

Fruitfulness Bible Study Week 1: Radical Hospitality!

A Bible Study Series of The Mt. Zion Church

Pastor Ken Patterson, Ph.D.



Book: *Cultivating Fruitfulness*

By

Robert Schnase



We Have the Vision to be a LEARNING Church!
We are Rooted in Christ and Reaching the One!

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

When you consider companies in the service industry, some that may come to mind may be those who give the best service and make you feel welcome. Perhaps you consider those who are the worst in the industry and you hate going even though you may need their services. One of Jesus' biggest ministry pushes was the idea of hospitality. The way we receive people into the ministry "space" can either invite them in or push them away. Jesus is very clear when he states in Matthew 18: 5 that we must accept even the most spiritually immature (child) in a way that makes them feel valued and loved. This lesson will push us as we discover what it means to have RADICAL HOSPITALITY!



Big Question 1: How do you define radical hospitality?

What does it look like?

What does it sound like?

When you receive it, how does it feel?

Where does it happen?

Big Question 2: In what ways do you see the church at large embracing radical hospitality?

Where have we gotten it wrong?

Where can we improve?

What is holding us back?



The Stranger

Read: Deuteronomy 10: 17-19

Notice: The emphasis of the verse is on remembering how we used to be defined. At one point they were _____, so they should treat _____ with _____

Who are the foreigners in your world? (Do not give a church answer here).
Can you list at least 1 group of people you see daily who are foreigners, but could use some Deuteronomy 10: 19 treatment?

Write the name of the group here:

Foreigners I encounter every day



The Hungry

Read: Matthew 25: 35-40

Notice: The emphasis of the verse is on _____ as if they were Jesus.

Who are the spiritually hungry, lost, naked, without covering in your world? (Do not give a church answer here). Think about your friends and acquaintances. Who has shown that they are in need of spiritual necessities (food, clothing, shelter) that only God provides?

Can you list at least 1 person you see daily who are “hungry”?

Hungering person I encounter every day

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Offering our best and whole selves to the task of inviting and welcoming others to Christ.

On a scale of 1-5 how would you grade yourself? Where are you most of the time?

- 1. Not interested in interacting with those needing Christ**
- 2. See the need but ignore it most of the time**
- 3. Occasionally interact with those in need when it is not inconvenient**
- 4. Engage others when they engage me**
- 5. Seeking to engage and invite**



Big Question 3: Why do you sense that you received the grade you gave yourself?

Big Question 4: How does your grading of yourself impact other people's relationship with Christ?

Big Question 5: How does your grading of yourself impact the ministry of your church?

For the Next 7 Days

1. If you do not have the book, get one from the office!
2. ***READ EACH DEVOTIONAL AND JOURNAL ABOUT WHAT YOU LEARNED!**
3. Pray about what you learned!
4. Show up next class!

*Next week we will discuss what you learned and will create a plan to do what you learned.