



CITIZENS CHURCH

Sunday, December 28, 2025

(5-10 min) Optional Ice Breaker: If you could re-live one moment from this past Christmas season, which would you choose?

LEADERS: Please share these announcements at the start of group time.

Announcements

STEPS:

Register today for our Spring STEPS Orientation on Sunday, January 4, and take significant steps to deepen your relationship with God this year.

STEPS is a semester-long intensive discipleship class that helps you uncover and overcome anything that stands between you and a closer walk with God. Through biblical teaching and guidance, STEPS helps identify unhealthy patterns and equips you with tools for lasting transformation. Visit <https://citizenschurch.com/Event/582> to register now!

HOME GROUP ASSESSMENTS:

To grow from experience, we must *reflect* on our experience! So each January, we use the Citizens HG Assessment tool to reflect on God's activity in our Home Group and how we work with him to build community, pursue sanctification, and live on mission together.

The assessment sparks fun, important, and fruitful conversations, and we (HG Leaders) will guide our group through the assessment in the weeks to come.

Leader: *Find the Assessment PDFs for you and your group attached to this week's email newsletter, and watch for a full HG Assessment Information Email next week!*



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HOME GROUP WINTER SOCIAL:

Save the date for our Home Groups Winter Social! - Sunday, January 25 | 6-7:30pm | Citizens Foyer.

HG Socials are festive events designed to help us connect with other Citizens members according to interests or geographical location. It's a great way to build more community. Sign up to bring your favorite dessert, and Citizens will provide the hot chocolate and cider! Register now: <https://citizenschurch.com/Registration/hg-winter-social-2026>

Leaders: *This event announcement is not on the main website, so please share the registration link with your group members!*

HOME GROUPS MULTIPLICATION OPPORTUNITIES:

Citizens Home Groups are designed to *build Community, pursue Sanctification, and live on Mission* together. And our Groups ministry is growing! If you're curious about HG Leadership or Co-leadership, please visit our next HG Leader Interest Meeting (Sunday, Jan 25 | 11am-12:15pm) to learn more. Sign up at <https://citizenschurch.com/Event/580> or email group@citizenschurch.com.

Leaders Only: *Is your group OPEN and ready to welcome others? If so...*

- *Email us at groups@citizenschurch.com to tell us your group is OPEN. We'll respond with next steps!*
- *Update the HG [Placement sheet](#) with your current group status (columns H-J)*
- *Update your group Roster in the [church database](#).*

Read God's Word Aloud

Revelation 21:1-8

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2** And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will



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dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. **4** He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

5 And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." **6** And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. **7** The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. **8** But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

Discuss God's Word and God's World

Important: The goal is never to "get through" every question like a checklist. It's ok to linger on a few questions if they spark sanctifying discussion or opportunities for intercessory prayer.

Start here: Take a few moments to reflect together on this week's Scripture. Share what stood out or impacted you from it and this Sunday's sermon.

- What thoughts and feelings surface when you hear this week's passage?
- Revelation 21:1-8 describes heaven. Which specific aspects of the description interest or intrigue you?
- What makes you most long for heaven?
- What do you think about being in God's unobstructed presence (see vs 3)?
- Do you ever experience these promises – get a "taste" of heaven – in your life with him today? How so?
- How does this passage shape your desire to share the gospel with those you know and



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love?

Sanctificational Prayer Guidance

Praise God together for the beautiful promise of heaven.

Father, we are humbled and delighted that we have a future that's full of your presence and free of sin's wreckage. Thank you Jesus, for making that possible! Thank you Holy Spirit for providing a foretaste! Teach us to live now, in light of this incredible promise.

Ask the Holy Spirit to teach us how to enjoy his presence today, to burden us with a desire for more people to know God and experience heaven, and to provide simple opportunities to share the Good News.

Family Memory Verse of the Month for December

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

Matthew 1:21 (ESV)