

LIFE TOGETHER

Hospitality – Romans 12:9-13
November 20, 2016

I. Hospitality as a mark of God's people

- Old Testament examples (Abraham, Lot, Rahab, Abigail, Job)
- Commanded in the Law (Leviticus 19:33-34)
- Rooted in the character and work of God (Exodus 20:2)
- Reiterated in the New Testament (1 Peter 4:7-9; Hebrews 13:1-2)
- Required of elders (1 Timothy 1:2; Titus 1:8)

II. Hospitality as a ministry of God's people

- To believers for the sake of provision and encouragement
- To unbelievers for the sake of the gospel and evangelism

III. Hospitality as a measure for God's people

- What do you value?
- What barriers exist?
- “Hospitality is a concrete expression of Christian love and family life. Giving oneself to the care of God's people means sharing one's life and home with others. An open home is a sign of an open heart and a loving, sacrificial, serving spirit. A lack of hospitality is a sure sign of selfish, lifeless, loveless Christianity.” -Alexander Strauch

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read Romans 12:9-13

1. Read Romans 12:9-13, 1 Peter 4:7-9 and Hebrews 13:1-2. What are the commands in these verses? What similarities stand out?
2. Why is hospitality incorporated into the Law for Israel?
3. In what ways is hospitality a ministry to believers?
4. In what ways does hospitality mirror the gospel to unbelievers?
5. What are your personal barriers to being more hospitable?
6. Who in your life is a great example of hospitality? What can you learn from them?
7. What are some tangible steps you can take to improve your level of hospitality?