

Women & More
A 'call' and 'walk' Experience

Take Hospitality on the Road

May 8, 2014

We cannot say it is not our gift, we're all encouraged and challenged to show hospitality—to be welcoming, inviting and pleasantly passing time with someone. The mission field—we are there! Someone has said: We make a living by what we earn, but we make a life by what we give.

“Not what we give, but what we share,
For the gift without the giver is bare.
Who gives herself with her alms feed these:
Herself, her hungering neighbor and Me.”

Anon.

“The Bible tells us to love our neighbors
and also to love our enemies,
probably because they are generally the same people.”

G. K. Chesterton

Prepare by Soaking in Scripture:

Acts 28:7

Romans 16:23

Romans 12:13

Hebrews 13:1-2

1 Peter 4:8-9

Scripture to Memorize:

Matthew 10:12 “As you enter the home, give it your greeting.”

NOTES on Speaking Session:

Questions for Mentor-group Discussion:

1. Remembering that the root word for hospitality is HOSPITAL—we care that you are well—how would you describe yourself in terms of hospitality ‘on the road’—visiting with folks, lending an ear—and, when appropriate giving encouragement and godly counsel?

2. In this lesson, our focus is on showing hospitality ‘out there’ along the highways and byways of life. It may include inviting ourselves to someone else’s home as Jesus did in **Luke 19:5** “*When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, come down immediately, **I must stay at your house today.**’*” Identify a time when either of these situations—visiting on the road or ‘visitation’—has happened to you lately.

READ: *The Parable of the Sower* in Luke 8:5-15

Recommended Reading:

A Christian Woman’s Guide to Hospitality, Quin Sherrer and Laura Watson

The Joy of Hospitality, Vonnette Bright and Barbara Ball

The Personal Touch: Encouraging Others through Hospitality, Rachael Crabb

Twinkies and Root Beer

“A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with *Twinkies* and a six-pack of *Root Beer* and he started his journey.

“When he had gone about three blocks, he met an elderly man. The man was sitting on a park-bench feeding some pigeons. The boy sat down next to him and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his *Root Beer* when he noticed that the man looked hungry, so he offered him a *Twinkie*.

“The man gratefully accepted it and smiled at the boy. His smile was so pleasant that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered him a *Root Beer*. Again, the man smiled at him. The boy was delighted. They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word.

“As it grew dark, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave, but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the man, and gave him a hug. The man gave him his biggest smile ever!

“When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look on his face. She asked him, ‘What did you do today that made you so happy?’ He replied, ‘I had lunch with God!’ But before his mother could respond he added: ‘You know what? God’s got the most beautiful smile I’ve ever seen!’

“Meanwhile the elderly man, also radiant with joy, returned to his home. His son was stunned by the look of peace on his face and he asked, ‘Dad, what did you do today that made you so happy?’ He replied, ‘I ate *Twinkies* in the park with God.’ However, before his son responded he added: ‘You know, he’s much younger than I expected.’



*“Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile,
a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment,
or the smallest act of caring,
all of which have the potential to turn a life around.
People come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime.”*

Unknown

CLOVIS D. BUZZARD and Jeanene

Jeanene: Good morning, Clovis, and welcome to *Women & More!*

Clovis: Well, I see the women, but where are the “more”?

Je: Clovis, “more” is related to God’s call to us to be women and then to be more...

Cl: You are a woman and I’m certainly related to you. I get it: I’m the “more” right?

Je: Well that’s not really the logic behind it, but you are our guest speaker today on the subject of taking hospitality on the road, and...

Cl: Oh yeah, I’ve been to your house...and I could tell them about that road experience!

Je: No, you are here to share with us your special style of hospitality on the road—your get-togethers—as it were.

Cl: And you know what? I’ve got it together and brought it in this basket.

Je: Really?

Cl: Yes, really...I just pull out this hospitality basket and go out and call a few fowl together.

Je: Do you use a cell phone, Clov?

Cl: No, I just holler from my limb of the tree.

Je: It doesn’t look like you have enough eatable food here...

Cl: Are you forgetting that I am a bird of “prey”? These items help me advise others better and let them be a part of practicing hospitality.

Je: Oh.

Cl: I send them all out with some *Roadkill Helper*, a little *Pet Milk*, and some of these here black beans (any brand will do)...to prey.

Je: Send them out...where?

Cl: Out into the highways and byways to forage and kill and dress up their meal...and eat.

Je: Clovis, that does not sound like being hospitable; that sounds rather disgusting.

Cl: Yeah, isn’t it wonderful? It’s biblical you know...

Je: Oh yeah...right!

Cl: No really, in **Acts 10:13** the Bible says: “*Arise...kill and eat.*”

Je: Clovis that was the voice of God speaking to Peter in a dream...about not discriminating.

Cl: Well do I, Clovis Buzzard, discriminate? *Non-discriminatory* is my middle name!

Je: Well, Clovis, I see all kinds of problems with you using that Scripture verse to validate your hospitality technique...and besides that, your way of showing hospitality seems a little unfocused and certainly much too laid-back.

Cl: No that happens after the “kill and eat” thing. We just lay back and grab a good book like *Catering to Nobody*, or that *Book of Totally Useless Information*.

Je: I don’t know, Clov, this effort of yours at hospitality is a rare one I must admit—*roadkill*?

Cl: I even have a cookbook here for fixing roadkill on the road without becoming roadkill yourself...you can make it into a real game, you know—staying alive?

Je: Well, Clovis, we do think so very differently. Thank you for coming and sharing, I think.

Cl: There’s much “more” to share, you know?

Je: I’m sure there is, but this is quite enough for us to absorb in one sitting...Thanks anyway.