# Christian Hospitality/Encouragement

**Steve Brumfield** · Romans 12:13

## INTRODUCTION

- It was very important to them that they got the young people together, because they wanted to keep them out of the world.
- They had encouragement and hospitality and encouragement, and they got together a lot.

## 1 The Bible Teaches Us to Be Hospitable

**Romans 12:13; 1 Peter 4:9**

- The Bible clearly teaches that we are supposed to be hospitable, that we are supposed to be encouragers.
- In Romans 12 chapter, verse 13, the writer says, there we are to be given to hospitality.
- We should be motivated and having somebody in our home and to be hospitable because God wants us to.

## 2 Hospitality Is a Qualification of Elders

**1 Timothy 3:2**

- It's one of the qualifications of elders. We see it clearly in Titus, the first chapter of verse 8, and also in 1 Timothy chapter 3 and verse 2, that they are supposed to be hospitable.
- You've got to get to know your Christians. And that's why elders are supposed to be hospitable.
- A shepherd cannot tend the flocks that he should without being acquainted with the needs of the sheep.
- So the question is, how are we going to help the weak if we do not know them?

## 3 The Duty of Every Christian

**Romans 12:13**

- Not only is it the duty of elders, those who serve, but it's the duty of every Christian, according to Romans 12, 13.
- It says, distribute to the needs of the saints. If we don't recognize that, how are we going to distribute a need to that saint?
- We should have them in our home a little bit quicker before they get to that point.
- We've got to catch them before they go. And how are we going to do that if we're not being hospitable? If we're not being an encourager to them.

## 4 It Helps Convert the Lost

- Number one, it helps convert the lost. I was lost when I went to the preacher's house to play cards.

- I was lost at the time, and they still invited me in their home.
- I learned the other side of being a person that has good moral standards from people that have good moral standards.

## 5 It Helps Prevent Apostasy

**1 Corinthians 15:33**

- It helps prevent apostasy. We've got to remember evil companionship, corrupt good morals.
- We know that if we're around too many worldly people, we can get caught up in their life.
- If you're hanging around with worldly people, what's it doing to you? Is it affecting you?
- Who are you with? The worldly people or other Christians?
- I would rather be around other Christians because we're trying to do the same mission.

## 6 It Helps Prevent Dissension

**Galatians 5:19–21**

- It helps prevent dissension. Getting acquainted is closely connected with getting along.
- When we do not know one another, it's easy to jump to erroneous conclusions.
- A Christian cannot decide that he's not like someone and just ignore him.
- Eight of those 15 things mentioned of the works of the flesh have to do with attitudes toward one another.
- You're brethren. You can easily shake hands and move on. Because we're in it for the same thing, and that's serving God.

THE CHALLENGE

It's very important, brethren, that we get together and we stick together with this.

MY NOTES