

**WELCOME:**

Take a few minutes as people come in to hear how their break week went.

- Did they travel or stay home or was it just a regular week?
- If they have children, how did they navigate their time out of school?

**VIDEO:**

Take a few minutes to review the video and Life Group Guide before your group meets. It will help you to feel prepared for your time with your group. It can also help you prepare for the things you would like to share.

**SCRIPTURE:**

Have everyone read the two passages for this week. Hebrews 13:1-2.

- After reading the passages, provide a couple of minutes for people to think about the passage.
- Encourage them focus their thoughts on what questions come to their minds when they read this?
- What feelings do they have when they read these passages? What do they think this passage is trying to explain to us?

**Hebrews 13:** Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. <sup>2</sup> Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

**QUESTION:**

What was your best experience at a restaurant? What made it so good?

What was your worst experience at a restaurant? Why was it so bad?

**QUESTION:**

Do you find it easy or difficult to talk to people you don't know very well?

Why do you think it is hard for some people to talk to strangers?

If you comfortable talking with people you don't know, what

**QUESTION:**

Have you ever completed an assignment and then wanted to quit?

- Why did you want to quit? What made the experience so difficult or unsatisfying?
- If you quit, how did you feel about it afterward? Regret or relief?

**OBSERVATION:**

Hebrews 13 indicates that hospitality is to be shown to strangers. It is good to hang out with our friends, but Scripture also calls us to love strangers. In the Old Testament the command to love your neighbor only appears once. The command to love the stranger appears more than 30 times.

**QUESTION:**

Why do you think God wanted His followers to show such respect and kindness to strangers?

Do you think this concept still exists in the New Testament?

What are some ways we can show love for strangers through hospitality?

**SCRIPTURE:**

**1 PETER 4:** <sup>9</sup> Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.

**OBSERVATION:**

1 Peter 4 indicates that our attitude is important when being hospitable. We are to exercise hospitality without grumbling or complaining.

**OBSERVATION:**

Hebrews 13 suggests there are significant spiritual implications. Abraham and Sarah were hospitable. They did not know the men they were welcoming into their home were angels in disguise.

**QUESTION:**

Do you think one of the reasons God chose Abraham was because he was hospitable? Why?

**QUESTION:**

What would be some reasons that would make you uncomfortable exercising hospitality?

**OBSERVATION:**

Sometimes we have to be intentional. If you want to be hospitable, you might need some specific steps to help you along. You could...

- Collect and file inexpensive recipes for desserts and meals.
- Make a list of people who you could show hospitality to.
- Set a date to invite some people to your home or apartment.

**QUESTION:**

How do you think God could use your hospitality in others' lives?

**OBSERVATION:**

It seems that when people eat together, they begin to share life together. Why do you think this happens?

**OBSERVATION:**

Hospitality is a great way to minister to people who are not yet followers of Jesus. They may not be ready to accept an invitation to your church home, but they might be open for dinner or dessert at your home. You don't have to act religious.

**OBSERVATION:**

We all recognize that reading our Bible and remembering to pray are important spiritual disciplines. The Bible indicates that practicing hospitality is also a spiritual discipline.

**QUESTION:**

Hebrews 13 encourages us to not to forget to show hospitality to strangers. Why do you think we tend to forget this important command?

**QUESTION:**

What are some ways we can show hospitality when we gather for worship on Sundays?

The bottom line is that God can use people like you and me to touch lives. It doesn't matter if we rent or own a house or an apartment; our homes are an extension of ourselves. When we practice hospitality, we have the opportunity to touch lives in an intimate, personal way. **Be bold:** God has not only given you the roof over your head, but also will give you the love and wisdom needed to open your home to others.

**PRAYER:**

- Offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the hospitality God has shown to each of us.
- Maybe some individuals in your group would like prayer to overcome fear or awkwardness to risk showing hospitality.