

# Biblical Hospitality

Hospitality is God-given Gift which enable us to communicate the Good News of God's love for the world.

What comes to mind when you think of hospitality? Write down your thoughts.

## What is hospitality?

The New Testament Greek word for hospitality is "*philoxenos*," which simply means "*to love and be generous to strangers and foreigners.*" Throughout the New Testament Scriptures, we see the idea of hospitality come up quite often. Paul encourages the church in Rome to "*seek to show hospitality.*" Evidently, Paul wants disciples to go out of their way to practice this service.

Hospitality runs deep in the history of God's people, reaching back to the children of Israel, as a means to show what God the Father is like.

*"When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. 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" Leviticus 19:33-34 (ESV).*

- Have your thoughts on hospitality been challenged so far? If so, how?
  
- What struggles do you think you might experience in showing hospitality? Why?

Hospitality is a characteristic of God. In Christ, God is hospitable to us. He takes us into His own household, not because of something we have done for Him, but purely because of His love for us. He not only invites us into His home, but also makes us His daughters and sons, part of His family, and in turn calls us to show that same love to others.



