

# HOSPITALITY

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**Matthew 25:35**

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."*

## **DEVOTION:**

The definition of Hospitality is referred to as being kind, friendly, and welcoming to guests, visitors, or strangers. It is the warm care you show people to make them feel safe, happy, and at home!

Hospitality is not fancy decorations or expensive food. Your guests will not remember the menu, or what the centerpieces looked like. They will remember how you treated them.

Hospitality is a VERY important component when it comes to church; especially for first time visitors, and even people who have never stepped foot into a church. That first impression is more important than we sometimes realize.

The Bible explains the importance of hospitality because it reflects God's character and demonstrates His love in practical ways. It is more than being friendly, it is welcoming others, serving them, and creating space where they are valued and cared for.

### ***Questions to ponder:***

- Do you know who is sitting in front of you, next to you, or behind you?
- When is the last time you invited someone new to join you in church?
- Are you friendly to just your friends? Or are you friendly to everyone?
  - If you are someone who serves and/or volunteers, you should ask yourself "why do I serve" and "how do I feel when I serve"
- When it's your turn to serve, is it stressful? Does it feel like a chore?
  - Do you volunteer because you are *needed* or do you volunteer because it fills your cup?