

June 30, 2024

Hospitality – Lesson 3

Intro: The past 2 weeks we have looked at the Who of Hospitality in God's hospitality to us, as exemplified in the First Testament and in Jesus' life described in the Gospel of Luke.

The What, When, Where, Why, & How of Hospitality?

What is hospitality?

Greek word – philoxenos (fil-ox'-en-os)

-Philo – love of

- Xenos – strangers or others

Why is hospitality important?

Romans 12:13 -- *Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.*

What is the purpose of Romans 12?

- **Hebrews 13:1-2** - *Let brotherly love continue. 2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.*

- **1 Peter 4:7-9** - *The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. 8 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.*

When & Where is hospitality to be given?

Matt 25:31-40 - 31 *"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ... 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ... 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'*

What are some obstacles to hospitality?

- Business
- Carelessness
- Materialism

“Giving is the only antidote to materialism. Giving is a joyful surrender to a greater person and a greater agenda. It dethrones me and exalts Him. God prospers me not to raise my standard of living but to raise my standard of giving. God gives us more money than we need so we can give generously.” (*Randy Alcorn Truly Joyous Giving, online article found at, Truly Joyous Giving: Randy Alcorn and The Treasure Principle - Eternal Perspective Ministries (epm.org)*)

- Fear

How is hospitality to be done?

Use what you have

- Modifying the Catechism – What is the chief end of your resources?
- From Pat Ennis’ article on How to Practice Biblical Hospitality
- Collect and file simple, inexpensive recipes for desserts and meals.
- Make a list of people who would be encouraged by your offer of hospitality.
- Make a plan to invite your first guests soon.
- Start simple—spontaneously inviting someone home after church is a great beginning.
- Pray that our hospitable God will give you joy in demonstrating his character to others.
- Remember that memories require time and energy to create.
- Purpose to nurture a heart for biblical hospitality that sincerely communicates: “Come back soon.”
 - Be prayerful and alert
 - Think of intentional conversation topics
 - Be ok with messes, they happen

Questions