

Jason Briggs

SESSION 3 | Extending God's Hospitality to the Lost

"Our Hospitality involves extending God's gracious welcome in practical and personal ways because of the lavish grace we have received." — Brian Chesmore

RECAP:

- WK1 God's Hospitality
- WK2 Hospitality as Context for Ministry
- WK3 Extending God's Hospitality to the Lost

I. EVANGELISTIC HOSPITALITY – MODEL OF PAUL

A. Gospel Model of Evangelistic Hospitality:

Hospitality is the Love of the Stranger (Rom 12.13 ; Heb 13.1-2)

Biblical Hospitality is birthed from evangelism AND produces evangelism.

Hospitality Experienced: Stranger pursued by God... Through faith is added to the family of God

Hospitality Expressed: Family (once stranger) extends love of God... Inviting others into fam x God

"Radically ordinary hospitality is this: using your Christian home in a daily way that seeks to make strangers neighbors, and neighbors family of God... The purpose of radically ordinary hospitality is to take the hand of a strange and put it in the hand of the Savior, to bridge hostile worlds, and to add to the family of God." R. Butterfield

*1 Thess. 2:7-8 But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. So, being affectionately desirous of you, **we** were ready to share with you not only **the gospel** of God but also our **own selves**, because you had become very dear to **us**. (ESV)*

Paul's Missionary Model:

- Share your life with the lost
- Share the gospel with the lost
- Do the above together with other believers

B. Gospel Fronts of Evangelistic Hospitality – Home & Abroad

Gospel-steeped hospitality starts at home before it goes abroad.

- *So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome – Rom 1.15*

Q: How is God's hospitality on display in the gospel good news to you?

Q: How is God's hospitality on display in the gospel good news for those around you?

Q: What about the gospel do those around you need to hear right now?

II. EVANGELISTIC HOSPITALITY—THE HOW (share a meal)

A. Jesus' Example

The Son of Man Came...
To give his life
To seek and save
Eating and Drinking



"[meals] don't require any special training or a course in apologetics or a grasp of the latest missiological jargon. When you combine a passion for Jesus with shared meals, you create potent gospel opportunities... Jesus didn't run projects, establish ministries, create programs, or put on events. He ate meals. If you routinely share meals and you have a passion for Jesus, then you'll be doing mission. It's not that meals save people. People are saved through the gospel message. But meals will create natural opportunities to share that message in a context that resonates powerfully with what you're saying." Tim Chester

B. Eating and Drinking and the Gospel Narrative:

- **Creation:** Meals display trust and obedience in
- **Fall:** Eating the fruit revealed distrust and disobedience
- **Redemption:** Meals displayed dependence on God (Sabbath), remembered God's past saving work (i.e. Passover) and anticipated his future saving work which finds its climax in Jesus who gave himself as our Passover Lamb.
- **Restoration:** One day, upon Christ's return, God will host the greatest of wedding feasts for his people

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken." Isaiah 25:6–8

C. Jesus' Meals Preached... What Do Our Meals Preach?

"the meals of Jesus are a window into his message of grace and the way it defines his community and his mission." Tim Chester

Jesus used his meals for ministry... How might we use our meals for ministry?

WHO we eat with matters...
WHO hosts doesn't matter...
WHAT we say and do during those meals matter...

*Our Meals Together
Should Demand a
Gospel Explanation*

"When our Christian homes are open, we make transparent to a watching world what Christ is doing with our bodies, our families, and our world." Rosaria Butterfield

Q: What might God do as you simply opened your home to friends, coworkers, and neighbors? What might happen as they see and smell the fragrance of the gospel in your life, in your home, and around your table?

III. BUT WHAT ABOUT...

But...What...About...

- House
- Budget
- Diet

But...What...About...

- Culture
- Time
- Children

But...What...About...

- Personality
- Risk
- Boundaries

Challenge: With an open bible and a receptive heart, share your BWA's with one trusted person. Pray and think through together what the bible and the gospel has specifically to say about your BWA.

IV. EVANGELISTIC HOSPITALITY – NEXT STEPS

Hospitality looks like something (Gary R.)

- **PRAY:** to God, before meals, and against the enemy.
- **PLAN:** “By Failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.” – Benjamin Franklin. Plan when, with whom, and leave room for margin.
- **EAT:** share meals and take time to **REMEMBER** God’s past work, **REJOICE** in his present work, and exhort each other to **RESPOND** in faith, obedience, and anticipation of his future work.
- **RHYTHMS:** how can you invite others into your already pre-established rhythms...
- **OFFICE:** Redeem offices and shared communal space is at work
- **GO FOR A WALK:** (or lose your dog... as is the Briggs MO)
- **TOURIST:** be a tourist in your hometown... visit a museum, go to a sporting event, water park, lake, ice cream parlor, local zoo, nature center, outdoor concert (ie Shakespeare in the Park), etc...
- **READ:** read biographies seek to spy God's mercy and celebrate his grace in lives of others. Ask yourself, what do their actions reveal about their understanding and faith in the person and work of Christ. (Rosaria Butterfield... Edith Schaeffer)
- **FAMILY WORSHIP:** Dr. Whitney’s book Family Worship: In the Bible, in History & in Your Home (read, pray, sing)
- **REPENTANCE:**

In Conclusion:

“If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to Hell over our dead bodies. And if they perish, let them perish with our arms wrapped about their knees, imploring them to stay. If Hell must be filled, let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go unwarned and unprayed for.” Spurgeon

Let’s let no stranger go to hell, UNWARNED... UNPRAYED FOR... AND UNINVITED...