

Connected With One Another

Be Hospitable to One Another

1 Peter 4:9

I. Message – Be hospitable to one another

a. Use hospitality with other believers

i. 1 Peter 4:9 “Use hospitality one to another...”

1. Root words – philo-xenos
2. Philos – brotherly love, friendship, companionship
3. Xenos – hosting a traveler
4. Together – to befriend/host strangers with brotherly love
 - a. This is a distinctly Christian sentiment

b. Romans 12:9-13

ii. Why do this?

1. It tangibly demonstrates our love for Jesus
2. Jesus was clear about this:
 - a. Matthew 25
 - b. Matthew 10:40-42
 - c. Showing hospitality to one of Jesus’ disciples
 - d. Is showing hospitality to Jesus Himself!
 - e. So, be hospitable to other believers with enthusiasm

b. Use hospitality with a good attitude

i. 9...without grudging.”

1. Or without grumbling
2. Did you know, God hates grumbling?
3. Philippians 2:14-15
4. Why would someone who is showing hospitality grumble?
 - a. Why am I doing this more than others?
 - b. Why do I have to carry the burden for these NEEDY people?
 - c. Why am I giving while others are taking?
 - d. Why don’t they leave?
 - e. How long do I have to stay generous?
 - f. Why am I being punished for working hard and having more resources than others?
 - g. What is he saying?

- ii. To avoid grumbling, you must have a generous spirit
 - 1. **2 Corinthians 9:7**
 - 2. A giving attitude
 - 3. A grateful attitude

c. Use hospitality as a channel of God's grace

- i. **"10 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."**
- ii. This is more of a general ministry statement for Christians
- iii. But it comes right on the heels of this command to hospitality
- iv. **"If you have been given good things YOU don't deserve (gifts, graces), then give things to others THEY don't deserve"**
- v. In other words, let God's goodness flow through you
- vi. Be a channel of God's grace
 - 1. Now, all of us love our friends in practical ways
 - a. We find it easy to love family in practical ways
 - b. Hospitality is a love of strangers in practical ways
 - c. Practically loving people outside your circle
 - d. That is REAL hospitality in its truest sense
 - e. **Hebrews 13:1-2 "Let brotherly love continue. 2 Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."**

d. Bonus: Use hospitality as a tool for evangelism

- i. This is a timeless strategy for God's people loving others well
 - 1. **Leviticus 19:33-34**
 - 2. You, fellow believer, have been rescued by God's grace
 - 3. So, treat visiting strangers as you have been treated
- ii. Jesus illustrated this attitude with the story of the Good Samaritan

II. Conclusions

- a. Who in this room should you show hospitality to?
- b. How is your attitude when you give (and others take)?
- c. Are you counting your blessings and passing them on?
- d. How might you better use your assets for evangelism?