

Maintaining Your Identity As an Alien!



We Are Aliens, Nanu Nanu!

- Mork and Mindy
- We are aliens in the world
- 1. Our citizenship is in heaven
- 2. Our constitution is the Bible, not the Charter
- 3. Our leader is Jesus, not our Prime Minister
- 4. Our passion is not for treasure here, but for the Kingdom of God



Aliens In A Land That Is Not Our Home

- In the last few years, many have wondered, “Where did the country go we grew up in?” Things feel foreign to us
- Something radical has happened to our country and to us...
- 1Pet.1:3 - “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope...” To fix our minds... Where?
- Hope for another world, a greater kind of existence, an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, unfading
- Col.3:3-4 - For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Aliens In A Land That Is Not Our Home

- Peter says it, Paul says it and Jesus calls us to live like Aliens
- Matt.6:19-21, 24, 25-34
- It is sad then Aliens fall in love with the new world
- 2Tim.4:9-10- Do your best to come to me soon. For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica.
- It is a sad tragedy when a professing believer throws away his faith and hope in the future world, renouncing his citizenship there, for momentary pleasure and lives for this world
- Living as aliens is the only pathway to heaven. 1Jhn.2:17

How Do We Keep Our Alien Identity?

- 1Pet.4:7-10 - **⁷The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.** ⁸Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.
- 1. Sobriety for Prayer – be in your right mind, be sober – It is difficult for a drunk person to be in touch with reality. We can be drunk with all the posts, tweets and updates. If we are drunk on the world we will have no taste for heaven. Alcoholics use small groups for recovery

How Do We Keep Our Alien Identity?

- 2. Love One Another With A Special Degree Of Love
- Vs.8 “Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.”
- Aliens are not perfect. It is stressful to be a citizen of one country and live in another. Sometimes hurtful things happen to damage relationship.
- “Keep fervent in your love” Friendships and love grows through time spent together. Time together weaves lives together.
- Who would God have you develop a friendship with this year?

How Do We Keep Our Alien Identity?

3. Cheerfully Open Your Home To Others.

Vs.9. "Show hospitality to one another without grumbling."

- Who does your home belong to?
- How would the Commander have you use it?
- The more alien we feel in this world, the more important this becomes. God created us for community.
- Simple reading: Open your homes to one another and don't grumble about the hassle.
- Question: How will you make your home a haven for others?

How Do We Keep Our Alien Identity?

4. Using Your Gift For The Good Of Others.

Vs.10 "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."

Vs.11 lists 2 of the gifts – Preaching /teaching; Serving;

1 Cor.12:7 – To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 12:8-11 lists more gifts. 12:12-26 the importance of every member of the body.

It is not a list of importance, but visibility

12:30b – "And now I will show you a more excellent way"

- That way is the way of LOVE. Chp.13

Using Small Groups

1. Sobriety for Prayer.
 2. Love one another with a special degree of love.
 3. Cheerfully open your homes to Others.
 4. Using your gift for the good of others.
- These 4 things are best developed through small groups.
 - By September we would love to have a network of small groups available for you to be a part of.
 - Talk to one of the Leadership team members if you would like to make your home available or to lead one.