

HOSPITALITY PRACTICE

In the Kingdom of God, hospitality is part of our way of life all year long. And, as residents of this world, we recognize that there are certain times and spaces where hospitality becomes particularly relevant, like the Holiday season! This might look like getting a meal with a friend and directing the conversation to their favorite topics rather than your own; inviting strangers or acquaintances to celebrate with you; or receiving hospitality with joy, humility, and gratitude. If you've been doing this a while, it might mean picking a family member with whom we have a strained relationship and seeking to make them comfortable at your celebrations even if doing so doesn't match your personal preferences. As we enter the holiday season, let's take time to consider how we might live out our identities of Servants, Family, and Missionaries by practicing hospitality over the holidays. Whether it's specifically tied to a holiday or not, we invite you to choose 1 specific way that you will share a meal with someone you normally wouldn't this month.

Reflect:

Do you struggle at times to receive hospitality from God? If so, what might help you to experience that He welcomes *all* of you, just as you are, today?

What do you think of when you think of hospitality over the holidays?

Imagine approaching your holiday celebrations through the lens of biblical hospitality. How does this change how you think about how you host or attend?

Who might God be inviting you to open your life or your table to this month? What are practical action steps for the next few weeks? Try to be specific – consider who, where, and when.