

1.0 Opening/Ice breaker

True or False

1. As Christians we are not to show biblical hospitality to non-believers.
2. There is a position in the new testament church that requires a person to show hospitality. (elder, deacon, apostle)
3. Hospitality a spiritual gift.
4. All married women believers are to show hospitality.
5. We are to be careful in showing hospitality to strangers who claim to be believers.
6. Hospitality to the poor is greater and more important.
7. Apostles were told by Christ not to accept hospitality in a new city.
8. OT Jews were required to show hospitality or face punishment by God and man.
9. Men aspiring to the position of Elder should not hold church membership meetings right after the fellowship meal leaving everyone else to clean up or they will be band from the dessert table forever. Unless they are very very sorry and must remind everyone they are still just "aspiring" which is why they needed to go the Shepards conference in the first place
10. Bringing both dessert and entre to the fellowship meal makes you more hospitable

2.0 What do the resources say

Jewish custom and Laws demanded certain amt of hospitality.

- OT Examples – Beginning with Abraham generosity to three strangers Gn 18
- A stranger would wait at the city gate for an offer of hospitality Gen19
- A guest feet were washed and head anointed with oil
- The best food might be presented and meat rarely eaten
- Accommodations for the night
- Failure to provide for a travelers needs was a serious offense liable to punishment by God (dt 23:3-4) and man (1sam 25:2-8)

Greek definitions –

- Philoxenia – literal meant the love of strangers
- Xenizo – to receive as a guest

3.0 What does the Bible Say

No Favortism

James 2:1-5 Do not show favoritism

Acts 10:34 God does not show favoritism

Meeting needs of those in ministry

Act 10:6 & Acts 16:15 - the apostles mission were dependent on hospitality of others

Romans 12:13 the pursuit of hospitality was obligatory for the Christian who must ensure that the needs of fellow believers were properly met.

Gal 6:10 commands hospitality for fellow believers

Mt 10:11 & Luke 10:4 (same story) apostles were dependent – today's missionaries are similar

Heb 13:1 to be done in the spirit of love, may have served angles – attitude/abundant

3 John 5-8 Hospitality to Strangers – Abundant worthy of God – Working together, all gifts all people for God's Truth

1 Peter 4:8-9 love each other and offer hospitality without grumbling

Requirement for Elders/Women

1 Tim 3:2 & Titus 1:8 Overseer or Elder must be hospitable

1 Tim 5:10 Widows must be known for their hospitality

Persecution/Death

Act 17:5-9 hospitality to the death.

Mk 10:45 Ultimate in hospitality – Jesus Death

4.0 Closing

Mark Dever projection of the future

How the Shepards conference was such a great example of Excellence in Ministry and Biblical Hospitality.

Be joyful always pray continually give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not put out the Spirit's fire do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good, avoid every kind of evil.