

# Home is Where the Heart Is

Sabbath – September 7, 2019

**Luke 14:12-14**



## Definition

According to Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, *hospitable* is defined as being "given to generous and cordial reception of guests," "offering a pleasant and sustaining environment," and "readily receptive: open, open to new ideas."

The word *hospitable* is not necessarily linked to our homes, but refers to our reception and treatment of others and to our personal disposition.

Though the word hospitality is not used in the Old Testament, it is demonstrated throughout, and is the expected norm in the world of the old and new testament.

Biblically speaking

## **HOSPITALITY IS ROOTED IN THE COVENANT ...**

*<sup>33</sup> "When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. <sup>34</sup> You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God. <sup>1</sup>*

see also **Deuteronomy 10:17–19. The story of Abraham's angelic visitors - Genesis 18:1–8. Story of Lot's angelic encounter - Genesis 19:1–8**

*12 He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. 13 But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, 14 and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just." <sup>2</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Le 19:33–34.

<sup>2</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Lk 14:12–14.

## **The attitude of hospItality**

Not only are we to practice hospitality with Christians and non-Christians alike, friends and strangers, we are to practice it without complaining. Our heart attitude is important when obeying the command of hospitality because everything we do is for the Lord first. ([1 Peter 4:9, Col. 3:23](#))

*9 Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.*

*23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,  
24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.*

## **The motive and the motivation for hospItality**

God sent Jesus to pay our debt, and He redeems those who believe in Him, making a place for us in His kingdom. His hospitality restores our relationship with Him. In turn we now open our hearts and invite God's Spirit to make our heart his home

*Our motivation for hospitality should not be to receive something in return. Luke 6:38 tells us that the more we are generous with our blessings the more we will be blessed, so that we can continue giving God glory through our actions. This does not mean that if you do good things for others, you'll get everything you want because not only is that not how God operates, it is not the right heart attitude.*

*13 Let brotherly love continue. 2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.  
3 Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. <sup>3</sup>*

## **The reward for hospItality**

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<sup>3</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Heb 13:1–3.

*invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,<sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.*”<sup>4</sup>

*<sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.*”<sup>5</sup>

Hospitality is not only for the righteous but by the righteous ... **2 Kings 4:8-10** the widows care for the prophet Elisha. **Job 31:31-32** the act of those who are righteous

*<sup>5</sup> Beloved, it is a faithful thing you do in all your efforts for these brothers, strangers as they are, <sup>6</sup> who testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God. <sup>7</sup> For they have gone out for the sake of the name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. <sup>8</sup> Therefore we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth.*<sup>6</sup>

## **Q. What stops You from being more hospitable?**

Don't mis the point or pervert the purpose of hospitality  
Luke 10:38

*<sup>38</sup> Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house.*<sup>7</sup>

In this story Martha was pre-occupied with how the house looked and that there was something to offer their guest to eat. While her sister Mary was commended for seizing the moment as a time of ministry in the word.

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<sup>4</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Lk 14:12-14.

<sup>5</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Lk 6:38.

<sup>6</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 3 Jn 5-8.

<sup>7</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Lk 10:38.

- We are the only organization that exist for the benefit of those who are not yet members
- Church is the place where the extended family meets, where all the brothers and sisters come together
- Hospitality is about welcoming people, welcoming people is about making them feel at home.
- Home is where the heart is – but if the heart is not in it, where will you be?

## **Q. Are You as hospitable as You think You are? Are we a welcoming church?**

Articles to read -

<https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/strategic-hospitality>

<https://justbetweenus.org/topics/christian-hospitality/>

<https://www.crosswalk.com/blogs/christian-trends/3-things-you-should-know-about-biblical-hospitality.html>