

Small Group Material - Essential Hospitality 2

Healing hospitality - Romans 12:9-18, John 21:1-19

To recognise how offering hospitality ministers God's healing

Welcome (10 mins)

What is your favourite food/place for a 'cook-out'?

Worship (15 mins)

Spend a quiet moment thinking of the many different ways in which Jesus offers us 'hospitality'. You could use 'post-it' notes to write them down.

Share them with each other.

Turn to the Lord in worship as you sing: Everyone needs

compassion <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KXaKlr6JtAE>

Thank God for the many ways he has given you compassion and hospitality.

Word (40 mins)

Read Romans 12.9-18

All these quick-fire injunctions of Paul could be summed up with the word 'love'. Go through the list making sentences which start 'Love is...' or 'Love...'

Of the commands listed in these verses, which two are easiest for you to keep? Which two are most difficult?

How is v13 an expression of love? When do you find it is not?

What helps you 'practice hospitality' *with love* rather than from a sense of duty?

Read John 21.1-19

How do you think the disciples were feeling? Why did they go fishing?

Why do you think they had difficulty recognising Jesus?

How would you have felt if you had been fishing with them all night?

What does Jesus' preparation of breakfast demonstrate to them?

As well as preparing food, how else did Jesus minister to them?

What impression will have stayed with the disciples through Jesus' action?

How can the hospitality we give also be 'healing'?

When have you received hospitality which seemed particularly healing?

Is there anyone who the Lord is laying on your heart to whom you can give some hospitality?

Witness (10 mins)

Have you made a decision about when your group could offer hospitality before the 10.45 service at St Mary's? Please contact Toby ASAP.

Offering hospitality as a group! The summer is a brilliant time to do things together and invite friends, neighbours or family to join you. BBQs are easy things to invite people to, or a picnic, or a walk or an outing. Discuss what would suit your friends best.

Then, get a date in your diary for this 'social'.