



The Year of the Bible 2018





Looking to Jesus

Part 49

The Gift of Friendship

“Don’t forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!”

“Do not neglect to extend hospitality to strangers (especially among the family of believers - being friendly, cordial, and gracious, sharing the comforts of your home and doing your part generously), for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.” (Amplified Bible)

Hospitality is . . .

A prerequisite for eldership/proof of spiritual maturity

“So a church leader must be a man whose life is above reproach. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exercise self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation. He must enjoy having guests in his home, and he must be able to teach.” 1 Tim. 3:12

Obedience to God

“When God’s people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.” Rom. 12:13

philonexía - love for strangers

= gospel transmission

✓ **Validation**

✓ **Credibility**

✓ **Love modeled and expressed**

✓ **Message clearly communicated**

The Kingdom of God
advances through gifts
of friendship.

**“We loved you so much that we shared
with you not only God’s Good News
but our own lives, too.”
I Thessalonians 2:8**

**Not the gospel from
a flame thrower,
or at a distance,
but up-close and personal
from a tender heart of love.**

Entertaining angels without realizing it!

**Not a motivation, but a
promise of His blessing**

“O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” Gen. 18:4, 5

Biblical Hospitality

A gift - I Peter 4:7-10

A command - Titus 1:8

A proof of spiritual maturity - I Tim. 3:12

An opportunity for the gospel to advance!

Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins. Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay. I Peter 4:8, 9