

# HOSPITALITY

## A Christian State of Mind

friendliness, warm reception, welcome, helpfulness, neighborliness, warmth, kindness, accommodating, courteous, generosity

### Less like dinner, more like a hospital

When you hear the word, "hospitable" what comes to your mind? Having someone over for a nice dinner, asking if they want something to drink, showing them where the bathroom is? May I submit to you that as the Latin origin of the word, 'Hospitality' suggests, that it's less like having someone over for dinner and more like being a 'hospital' to someone in need.



Hospitality From the Latin- Hospital

### Case in point, Luke 10:30-37 Like a good neighbor

I think the 'good samaritan' parable is a great place to start for a lesson on what it means to be a hospital to others. Luke 10 tells us of a man who was attacked and beaten by robbers and left to die on the side of the road. As the guy is lying there beaten, naked and dying, a priest, and a Levite both pass right by him (I'm sure they had their reasons :( ...but then along comes a good neighbor to help:

Vs 33 **"But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion, and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them;"**



### What's it going to take?

He STOPPED to HELP! The first characteristic I see about being hospitable is a willingness to stop whatever we are doing and help.

### It takes time

Even though the Samaritan was busy going along on his journey, he still stopped to help. Hospitality is looking for ways to help and when it finds one, it will help, no matter what.

### More than a feeling....

#### It takes compassion/action compaction :)

Secondly, we see that he felt compassion. Compassion means to 'suffer with.' If we mean to show compassion to someone, we will also be brought into or share in their sufferings. It says that he 'felt' compassion; yes, compassion is a feeling, but it is **proven** by action. The Samaritan was willing to be inconvenienced for this man in need. Feeling without action of any kind is not true compassion...I may feel bad for someone, but unless I actually do something to help, it's just ME having a bad feeling.

### It takes generosity, mercy & sacrifice

The action that followed the Samaritan's feeling of compassion was to be a hospital to the man and begin to bandage up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them...(medicine of the day) The Samaritan was willing to share what he had with the wounded man...he was generous and willing to get his hands dirty for the sake of someone else.

### Sometimes it takes \$ & Accommodations

Vs 34-35 *'and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. "On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.'*

### Could this kind of thing be what Romans 12:13 is talking about?

...contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

YES! Absolutely! If we are to practice anything, it's hospitality! As Christians we need to practice or 'get better' at this Biblical hospitality.

### A Christian State of Mind

Like the Good Samaritan, as Christians, we need to be engaged in the 'practice' of an attitude of Hospitality. It's not just having someone over for dinner, though there's nothing wrong with that.. Hospitality is a lifestyle of GRACE, humility, mercy, helpfulness, friendliness, warmth and kindness. It's being neighborly even when they're not next door. It's looking for ways to accommodate. Check out another great Biblical example of hospitality in 2 Sam.17:27-29 Hospitality is looking for needs to meet; basically, it's walking in love as a habit of life.

### You know what else

I believe is tied up in hospitality- **RESPECT and honor.** Hospitality doesn't see your nationality or your financial status, or even if you've done something wrong to get into the situation that you need help....God's idea of hospitality just acts with love and care for those who need it.

Vs 36-37

*"Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' hands?" And he said,*

*"The one who showed mercy toward him."*

*Then Jesus said to him,*

*"Go and do the same."*

### Hospitality is two-fold

*I believe the practice of hospitality is two fold: giving AND receiving. If someone has ever refused your hospitality it can feel like a slap in the face. For some people it can take more grace and is way harder to receive hospitality than it is to give. Hospitality goes both ways...let's both give and receive it with grace and humility... you know, as a practice.*

Hospital-ity is a Christian State of Mind

Peace IN, Big D  
bigdblues.com