

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 is drawing people to our church. Once they come, we as a church are called to love them.

Key Questions:

- What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
- What do the biblical examples of angelic visitations teach us about hospitality?
- How does connecting with guests reveal God?
- If Christ were to visit our church, how would we treat Him? How is that different than we treat others?
- What things might distract you from showing hospitality to others?

Next Steps

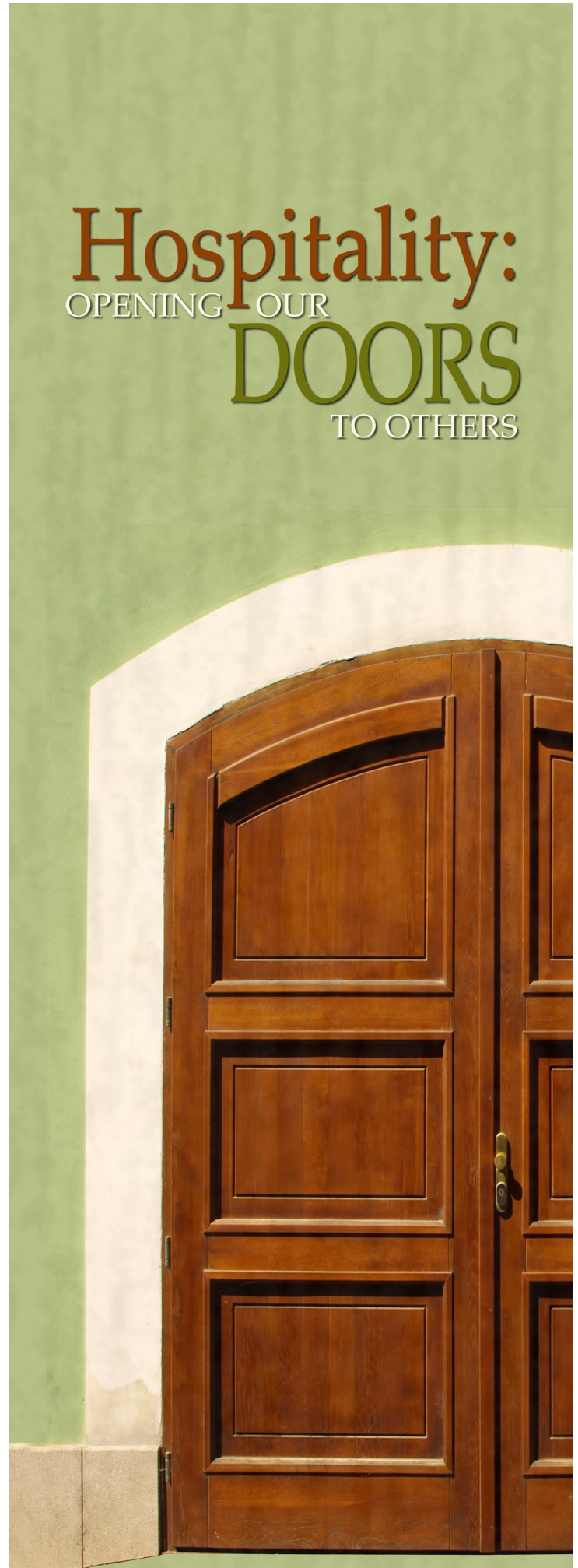
- In light of the way God uses to the church to reach others, what might God be calling you to in your life or at church?
- What would make you more effective in showing hospitality to both guests and members at church?
- The greeter ministry is the first impression given our guests, consider volunteering with this vital ministry.

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, 1 John 4:8
- Day 2: Hebrews 13:1-2
- Day 3: Genesis 18
- Day 4: Genesis 19:1-3
- Day 5: Matthew 5:13-16
- Day 6: 1 Corinthians 13:4-8
- Day 7: Revelation 3:14-22

Hospitality:
OPENING OUR
DOORS
TO OTHERS



Part Two: Opening the Front Door

“Practice hospitality.” Romans 12:13

Hospitality - philoxenos

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

“‘A lover of hospitality’ is among the specifications given by the Holy Spirit as marking one who is to bear responsibility in the church. And to the whole church is given the injunction: “Use hospitality one to another without grudging. As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” 1 Peter 4:9, 10 White, 9T p. 342

Hospitality in the Church

1. Treating Our Guests Well

“Let love of the brethren continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it” Hebrews 13:1-2.

Genesis 18

2. How Many Guests Return?

What Percentage of Guests Become Active Within A Year?

	<u>Non-Growing</u>	<u>Growing</u>
1st time Guests	<u>9%</u>	<u>21%</u>
2nd time Guests	<u>17%</u>	<u>38%</u>
3rd time Guests	<u>36%</u>	<u>57%</u>

3. Why Do Guests Return?

“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

Matthew 5:13-16

“God is love.” 1 John 4:8

The Hospitality Blessing

Revelation 3:20

“God is displeased with the selfish interest so often manifested for ‘me and my family.’ Every family that cherishes this spirit needs to be converted by the pure principles exemplified in the life of Christ. Those who shut themselves up within themselves, who are unwilling to be drawn upon to entertain visitors, lose many blessings.” White, 9T, p. 343