



# HOSPITALITY

**Desire:** *To be a safe person who offers others the grace, shelter and presence of Jesus.*

**Definition:** *Hospitality creates a safe, open space where a friend or stranger can enter and experience the welcoming spirit of Christ through you.*

**Scripture:** *"Stay on good terms with each other, held together by love. Be ready with a meal or a bed when it's needed. Why, some have extended hospitality to angels without ever knowing it!." (Hebrews 13:1-2 MSG)*

## **God-given fruit:**

- *living the truth that all you have belongs to God*
- *providing safe places for people in an unsafe world*
- *opening your home to others*

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. *When have you been so deeply received that the welcome touched your soul? When have you been wounded because you were not welcomed and received? How has the welcome of Jesus touched your life and your wounds?*
2. *Who models hospitality and welcome for you? How might Jesus want to use your heart and home as a shelter for others?*

## **Spiritual Exercises:**

1. *Develop the practice of praying for the people you invite to your home. Pray for them as you invite them. Pray for them the day they come. Pray for them as they leave your driveway. How has sharing your home with them given you deeper ways to hold them before the Lord? Send a note with your prayer to your guests.*
2. *Hospitality is not something we do all by ourselves. It invites others in. When you offer hospitality, let your guests help. If you have trouble letting people help you, make this a matter of prayer. What in you needs to be touched to make you receptive and open?*
3. *Develop a list of standard conversational questions (other than "what do you do?") that can open people up to one another. How do the questions you ask bring welcome rather than comparison?*