

Hospitality

Introduction:

- A. Tell of Sunday Ayandare's hospitality to Albert Dabbs and me and his refusal to accept money.
- B. This sort of hospitality should be a characteristic of every Christian. - 1 Peter 4:8-9
- C. What does the Bible teach about hospitality?

I. What is hospitality?

A. definition:

- 1. *philoxenia* (noun): "love of strangers" (Vine. 2:235)
- 2. *philoxenos* (adjective): "generous to guests" (Thayer. 654)

B. examples

- 1. Old Testament - Hebrews 13:2; Genesis 18:1-8
- 2. New Testament
 - a. Lydia - Acts 16:15
 - b. Philippian jailer - Acts 16:33-34
 - c. Aquila and Priscilla - Acts 18:1-3

II. Why should we be hospitable?

- A. It is our duty. - Romans 12:13
- B. It brings us unforeseen rewards. - Hebrews 13:2; e.g. Rick Lanning's parents keeping preacher
- C. It demonstrates love. - 1 Peter 4:8-9; Hebrews 13:1-2

III. To whom should we show hospitality?

- A. NOT just to our friends, family, and wealthy neighbors - Luke 14:12; e.g., Rocky and Ginger keeping me
- B. BUT to:
 - 1. the poor and needy - Luke 14:13-14
 - 2. visitors to our assembly - Hebrews 13:2
 - 3. fellow Christians - 1 Peter 4:9
 - 4. visiting preachers - 3 John 5-8

IV. How should we show hospitality?

- A. fervently - Romans 12:11,13
- B. cheerfully - 1 Peter 4:9

Conclusion:

- A. The Lord will richly reward our hospitality. - Matthew 10:40-42
- B. But if we fail to be hospitable, He will condemn us. - Matthew 25:31-46
- C. Let us begin today to measure up!