



GATEWAYS

HOSPITALITY

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Series about the Journey

- Great Commission Mandate
- practical steps to begin obedience
- invitation to enter into
- community
- prayer
- serving
- generosity
- Sabbath
- worship



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Literal – ‘kindness to a stranger’

Bigger than that in Scripture

- Piper ‘willingness to welcome people into your home or church who don’t ordinarily belong there.’
- Chandler ‘simply saying you matter to me’
- it is a posture, mindset and action

Key Texts – Rom. 12:9-13, Heb. 13:1-3,
1Peter 4:8-10



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“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality” Romans 12:9-13



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“Keep on loving each other as brothers. Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.” Heb 13:1-3



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“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.”

1 Peter 4:8-10



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1. Found In The Character of God

- see hospitality in God revealing himself

a) O.T. Lev. 19:33-34 “When an alien lives with you in your land, do not mistreat him. The alien living with you must be treated as one of your native-born. Love him as yourself, for you were aliens in Egypt. I am the LORD your God.”

- Exd. 20:2 - “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.”



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b) N.T. Eph. 2:11-12 “Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (that done in the body by the hands of men)— remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.”



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- Eph 2:13-15 “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace,”

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- resulting in... vs.19 “Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household”

c) expressed desire for us

- Romans 15:7 “Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God”

- Matt. 10:42 “And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”



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- 1 John 3:16-17 “This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.”



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2. Command of God for Us

- practice hospitality
- entertain strangers
- offer hospitality without grumbling

a) reflects God to others

- Matthew 25:34-40 “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.’”



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For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing



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clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’”

b) How we act as a family of believers

- John 13:35 “By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”



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- asked of God for leadership
- 1 Tim 3:2 “Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,”
- Titus 1:8 “Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined.”



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- 3 John 5-8 “Dear friend, you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers, even though they are strangers to you. They have told the church about your love. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God. It was for the sake of the Name that they went out, receiving no help from the pagans. We ought therefore to show hospitality to such men so that we may work together for the truth.”



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3. Challenge to Execute

- sacrificial in nature
- intentional by design

a) Barriers

- mindset issues – what I believe
- effort issues – where am I willing
- greed issues – battle my desire
- fear issues – what might happen



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b) Results of Living this way

- other believers supplied and refreshed in life and walk. 2 Cor. 8-9
- Glory of God displayed – Matt. 5:16
- Thanks to God offered – 2 Cor. 9:12
- Love for Others shown – John 13:35
- Lay up treasure in heaven – Luke 12:33



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So What

1. God Was Towards Us
 - remember his love extended this way
 - allow him to give that heart to you
2. God Calls his Disciples to this
 - not an option or special gifting
 - expectation and clear call for all
3. Living Like this stands out
 - evident to strangers
 - mark of how our family operates



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4. Make some choices

- opportunities abound to practice
- make food and prepare to invite
- offer your home and host others
- be intentional with time and effort
- be aware of the barriers
- don't lose sight of the promises for living with this truth

