

### How to use Talk it Over:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your family / friends turn what God is saying to you into action steps.

### Pastor Tim's Main Idea:

God's ordained method of reaching the lost is by drawing them to the church so that the church might show them His love.

### Key Questions:

- What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
- According to the Bible, what is hospitality?
- How does God draw people to Himself? What are the steps He uses?
- How well are you allowing God to work through you at church, home, work or school each week?
- What things might distract you from showing hospitality to others?

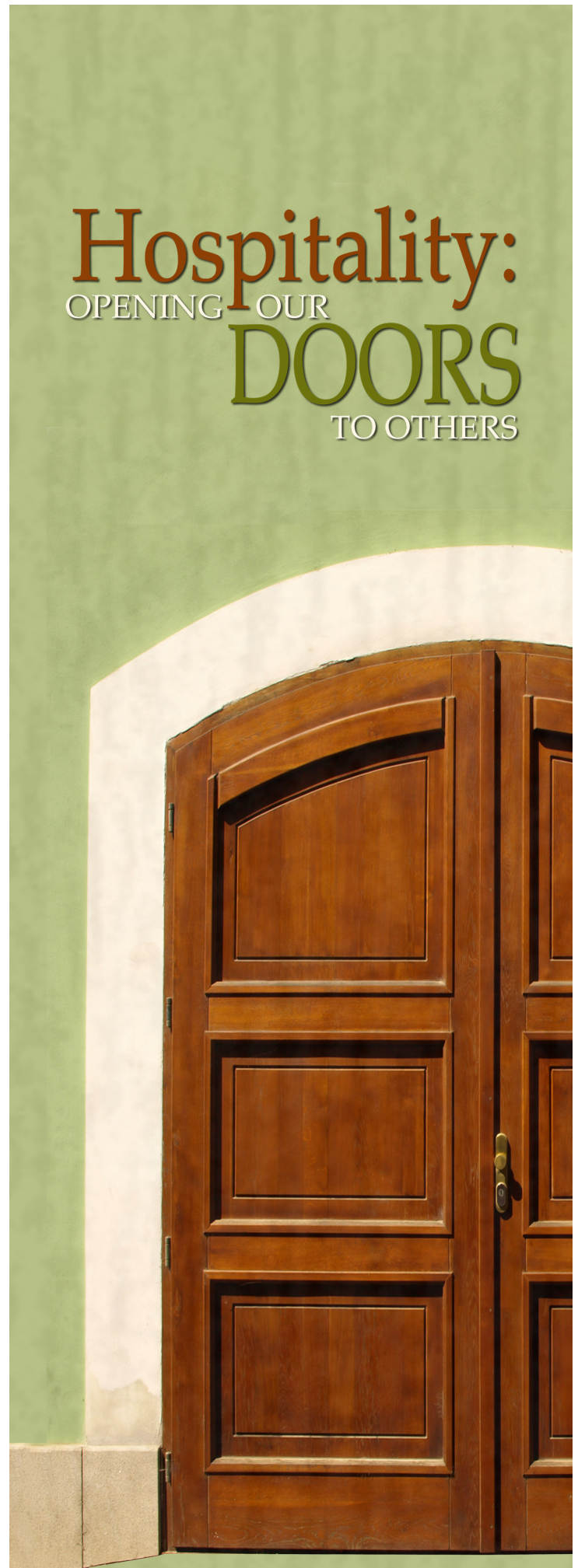
### Next Steps

- Describe a time when God used someone else at church to help you grow more in Him.
- In light of the way God uses to the church to reach others, what might God be calling you to in your life or at church?
- What would make you more effective in showing hospitality to both guests and members at church?

### Daily Bible Readings

Decide today that you are going to practice biblical hospitality by reading and talking over the following Bible passages this week.

- Day 1: Romans 12:13
- Day 2: Acts 9:1-19
- Day 3: Jeremiah 31:3
- Day 4: Colossians 1:26-28
- Day 5: Hebrews 10:24-25
- Day 6: 1 Timothy 3:1-2
- Day 7: Titus 1:7-8



# Part One: Before the Front Door

*“Practice hospitality.” Romans 12:13*

Hospitality - philoxenos

Love (philo) + Stranger (xenos) = Loving the Stranger

## Paul’s Passion for Hospitality - Acts 9

### 1. An Encounter with God

*“The Lord appeared to him from afar, saying, ‘I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness.’” Jeremiah 31:3*

### 2. God Draws to the Church

*“The mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints, to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.” Colossians 1:26-28*

### 3. Church Assists in Growth

*“Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.” Hebrews 10:24-25*

*“The marvelous light that illumined the darkness of Saul was the work of the Lord; but there was also a work that was to be done for him by the disciples. Christ had performed the work of revelation and conviction, and now the penitent was in a condition to learn from those whom God had ordained to teach the truth.” White, E. G. (1911). The Acts of the Apostles, p. 121*

*“Many have an idea that they are responsible to Christ alone for their light and experience, independent of His recognized followers on earth. Jesus is the friend of sinners, and His heart is touched with their woe. He has all power, both in heaven and on earth; but He respects the means that He has ordained for the enlightenment and salvation of men; He directs sinners to the church, which He has made a channel of light to the world.” White, E. G. (1911). The Acts of the Apostles, p. 122*

## Hospitality in the Church

*“It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. An overseer, then must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach” 1 Timothy 3:1-2*

*“For the overseer must be above reproach as God’s steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not found of sordid gain, but hospitable, loving what is good” Titus 1:7-8a*