

# HOSPITALITY

## Dictionary Definition

“Hospitable treatment, reception or disposition”

“Generous and cordial reception of guests; promising or suggesting generous and cordial welcome; offering a pleasant or sustaining environment; readily receptive”

## Philoxenia – “love of strangers”

Philos – “loving”

Xenos – “a stranger”

## Biblical Principles

- 1) All Christians should be hospitable and practicing hospitality (Rm 12:13; I Pet 4:7-11)
- 2) We should show hospitality to strangers (Heb 13:1-2)
- 3) We should show hospitality to poor & needy (Is 58:6-10; Lk 14:12-14)
- 4) We should show hospitality to other believers, and it is good to be in each others homes (Acts 2:42, 46-47, 5:42)
- 5) Elders must be hospitable (I Tim 3:2; Titus 1:8)

## Biblical Examples

- Acts 16:14-15
- Acts 18: 1-3
- Acts 21:4-6
- Acts 21:15-17
- Rm 15:23-24
- Rm 16:23
- 2 Tim 1:16-18
- Philem 2
- 3 JN 5-8

## **Practical Suggestions**

- 1) **Never clean before company** – clean on schedule; order things before guests
- 2) **Don't be afraid to do things with a flair (ie, be creative)**
- 3) **Do as much ahead of time as possible**
- 4) **Clean as you go**
- 5) **Use all the help that comes your way** (family, guests, co-hosts)
- 6) **Keep files**