



# HEAVEN EARTH

## Heaven on Earth: Live Not By Lies

November 7th & 8th

**Speaker:** Dr. Mark Batterson

**Scripture:** Ephesians 5:15-20

### Series Overview

*Our identity, our authority is anchored in a dimension of reality called heaven. It is the domain of God's dominion — perfect harmony, true identity, full authority. Every blessing is ours in the heavenly realm (Ephesians 1:3). Heaven is invading earth right here, right now. How? With a supernatural demonstration of God's love and power and wisdom. As citizens of heaven, we represent the heavenly realm. The goal? On earth, as it is in heaven.*

### Series Discussion Questions

How did you witness heaven invading earth this week?

### Message Overview

*It takes moral courage to STAND AGAINST what is WRONG and STAND FOR what is RIGHT. It takes moral courage to SPEAK TRUTH TO POWER, to SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE. Living not by lies is refusing to bow to cultural idols or ideologies if they don't pass the TRUTH TEST. It's living according to your biblical convictions even if it's COUNTERCULTURE. It's RISKING YOUR REPUTATION for what you know is GOOD and RIGHT and TRUE. It's DISAGREEING FREELY yet LOVING REGARDLESS. It's a conscience taken captive by the Word of God and Spirit of God.*

## Message-Specific Discussion Questions

Read Ephesians 5:10. Who are you trying to please in this world? Who are you most afraid of offending? Despite those things, **how are you aiming for what is the MOST ACCEPTABLE to God?**

It is important to examine how we think and how we talk. It is also important to survey the way we act upon situations. There is a famous saying: “Actions speak louder than words.” **How are you allowing your actions to be louder than your thoughts and voice?**

Read I Thessalonians 5:15-17: “Be joyful always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” **Have you ever questioned the will of God during a season of your life? How could practicing these 3 principles help you understand God’s will?**

Read Ephesians 5:18. Paul urges followers of Jesus to be “filled with the Holy Spirit.” **What does it look like to make room for more of the Holy Spirit within your life?**

We were destined to be here and now during this historical season. **How can you stand in the gap as a peacemaker this week?**

## Practical Application

- Pastor Mark talks about knowing our tendencies, and knowing our weaknesses. Take some time this week to take a free Enneagram assessment. <https://www.truity.com/test/enneagram-personality-test>
- Pastor Mark presents a Multicultural Vision for National Community Church. Spend some time reviewing the document found at [NCC.re/reconcile](https://ncc.re/reconcile).
- Find a daily rhythm of connecting with God and with one another by committing to [NCC Daily](#), a new five-minute audio podcast to help you walk verse-by-verse through the book of Ephesians. Invite a few others to do so with you, connecting throughout the week via Marco Polo or a group text, or meeting together online in person to discuss and debrief what you’re learning.
- Climb the stairs to the [Upper Zoom](#) each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am. Join us as we start our days in His presence together, listening intently, and responding in prayer. Register at [ncc.re/UpperZoom](https://ncc.re/UpperZoom).