

## **4 Practical Points to Help Us Show Christian Hospitality**

**1. Pay attention.** We all interact with people at work, at church, at school and in our communities. But how many of these people are outcasts that go unnoticed? Take some time out of your day to stop, look around and show kindness to others. Your uplifting words or kind action may change someone's life forever.

**2. Welcome everyone you meet.** I mean this figuratively and literally. Extend a kind word to everyone you meet, but also, share your time, energy and life with them—especially those who may need you more than you need them. Jesus welcomed strangers and outcasts. He was able to do this because He paid attention to not just what was happening around Him but who was around Him. He noticed those that others didn't, or worse pretended not to.

Jesus' example in Luke 19:1-10.

**3. Engage people.** *Engage: occupy, attract, or involve (someone's interest or attention) or participate or become involved in.* Engage others with the mindset of being Jesus to them. It's great to invite people to a church function and we should do that, but we should be committed to more than that. We should engage people as people. Talking to and meeting them where they are at in life. Bringing them to Jesus by our example of Christ likeness.

Romans 12:13-20 describes what behaving like a Christian looks like. In short it looks like engaging people where they are at, especially when in need.

**4. Make meals a priority.** Use mealtimes to build relationships and talk about things that really matter. Many of Jesus' most striking moments occurred around meals. Invite a person to a meal and serve him or her. It doesn't have to be fancy or expensive. A sandwich at lunchtime or a plate of pasta would do. If you invite someone out it is nice if you can pay for the meal. Again, it doesn't need to be fancy or expensive. It will likely be sacrificial but isn't that the point? In some way we want to express that they are of value to us.