

THE SPECIAL GIFT OF HOSPITALITY

TEXT: 1 Corinthians - GIVEN TO HOSPITALITY

Romans 12:13: Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

1 Timothy 3:2: A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

Titus 1:7-8:

⁷ For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

⁸ But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;

1 Peter 4:8-9:

⁸ And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

⁹ Use hospitality one to another without grudging.

DEFINITION: This special gift of hospitality is the God-given-ability to make people feel welcome in your home, in your presence. It is the ability to warm the hearts of those who feel nobody cares.

It is the sharing of one's lodging, clothing, and cheerful tender care to those who are cast down and discouraged, and feel forsaken.

The Scripture says:



Ephesians 6:7: With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:

1. PLACES OF SHOWING HOSPITALITY

GREETERS:

Those who give a warm hand shake, accompanied with a friendly smile to visitors, is a service to the cause of Christ which few know the real value in doing. Hospitality at the church door, in the lobby, prepares the newcomers for their receptivity to the worship service.



BELIEVERS opening their homes to MISSIONARIES, EVANGELISTS, APOSTLES, PROPHETS, ANGELS.

The Lord Jesus sent out the 12 Apostles and the seventy (70) and this is what He said:

Matthew 10:11-14:

¹¹ And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence.

¹² And when ye come into an house, salute it.

¹³ And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you.

¹⁴ And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.

Hebrews 13:2: Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

2. PERSONS “NOT” TO SHOW HOSPITALITY

2 John 10:11: If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

Titus 3:10-11:

¹⁰ A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject;

¹¹ Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself.

EXAMPLES OF HOSPITALITY

1. Abraham:

Genesis 18:1-8:

¹ And the Lord appeared unto him [Abraham] in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;

² And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men [angels] stood by Him [the Lord]: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,

³ And said, “My Lord, if now I have found favour in Thy sight,

pass not away, I pray Thee, from thy servant:

⁴ Let a little water, I pray You, be fetched, and wash Your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:

⁵ And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort Ye Your hearts; after that Ye shall pass

on: for therefore are Ye come to Your servant.” And They [the Lord and the angels] said, “So do, as thou hast said.”

⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.”

⁷ And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.

⁸ And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before Them; and he stood by Them under the tree, and They did eat.



2. Judah:

Genesis 44:33-34:

33 Now therefore, I pray thee, let thy servant abide instead of the lad a bondman to my lord; and let the lad go up with his brethren.

34 For how shall I go up to my father, and the lad be not with me? lest peradventure I see the evil that shall come on my father.

3. Nehemiah:

Nehemiah 5:17-18:

17 Moreover there were at my table an hundred and fifty of the Jews and rulers, beside those that came unto us from among the heathen that are about us.

18 Now that which was prepared for me daily was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten days store of all sorts of wine: yet for all this required not I the bread of the governor, because the bondage was heavy upon this people.

4. Araunah:

2 Samuel 24:22-24:

22 And Araunah said unto David, "Let my lord the king take and offer up what seemeth good unto him: behold, here be oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing instruments and other instruments of the oxen for wood."

23 All these things did Araunah, as a king, give unto the king. And Araunah said unto the king, "The Lord thy God accept thee."

24 And the king said unto Araunah, "Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing." So David bought the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.



5. Daniel:

Daniel 5:17: Then Daniel answered and said before the king, “Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation.”

6. Apostles:

Acts 2:45: And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

Acts 4:34-35:

³⁴ Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

³⁵ And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

7. Priscilla and Aquila:

Acts 18:2-3:

² And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.

³ And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.

Acts 18:26-28:

²⁶ And he began to speak boldly in the Synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the Way of God more perfectly.



²⁷ And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace:

²⁸ For he mightily convinced the Jews,

and that publicly, shewing by the Scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

8. Simon the Tanner:

Acts 9:43: And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon a tanner.

Acts 10:5-6:

⁵ And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter:

⁶ He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

9. Cornelius:

Acts 10:48: And he commanded them to be baptized in the Name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

10. Lydia:

Acts 16:15: And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, "If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there." And she constrained us.

11. Philippian Jailer

Acts 16:34: And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

12. Onesiphorus

2 Timothy 1:16-18:

¹⁶ The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain:

¹⁷ But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me.

¹⁸ The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.

13. WIDOW Zarephath

1 Kings 17:8-24:

8 And the Word of the Lord came unto him, saying,

9 “Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.”

10 So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, “Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.”

11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, “Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.”

12 And she said, “As the Lord thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.”

13 And Elijah said unto her, “Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.”

14 For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, “The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.”

15 And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

16 And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the Word of the Lord, which he spake by Elijah.



17 And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him.

18 And she said unto Elijah, “What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?”

19 And he said unto her, "Give me thy son." And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed.

20 And he cried unto the Lord, and said, "O Lord my God, hast Thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?"

21 And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the Lord, and said, "O Lord my God, I pray Thee, let this child's soul come into him again."

22 And the Lord heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

23 And Elijah took the child, and brought him down out of the chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother: and Elijah said, "See, thy son liveth."

24 And the woman said to Elijah, "Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the Word of the Lord in thy mouth is truth."

14. Widow Shunemite

2 Kings 4:8: And it fell on a day, that Elisha passed to Shunem, where was a great woman; and she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, that as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread.

EXORTATIONS TO HOSPITALITY

James 2:8: If ye fulfill the Royal Law according to the Scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:



Matthew 7:12: Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Romans 15:1-2:

1 We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

2 Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.

Matthew 10:40-42:

40 He that receiveth you receiveth Me, and he that receiveth Me receiveth Him [Father God] that sent Me.

41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.



42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a Disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

HOSPITALITY: The gift of hospitality is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to provide an open house and a warm welcome to those in need of food and lodging.

1 Peter 4:9: Use hospitality one to another without grudging.

Romans 12:9-13:

9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

13 Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

Romans 16:23: Gaius mine host, and of the whole church, saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother.

Acts 16:14-15:

¹⁴ And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

¹⁵ And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, "If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there." And she constrained us.



Hebrews 13:1-2:

¹ Let brotherly love continue.

² Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

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