



# ENGAGE & EQUIP LIVE

June 6, 2022



# HOSPITALITY IS ONE OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN A GODLY AND A GIMMICKY CHURCH.

Three of the values that distinguish a godly church are:

- **Hospitality:** You are welcome even if it cost me. You are a pleasure and treasure, worth so much more than the inconveniences of welcoming love.
- **Community/Solidarity:** We are irrevocably in this together. I'll be here for you and I know you'll be here for me.
- **Sacrifice:** This is the currency of loyalty and the cost of influence. The most inspirational act is one that no one is willing to do, but that the heart knows is noble.



# HOSPITALITY CAN EASILY BECOME GIMMICKY, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S ORGANIZED.

Danny Meyer. Setting the Table, pg. 185  
(From A 2-star review given to one of his restaurants): "Although the dining room is flooded with those smiling server, their dance is less a ballet than a military drill, glaringly mechanized."

What would gimmicky, glaringly  
mechanized hospitality look like  
in the church and in the home?





# THEOLOGY OF HOSPITALITY

Hospitality means 'loving the stranger and foreigner'

The word Paul Uses: Philo Xenos  
Built on the words "Love" and "Foreigner"  
"Hospitality": receiving guests

**Leviticus 19:32 – 34** "Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the LORD.  
"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."



## Importance in Christian Maturity

- 1 Peter 4:9 – Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.
- Romans 12:13 – Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.
- 1 Timothy 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.
- 1 Timothy 5:10 – ...and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the saints, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds.



# THEOLOGY OF HOSPITALITY

Sacredness of the grace of hospitality

**Romans 12:19 - 13:1**

Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Hospitality is:

- the opposite function as vengeance
- an inherent good offered to anyone
- a damnable grace to reject





# THEOLOGY OF HOSPITALITY

Rooted in the Gospel first principle and extreme implication

Ephesians 2 (first principle)

Matthew 5:38-48 (extreme implication)

"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.





## Matthew 5:38-48 (continued)

"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.



# WHERE DOES HOSPITALITY HAPPEN?

Organizations that embody hospitality:

- CareNet
- Shelter from the Storm
- Hope & a Future
- Refugee Ministry

Every ministry is a ministry of hospitality.

Every person has the ministry of hospitality.



# EXCUSES TO NOT EXTEND HOSPITALITY

- “I don’t have enough...”
  - Time
  - Energy
  - Finances

“I’m not extroverted enough. It doesn’t fit my personality.”



# ETHOS OF HOSPITALITY

Recognize these 3 key human dynamics of love:

Hospitality: inclusion of the stranger or foreigner (not one of us, not like us) . Be a host: a good host never leaves someone unconnected.

Solidarity: "I am with you."

Modesty: "I will make space for you by not claiming inordinate space for me."



# ETHOS OF HOSPITALITY



Give your attention: People need your attention, interest and willingness to listen.

Awareness: Be aware of yourself, them, and the environment.





# PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF HOSPITALITY



"How To's": Venues

# THE GOLDEN 9 MINUTES

## SMALL GROUPS

## LARGE CHURCH EVENTS





# “HOW TO’S”: INTRODUCTIONS

Open the conversation in a way that is easy for another person to respond.

Ask 'how long have you been attending" rather than "are you new"

Make it interesting for them

Draw out the things that interest them

What do they mention about themselves?

This is the time everyone is a host.





# HOW TO'S: CONNECTIONS

- Who might this person really like to meet? Who is someone they'd like to know?
- Does this person have an acute need?
- Is this person of a different culture than you? Do you know what offends or ingratiates in their culture?





# HOW TO'S: PRAY

Pray with people right then.

- "Can I pray for you about this right now?"
- Keep it simple.
- This gives you a reason and opportunity to follow up later.





# GOD'S GOOD DISCIPLINE

God's disciplines contradict the flesh and make it an issue.

- Hospitality has a training function, like fasting. It reminds us that the most important things to us are our home, our privacy, our leisure and our stomach.
- Hospitality gives us the opportunity to:
  - Do the opposite to the flesh
  - To kill it to chose to value the thing God loves
  - To have a chance to learn in the experience of obedience and love itself.
- Hospitality is one of the most productive, organic and multi-dynamic spiritual teachers God has made.



# BREAKOUTS!

Youth

Micah A

Small Groups

Micah B

Oaks

Micah C

Band Leaders

Micah D

Safety Team

Library

Nursery Breakout

Nursery