



WEEK 4 Hospitality

ICEBREAKER

If you could be host to anyone (living) for a dinner, who would it be and what would you eat? and why?

SCRIPTURE READING

Read: Luke 10:25-37

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Entertaining = I want to look good. I want to impress others. Biblical hospitality = it is a desire to exalt Jesus, to serve and to bless others.

Have you ever found yourself “entertaining” to impress and something went terribly wrong? How did you feel about the situation or guest?

In light of knowing the difference between entertaining and being hospitable, how might have you dealt with the situation differently?

• LEARNING TO SHARE

Read: Genesis 18:1-8

In biblical times there were particular customs that were attached to extending hospitality going as far back as we can find in Genesis.

Discuss some ways that we in 2018 extend hospitality to others. What are some unique things that we do in our culture to be hospitable?

If you are aware of other cultural customs from other societies share those with your group.

• HOSPITALITY IS A HEART ISSUE

Hospitality is the Christian practice and attitude of the heart that seeks to transition outsiders into family. It is your heart's desire for them to taste the joy, the protection, the provision, the unconditional love that should be found in family.

In our broken and fallen world the fact is that many of the things that we express with biblical hospitality are foreign to people - inside and outside of the church.

What are some practical things we can do to demonstrate the love of God through hospitality?

What things get in our way of doing what God has called us to do?

• HOSPITALITY PURSUES MARGIN

Read: Leviticus 19:9-10

Hospitality requires that we do not remove everything from our fields - that we do not spend everything we earn. 7-10 households live from harvest to harvest - from paycheque to paycheque. In order to be obedient to being hospitable we need to allow for margin in our finances, time and resources.

Share about a time that you had no margin available and desired to fulfill a need or desired to extend hospitality but were unable.

Share about a time that you had margin available and you were able to exalt Jesus and to be a blessing to others.

• DO ALL THIS WITH GRATITUDE AND JOY BECAUSE OF JESUS' RADICAL HOSPITALITY TOWARDS US

Read: 1 Peter 4:8-9, Romans 12:13

Hospitality is a command to be a type of person that doesn't resent from having to be hospitable. Hospitality is a “mitzvah” - a good deed from religious duty done in joy - therefore, it could be said that hospitality is a joyful sacred obligation. It is a continuous action, a constant attitude and an intentional practice.

Now being equipped with the biblical truth about hospitality are there any actions that you personally need to take to always be ready to be hospitable?

In addition to the practical actions listed, what are some additional actions that we can do to be prepared to be hospitable? (Make a list and plan in advance; be spontaneous; collect and file; make home inviting; ask questions)

• Read: Ephesians 2:12-13, 2:19

Grace is the hospitality of God to welcome sinners, all of us, not because of our goodness but because of His glory.

Why should we extend hospitality?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Am I trimming the edges of my fields of time, finances and resources to the edges and not leaving anything left over for the sojourner? If so, how can I change in order to be a blessing?

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Put into practice hospitality. Invite another or others to your home for a meal or meet a need of a sojourner.

PRAISE REPORTS / PRAYER REQUESTS