

Rhythms: Hospitality

As Christ makes His home within us, we learn to hospitably receive those He brings our way.

Text – Revelation 3:20

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Teaching

- By **definition**, hospitality is _____ to welcome the other.
- By **implication**, hospitality is _____ to share
- By **clarification**, hospitality sometimes includes our homes; sometimes not. It always includes _____.
- By **demonstration**, hospitality was a _____ in the public ministry of Jesus and the ethic of the early church.

Principles of Hospitality:

1. Hospitality, in the life of the Christian, is the move from _____ to _____.
 2. “If you are going to host Jesus, the rule seems to be that you will be _____ all those whom _____ is hosting.” (Mark Brians)
 3. Hospitality is inherently vulnerable and close.
 4. Hospitality involves sacrifice.
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Deeper Dive

The direction of the series has been from HOME to HOSPITALITY. Accepting Christ and receiving His love into our lives is the focus on this series. Hosting others with Christ is the desired result of it.

When it comes to the hospitality of taking care of the other, you cannot receive someone into something you don't have.

The love of God is the greatest thing we have to give to one another. This love is the “it” that all of us are looking for. We must receive it first. True life sharing and love sharing depends squarely on this. When we receive the love of God deeply and wholly, it will lead us to receive others into it, too.

As we live with Christ and learn of His love and ways towards others, we share in His openness and provide - with Him - the life-sharing sacrifice of love. In this way, with Him, we host others into our very lives.

Reflection & Discussion

- Looking back on this series, which practice was the most beneficial for you in your friendship with God?
- Moving forward, which practice do you think you will use in your life with God in this next season of your story with Him?
- As you think of hospitality, who is a person who shares their life with others that you respect. How do that they do this?
- What is one way you can share your life with another who is in need?