DAY 1: What Sets Your Mind?

SCRIPTURE

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus. **(Philippians 2:5 (NIV))**

DEVOTIONAL

Something is always setting our minds, and for a lot of us it isn't Scripture. Paul uses "set the mind" about ten times in this short letter, because he knew the question was never whether your mind would be set, only who would set it. Parties build platforms to win elections and hold power, and then they present party loyalty as loyalty to God. Believers see what others don't see, because we look through a different lens.

REFLECTION QUESTION

If your party changed its position tomorrow, would your convictions change with it?

PRAYER

Lord, set my mind on You before the news sets it for me. Give me the mind of Christ, so I don't have to defend everything my side says. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 2: Citizens Now

SCRIPTURE

But our citizenship is in heaven. **(Philippians 3:20a (NIV))**

DEVOTIONAL

Paul wrote those words to a city that prized Roman citizenship above almost everything. And he wrote them in the present tense: your citizenship is in heaven now, in this election season. Heavenly citizenship doesn't eliminate your earthly responsibilities; you still vote, pay taxes and serve your community, as a citizen of heaven first. No election, redistricting map or news cycle can revoke what heaven already claims.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Before you decide which candidate you're for, have you settled which Kingdom you represent?

PRAYER

Father, thank You that my citizenship is secure in You. Teach me to love my country without making it, or any party, my highest allegiance. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 3: Heaven's Outpost

SCRIPTURE

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. **(Philippians 1:27a (NIV))**

DEVOTIONAL

"Conduct yourselves" literally means live as citizens. Roman colonists in Philippi didn't expect to move back to Rome; the colony existed to bring Rome's laws, culture and values into a foreign land. We are heaven's outpost, bringing heaven's values into Mooresville, the workplace and the voting booth. And heaven's outpost doesn't always get a warm welcome, because sometimes serving means you make a sacrifice.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Where has heaven stationed you this week, and what Kingdom value will you bring into that room?

PRAYER

Jesus, You stationed me here on purpose. Give me courage to serve Your agenda even when it costs me something. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 4: Speak Without Fear

SCRIPTURE

And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear. **(Philippians 1:14 (NIV))**

DEVOTIONAL

Outposts represent the King's interests in the territory they're in, and when believers go silent inside their party, they hand that room to other voices. Speaking up means confronting wrongdoing on your own side, and challenging your own candidate as readily as the other one. It also means respecting Christians who vote differently. Disagreement on the policy doesn't make someone less saved, and on November 4 that person is still your brother or sister.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Is there wrongdoing on your own side you've excused, or a believer who votes differently you need to reach toward?

PRAYER

Holy Spirit, make me bold in my own party and humble with my brothers and sisters in the other one. Let me speak without fear, because the King already wins. Amen.

NOTES

DAY 5: The King Isn't on the Ballot

SCRIPTURE

And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. **(Philippians 3:20b–21 (NIV))**

DEVOTIONAL

In Philippi, "Savior" and "Lord" were official titles for the emperor, and Paul gave both of them to Jesus. Some of us have handed those titles to a party or a candidate, and today is the day to give them back to Jesus. On November 3, somebody wins and somebody loses. Our deepest hope isn't on the ballot, because the Kingdom doesn't rise and fall with election results.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What anxiety about the election do you need to lay down, and who have you been treating as your savior?

PRAYER

Jesus, You are my Savior and my Lord, and no candidate or party gets those titles. I lay my fears about this election at Your feet and trust the King who rules everything. Amen.

NOTES