fulfill an aspect of Kingdom mindedness, or how you would want it to be reflected

*Since we spend such a large amount of waking hours at our jobs, we must consider how to integrate faith and kingdom-mindedness into our week. This could be a dream or ideal picture of how you would want to work, or an honest assessment of how you have or haven't reflected Jesus in your daily work life.*

## Supplemental Readings & Sermons:

- "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn
- Scripture focus: 1 and 2 Peter; Titus; Ezra; Nehemiah
- Chapter 7 of "Rise of Christianity" by Rodney Stark (PDF)
- "Every Good Endeavor" by Tim Keller

## Events & Opportunities to Engage with Others:

*All event details, sign-ups & reminders will be announced in advance and posted on Slack. Kids are welcome at all events; as well as friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc.*

- Sermon Series > Ezra: Restoring Identity and Rebuilding Community
- Connect with our City >
  - June 5th / 9:30-12pm: Walking Tour of Uptown (meet at Trade & Tryon)  
*Understanding the context of a city helps us better serve the city. Join us for a walking tour to learn about our city's history, culture and values, and how they have directed its current successes and failures.*
- Service Opportunities >
  - June-July / Collect School Supplies & Childrens' Books for CMS
  - June 19th / 12:30-3:30pm: West Blvd Ministry Community Cookout
  - August 14th / 6:30-11:00am: YMCA Corporate Cup
- Church-wide Community Group >  
*Wednesday from 7-8:30pm at the Church Office (except Worship Night)*
  - June 9th: Prayer Night
  - June 23rd: Serving Others & God ("Every Good Endeavor" by Tim Keller)
  - July 7th: Discipleship (what, why, how, with whom, etc.)
  - July 21st: Outdoor Worship Night
  - Aug 11th: Citizenship ("Heaven" by Randy Alcorn)
  - Aug 25th: Community Engagement ("Rise of Christianity" by Rodney Stark)
- Fellowship & Social Events >
  - Jun 13, Jul 11 & Aug 15 (2nd Sundays) / 11am: Lunch in the Park  
*Bring your lunch and chairs to enjoy some fellowship and connection with new and old friends at Latta Park immediately following the Sunday Gathering.*
  - Details TBD: Events by Men's & Women's Ministries, Kids Ministry, etc.