

Reinventing Hospitality



newlife
CHURCH

HOSPITALITY: USING WHAT YOU HAVE

Message by Paul Kiss



God shows up when you offer hospitality to those in need.

■ John 6:1-15

“But what good is that?”

■ John 6:9

- The disciples only saw the huge crowd.
- They only saw the problem.
- They only saw from their perspective.
- They only saw their limitations.

Do you see what I see?

■ John 6:5-6

- Jesus saw the people within the crowd.
- Jesus saw an opportunity.
...To serve people.

...To reveal God. (John 6:26-27)
- Jesus saw their potential.

Using what you have

■ John 6:9-13

- God can do amazing things when you offer what you have.
- What do you see?
- What do you have?
- When will you offer it?

NL@HOME

Here are some things to consider at home this week. Try them on your own or with those who are with you.

KEY SCRIPTURE:

John 6:32-33 - Let these verses sink in. Our hospitality reveals Jesus to the world.

A DAILY PRAYER:

Open my eyes to see what you see. Open my heart so your generosity flows through me. Open my hands that I might let go of my possessions and share them freely with those in need. Open my mind so that I will understand how you operate in this world. Open my will so I will have the courage to risk for loving others. Open my soul so that I will feed on the Bread of Life and be filled.

CONSIDER THIS (FOR CONVERSATION IF HELPFUL):

1. Why could Jesus see the crowd in a different way than his disciples? (Not just because, “he was God.”) Think about his life up to this point.
2. “If Christians in our area would practice reckless, radical hospitality, not only would they be changed, softened, become more loving, but people would turn to Jesus in the hundreds.” How do you respond to this statement?
3. When it comes to the risk of loving people in need, especially when we don’t know them, why do we tend to say, “But what good will that do?” What is holding you back from going out and intentionally extending hospitality to those in need?
4. This whole episode of feeding 5000 is about Jesus revealing himself to the people. He acts, (John 6:1-15) then he explains, (John 6:22-59). God has always worked like this. What lesson is there for us in recognizing this pattern?

Make a list of things you have right now that you could offer in hospitality to others.

Give it a try!

Resist the urge to say, “But what good is that?” Offer these to God and seek for ways to bless people with what you have. Don’t forget to bring these to God first. Include him in this process. Pray. Listen. Go. Love. Bless. Be blessed.



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