



Intro / Why Study Hospitality Week 1: Hospitality in the Scriptures Week 2: Week 3: Christ as the Stranger Easter / Communion Last Week: **Receiving Hospitality Tonight: Practical Issues in Hospitality** 



Extending Hospitality

The Greek word we use is composed of two parts:
"philo" (φιλο) and "xenia" (ξενία)
lit. "love" to/of "strangers"

"Hospitality . . . always included family, friends and influential contacts. The distinctive Christian contribution was the emphasis on including the poor and neediest, the ones who could not return the favor."

- Christine Pohl

Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition



Extending Hospitality

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"Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

- Luke 14:12-14

Practical Issues

I do not have the "gift of hospitality." Hospitality does not come naturally to me.

I am frugal, and it is hard for me to be generous.

I don't feel that my hospitality is reciprocated. I genuinely worry that others are taking advantage of me.

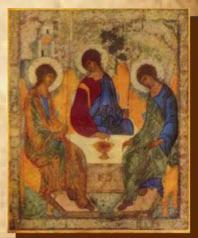
Why is there so much of an emphasis on food whenever we discuss hospitality? Can we be hospitable without offering food?

Practical Issues

I am introvert. Hospitality seems easy for people who are extroverts, but it is hard for me to invite people into my space.

I don't understand the point of hospitality. How are we going to develop a deep, intimate relationship with a complete stranger simply by inviting them to stay with us or to share a meal?

Where are the boundaries? Am I supposed to invite every single person who needs a meal or a place to stay?



Practical Issues

What if I am uncomfortable with a guest's behavior or habits, and they seriously pose a problem in my home?

I don't have a home to invite anyone to. How can I practice hospitality?

I am barely getting by. I don't have any resources with which to be hospitable.

Isn't it a bit overwhelming for the stranger, the newcomer or the recent acquaintance to suddenly be invited into the midst of our life?



Practical Issues

What if someone that is invited into the home steals from me?

I worry that inviting a stranger into my home is not safe. How can I show hospitality in a world where so many people are out to harm others?

What happens if someone overstays their welcome, and doesn't take the hint that its time to move on? There are limits and I worry I won't be able to enforce them.



What if my hospitality is just going to enable someone and prevent them from working to provide for themselves?



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