

November Food & Faith Devotional

This is week two of our *Food & Faith* devotional. November is a month when many of us are spending more time buying food, preparing meals, and cleaning our homes for guests. While this type of preparation is important, it is not what brings us closer to Christ. Our hope is that while you and your family are preparing for upcoming meals, and time together, that you also spend time in Christ's presence. Use and adapt this guide to discuss *Food & Faith* with your kids, family, friends, or even colleagues.

Week 2: Hospitality

Read Scriptures: 1 Kings 17:8-16, 2 Kings 4:42-44, and Matthew 14:13-21

Reflection: Share an experience of hospitality, either giving or receiving it.

The word hospitality comes from the Greek word, *hospes*, which means a host or a guest. The *Oxford English Dictionary* defines hospitality as "the friendly and generous treatment of guest or strangers." Hospitality is a natural expression of our Christian faith. We are to reach beyond our comfort zone and serve all of God's family a helping of God's love in the form of food and fellowship. In the early church, each meal was an act of communion with God and with each other. Early Christians did not just reach out to members of their own faith. They reached out to all in need. God demands radical hospitality.

Discuss one or more of the following questions:

- How would you define radical hospitality?
- What places do you see hospitality being shared?
- What are barriers to extending or receiving hospitality?

Weekly Activity: Using paper plates or a piece of paper (as a placemat), have each person write their name in the middle. Then write the names of five people with whom they would like to have dinner with. Discuss the names together while sharing a meal.

Adapted from

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