



Lyona bible church

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS – July 4, 2010

Announcements – Please read these to your group!

Please check your bulletin and the website (www.lyona.org) each week for additional information.

- **THEOS:** Two courses are being offered: *Forgotten God* (Holy Spirit study) and *Heart Revolution* (Parables). We encourage those who will be sporadic during the summer to attend *Heart Revolution*.
- **Life Groups:** Our Life Groups are open to new couples and singles. So invite away!

God or Country?

Recap:

The American landscape seems to be in a freefall; socially, politically, economically and religiously. The old adage of 'God and Country' seems to be slipping away and making it necessary to make a decisive choice; either God or Country!

Questions:

1. What was the most interesting idea or principle about this Sunday's message?
2. What comes to your mind when you think of the adage, 'God and Country'? Where do these thoughts and images come from?
3. As you look at the American landscape do you feel it is getting close to the time to make a decision between God and Country? Why or Why not?
4. History has shown us that no nation or kingdom of man will last and all of them have stages or cycles that they go through. Where do you think America is on the stages or cycles of nations? Why?
5. Ephesians 2 lays out a clear explanation of the how and why of our true citizenship. Read it though again. How can this clear presentation of our true nationality be missed by so Christians in this country?
6. Do you, after hearing the sermon this Sunday, need to confess anything or repent of anything? What in your life needs to change?

Prayer Requests

A place to write out your groups' prayer requests

SERMON NOTES

Each header with sub-points is a slide used in Sunday morning's PowerPoint presentation.

Text: Ephesians 2:1-22

Speaker: Michael Fraser

Message: God or Country?

- **God and Country in History**
 - *Christopher Columbus*
 - *The Pilgrims*
 - *The Puritans*
 - *Religious Freedom*
 - *Bible Based Education*
 - *Spiritual Revival*
 - *Preachers of Freedom*
 - *American Revolution*
 - *Declaration of independence*
 - *The Constitution and the sinfulness of man*
- **The Declaration is the “why” of government and the Constitution is the “how”.**
- **“We wrap the flag around the Bible and call Christianity American.”**
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- **With the decline in America being seen;**
 - *Socially*
 - *Politically*
 - *Financially*
 - *Spiritually*
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- **Is it time to ask ourselves to decide between GOD or COUNTRY?**
- **God in a Countries History**
 - *Bondage to Faith*
 - *Faith to Courage*
 - *Courage to Liberty*
 - *Liberty to Abundance*
 - *Abundance to Selfishness*
 - *Selfishness to Complacency*
 - *Complacency to Apathy*
 - *Apathy to Moral Decay*
 - *Moray Decay to Dependence*
 - *Dependence to Bondage.*
- **The Family in a Countries History**
 - *Men cease to lead in worship*
 - *Men neglect the care for the wife and children*
 - *Men's moral values change*
 - *Women's role at home changes*
 - *Husbands and Wives compete*
 - *Selfish Individualism*
 - *Undermined Parental Authority*
 - *Unbelief in God more complete*

- ***The Spiritual Decline in a Countries History***
 1. *Social Decay*
 2. *Cultural Decay*
 3. *Moral Decay*
 - A. *God to idolatry*
 - B. *Sexual Depravity*
 - C. *Anarchy*
 - D. *Judgment*
- **“Be careful not to make America your kingdom.”**
- **We live in a Democracy but we live under a *Theocracy!***
- **“Be careful not to make America your kingdom.” “We are citizens of Heaven.” John Piper**
- ***Ephesians 2:1-22***
 1. ***Dead***
 2. ***Deceived***
 3. ***Depraved***
 - A. ***Healed***
 - B. ***Heirs***
 - C. ***Heralds***
- ***‘Therefore’*...you were once aliens, having no hope and without God**
- ***BUT GOD*...has brought you near through the blood of Christ.**
- ***He Himself*...made peace, reconciled you to God**
- ***‘Now, therefore’* ...**
- **You are fellow *citizens of the household of God!***
- **As a reminder of our true kingdom and patriotism let us end with some appropriate reminders:**
- **“I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God's Holy Word, I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path, I will hide its words in my heart that I might not sin against God.”**
- **“I pledge allegiance to the Christian Flag, and to the Savior, for whose kingdom it stands. One Savior, crucified, risen and coming again, with life and liberty for all who believe.”**