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| **SERIES** | D101: The 9 Week Challenge |
| **BIBLE** | Romans 12:13; Hebrews 13:1 (2 Samuel 9; 1 Thessalonians 2:8-9; Acts 16:11-15; Gospel of Luke) |
| **TITLE** | Protect this House? |
| **OVERVIEW** | God gives food from his own Garden to Adam and Eve. Jesus washes his disciples’ feet at the table before a meal. And Jesus’ death secures the greatest gift: a place in the Father’s house (his kingdom). We should do hospitality for both strangers and our church family because God has shown so much hospitality to us. He has invited us strangers into his house. |
| **SCRIPTURE BREAKDOWN** | **Intro**: My grandfather welcomed a stranger into their house off the side of the road to use their bathroom. It freaked my grandmother out because they were not accustomed to “hospitality.”  **Problem**: Hospitality is something we are not familiar with in our modern world.  **Illustration**: We live in a “PROTECT THIS HOUSE” culture (Under Armor slogan)  **Definition**: The friendly welcome and treatment of guests or strangers. (Usually with gifts or food)  **Hospitality is Basic to the Christian Life**   * ROMANS 12 and HEBREWS 13 (Genesis 18 is what “entertaining angels” refers to in Hebrews 13 – Abraham’s hospitality to the “Angel of the Lord” that appeared as three men) * The word “hospitality” only shows up twice in the New Testament. Romans 12 has a positive command 🡪 “pursue/seek” to show hospitality. Hebrews 13 has a negative 🡪 “do not neglect” hospitality. Both make hospitality a command that is basic to new life in Christ. * Romans 12 places this command next to another command about serving the needs of the **saints**. Hebrews 13 makes it clear we should be hospitable to “**strangers**.” So our hospitality is an open gift to both the church family and also strangers. * Also in Matthew 25, the cup of cold water to the least of these: the “least of these” Jesus calls “my brothers.” Neglecting those “brothers” means neglecting Jesus!   **Hospitality is Modeled by God**   * Genesis 1 🡪 one of the first things God does after creating Adam and Eve is he gives them food from his own garden (Genesis 1:29). * 2 Samuel 9 🡪 David’s hospitality. David’s agenda: “showing kindness” (9:1) to someone from Saul’s household, even though it was not required. * John 13-16 🡪 Jesus’ treatment of his disciples in the Upper Room in John 13-16 as THE model of hospitality. |
| **GOSPEL** | **John 14:1-3** 🡪 Jesus left his home and sacrificed what was his in order to bring us home to the Father. The result of his death: our future in God’s house secure. *He prepares a place for us in his own house.* |
| **NEXT**STEPS | **Have a meal with other people** **for spiritual connection**. Host or be part of a meal that someone else is hosting. Examples: invite a family over from church for lunch on Sunday; invite an unbeliever over for dinner; go out to coffee with someone you don’t know well (stranger) and pay for theirs. Maybe other opportunities to welcome the “stranger” with the current Refugee Crisis.  Also a great Sunday to plug **Life Groups** using our Life Group verse – **1 Thessalonians 2:8** |