

1. You live in a <u>troubled</u> world.

- a. Along with natural disasters, there are <u>man-made</u> disasters.
- b. God, God's work, and God's people will be opposed.

2. You have a great and sovereign God.

- a. God reigns with nothing <u>above</u> or <u>beside</u> Him.
- b. God ultimately <u>controls</u> the course of history.
- c. God invites you to take <u>refuge</u> in Him.

3. Your <u>citizenship</u> is elsewhere.

- a. There's both a place that's <u>untouchable</u> and an inheritance that's <u>secure</u>.
- b. You are just <u>sojourners</u> here.

4. Now <u>live</u> like it.

- a. Choose <u>faith</u> over <u>fear</u>.
- b. Choose <u>social</u> justice over <u>self</u>-advantage.
- c. Choose <u>lovingkindness</u> over <u>lectures</u>.
- d. Choose <u>humility</u> over <u>hypocrisy</u>.



- Caution: Some of these questions have the potential to be answered in an "I'm right, you're wrong" type of blaming that stifles dialogue. Be loving. Be biblical. Be open-minded. Be humble. Attack problems (together!), not people.
- 1. What did you do this week to live in the reality of your new identity in Christ?
- 2. What are some major sources of conflict in our culture right now? (Try to share observations without assigning blame.)
- 3. Where/how do you feel a biblical worldview is most under attack from our culture?
- 4. When you see #2-3, how does it make you feel?
- 5. What are your instinctive "solutions" and "safe houses" to #2-3 and the negative feelings you feel (#4)? What do you retreat to in order to feel more in control and more secure? What does this reveal to you about yourself?
- 6. Specifically, what does it do for you when you remember ...
 - that God is sovereign?
 - that your ultimate citizenship is not a U.S. citizenship?
 - that your ultimate allegiance is not owed to a party or politician?
- 7. What are some of your specific fears as relates to this election, general trends you observe in culture, how people are responding to one another, etc.? If you hoped in God rather than in a set of desired outcomes, what might that look like?
- 8. What are some sources of real injustice (the abuse of power, the rejection of biblical righteousness) in our culture? How could you "do justice" in one of these situations?
- 9. What might it look like for you to love an opponent enough to listen rather than lecture? To have a conversation in place of criticism?
- 10. What are some possible outcomes of a community of Jesus-followers committing to humility and civility in the public square? What effects might that kind of integrity have on us? On the world?