

# Christian Hospitality



**Text: Hebrews 13:1-2, Matthew 10:40-42**

## I. Introduction

- What is our hospitality quotient as a church and as individuals?
- Are we truly hospitable?
- Are we truly friendly?
- Are we truly Christ-like?
- *Whoever gives a cup of cold water...will not lose his reward*

## II. Jesus Was Teaching That We Should Be Hospitable To Strangers

- Hospitality was a virtue in Biblical times
- The stranger was to be treated like a brother or sister
- The visitor always had the place of honor
- A cup of cold water in Jesus' time was a sign of extreme hospitality
- We need to be sure we're friendly to everyone, even strangers

## III. Showing Kindness To Strangers Is What The Gospel Is All About

- This is not a country club for saints, but a hospital for sinners
- This is not a sacred shine, but a lighthouse for the lost
- If we are truly Jesus' disciples, then this is to be a place of refuge for those who need to know they are accepted...and forgiven...and loved unconditionally
- **Hebrews 13:1-2** reminds us to be hospitable to strangers
- Jesus taught us this
- Jesus taught us we are here to serve, not to be served, especially to those hurting, to those lost without hope
- That is what the Gospel is all about

## IV. We Were Once Strangers Ourselves

- Jesus came to this world on behalf of strangers
- Jesus did not come for the found, He came for the lost
- When you reach out to strangers with the love of Jesus Christ, you're only doing what He's already done for you
- **Romans 5:8**

- God's gift to us is the sort of people Jesus reached out to – the little ones, the neediest ones, the poorest ones, those with the least resources

## **V. Conclusion**

- If anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because He is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward!
- While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us
- Kindness to strangers and generosity to the down and out – these should be characteristics of us
- The reward is life everlasting in Heaven
- Do you want to share in that reward?