

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:

In order to close the proverbial back door, we need to be connecting as a church outside the worship service.

Key Questions:

- What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
- What does the New Testament example of hospitality teach us about church?
- If the church is the people, where can God's people meet for church?
- How does discipleship happen when we invite someone to our home?
- What might prevent you from showing hospitality by inviting someone to your home?

Next Steps

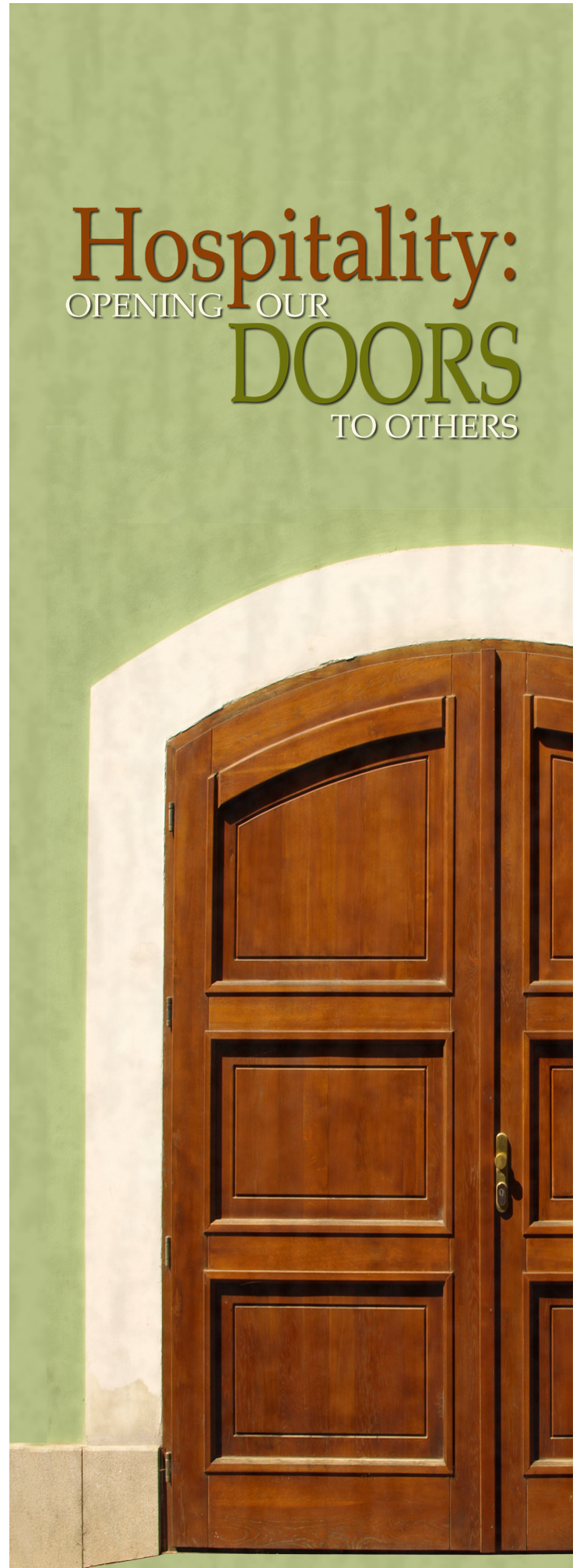
- In light of the way God uses to the church to reach others, what might God be calling you to in your life or at church?
- What would make you more effective in showing hospitality to both guests and members at church?
- The home is a key place for ministry, consider inviting people over for fun, lunch, or small groups.

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 Peter 4:9
- Day 2: Ephesians 2:19-22
- Day 3: 2 Corinthians 6:16; 1 Peter 2:9
- Day 4: Acts 2:41-47
- Day 5: Hebrews 10:19-25
- Day 6: Matthew 9:9-13
- Day 7: Acts 16:29-34

Hospitality:
OPENING OUR
DOORS
TO OTHERS



Part Three: Closing the Back 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 Home

1. The Church is the People

Ephesians 2:19-22

“For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.’” 2 Corinthians 6:16

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.” 1 Peter 2:9

2. Discipleship in the Home

a. Jesus at Matthew’s: Matthew 9:9-13

b. Jesus at Pharisee’s: Luke 7:37-50

c. Jesus at Zachaeus’: Luke 19:1-9

d. Pater at Cornelius’: Acts 10:24-28

e. Paul at Lydia’s: Acts 16:11-15

f. Paul at Philippian Jailer’s: Acts 16:29-34

3. Church in the Home

Acts 2:41-47

Hebrews 10:19-25

“These admonitions have been strangely neglected. Even among those who profess to be Christians, true hospitality is little exercised. Among our own people the opportunity of showing hospitality is not regarded as it should be, as a privilege and blessing. There is altogether too little sociability, too little of a disposition to make room for two or three more at the family board, without embarrassment or parade. Some plead that “it is too much trouble.” It would not be if you would say: We have made no special preparation, but you are welcome to what we have.” By the unexpected guest a welcome is appreciated far more than is the most elaborate preparation.” White, 6T, p. 343