



Courageous hospitality

Speaker: Sim Dendy
Date: Sunday 25th June 2017
Reading: John 14:12-23

“Don’t build a bigger barn, build a bigger table.”

Have you ever been invited to an event but not included?

God Includes

Jesus was constantly inviting and making room for people to get closer to Him – often the people who others overlooked. Can you list some of the unexpected people Jesus invited closer?

In Luke 14, the guests who gave excuses why they couldn't come to the banquet were not enticed or persuaded, instead the Master said to invite the poor and needy. Is this courageous hospitality? Who do we invite and why?

Hospitality (*‘philoxenia’: philo = love, xenia = strangers*)

Biblical hospitality is not about showing love to those we already know well (those already around our table) – but showing love to those who are strangers.

And when we do it...

Releases God’s Blessing (Jn 13:17)

Deepens Friendship

Knits People Together

Shows People Jesus

Is this your experience?

What can you personally and as a small group, do to better include people (strangers)?

Some guidelines:

Count yourself in [it is not someone else’s job]

Think simple

Book it [be intentional]

Don’t book it [be spontaneous]

Practise

Invite God in

“Don’t build a bigger barn, build a bigger table.”

