

Hospitality/Service

Day 1



Listen to
Scripture Song:



Today's Promise (#176) — KJV

Proverbs 3:27–28; 11:25 "Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee... The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself."

♥ Apply the Promise!

When we generously use what we have to help others right now instead of making them wait, He will refresh our own hearts with joy and blessing!

Bible Story (Acts 16)

Paul traveled to the city of Philippi to share the good news about Jesus. On the Sabbath day, he went down to a quiet place by the river where a group of women had gathered to pray.

One of the women listening was named Lydia. She was a businesswoman who sold purple cloth, which was very valuable in those days. As Paul spoke, the Lord opened Lydia's heart, and she believed the truth about Jesus.

Lydia and her household were baptized. But Lydia did not keep her new faith hidden inside. Right away, she looked for a way to serve.

She saw that Paul and his missionary friends needed a safe place to stay. Lydia had a home, and it was in the power of her hand to help them. She did not wait for someone else to meet the need when God had already given her a way to help.

She did not say, "Go, and come again tomorrow." She urged them, saying, "If you believe I am faithful to the Lord, come stay at my house." She opened her door with a willing heart.

Later, after Paul and Silas were beaten and put in prison, they were finally released. When they came out, they went back to Lydia's house, where the believers were gathered.

Lydia's home became a place of comfort, prayer, and encouragement. Her story shows that hospitality means noticing a need and helping while we have the chance. When God gives us a home, food, time, money, or strength, we can use what is in our hand to bless others.

True Story

In 2019, a mother named Lori had carefully saved up seven hundred dollars. It was a lot of money! But one morning, she woke up and felt God was gently asking her to give all of her saved money away to help other people.

Lori didn't wait around or make excuses. She drove straight to Walmart and used their service to digitally send the cash to several different individuals who really needed it. Her pockets were completely empty, but her heart felt full of joy because she had obeyed God.

Almost the very second she finished sending the money, a stranger walked right up to her in the store. The lady handed Lori a Walmart gift card worth over a hundred dollars! Lori gave the lady a huge hug and asked why she was giving her such a wonderful gift. The lady smiled and simply said, "I just felt impressed to do it!"

While Lori was driving home, her phone suddenly dinged with a message that someone had just sent her money. When she finally pulled into her driveway and opened her mailbox, there was a surprise check waiting inside!

When Lori went inside and added up the Walmart gift card, the money on her phone, and the check, she was absolutely amazed. It added up to just over seven hundred dollars! God used three different people to immediately give back every single penny she had given away. Lori learned firsthand that when you open your hand to help others, God will always make sure you are perfectly cared for. When God asks us to share what we have, we can trust Him to see our needs and care for us in the way He knows is best.

Discussion Questions:

- When Lydia saw that Paul and his friends needed a place to stay, what did she immediately beg them to do?
- What amazing surprise happened right after Lori quickly obeyed God and gave all her saved money away?
- Proverbs says we should not tell someone to come back tomorrow if we can help them today. Who is someone you can generously help today?

Activity:

Have each child trace and cut out an outline of their hand on paper. On each finger, have them write or draw something God has given them to bless others, like time, food, toys, or a smile. Remind them that the Bible verse says to help when it is in the power of their hand to do it! Then ask, "What is one thing in your hand you can use to help someone this week?"

Hospitality/Service

Day 2



🎵 Listen to
Scripture Song:



Today's Promise (#177) — KJV

Proverbs 19:17 "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again."

Deuteronomy 15:11 "...Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land."

Luke 3:11 "... He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise."

💖 Apply the Promise!

God promises that when we happily share our food, clothes, and money with those who have nothing, we are actually lending to the Lord, and He will always bless us for it!

📖 Bible Story (Acts 2 & 4)

The city of Jerusalem was filled with visitors who had traveled from many places for a special feast. While they were there, Peter preached the good news about Jesus, and thousands of people believed.

Suddenly, these new believers were part of God's family. But many of them were far from home. Some did not have enough food, money, or a safe place to stay while they learned more about Jesus.

The believers in Jerusalem saw the need right in front of them. They did not say, "Come back tomorrow," or "Someone else should help." They looked at what God had given them and opened their hands.

Some sold land, houses, or other valuable things. They brought the money to the apostles, and it was shared with those who had need. No one was left to struggle alone while others had plenty.

Their giving was not forced. They shared because the love of Jesus had changed their hearts. The more they received from God, the more willing they became to care for one another. They understood that their homes, food, money, and belongings were gifts from God that could be used to bless others.

The early church gives us a beautiful picture of practical love. When we see someone in need and have the power to help, God does not want us to hold back with a closed hand. He wants us to give freely, share gladly, and care for others as members of His family.

☀️ True Story

In 2018, a young boy in Alabama named Austin Perine was watching a nature show about mother animals protecting their babies. He asked his dad if humans ever lost their homes like the animals did. His dad sadly explained that yes, some humans are homeless, and they do not have a bed to sleep in or food to eat.

Austin had a very broken heart. He knew what it felt like to have a warm house and a full tummy, and he could not imagine being hungry on the street. He asked his dad if he could use his own allowance money to buy food for the people who had nothing.

Austin's dad took him to a restaurant to buy hot chicken sandwiches. Then, they walked down the city sidewalks. Every time Austin saw a homeless person, he ran up to them, smiled, and handed them a warm meal. As he handed over the food, he shouted his favorite catchphrase: "Don't forget to show love!" His small hands could not solve every problem, but they could place food into one hungry person's hands at a time.

The people were amazed. Many cried tears of joy because a young boy treated them with such dignity and kindness. Austin became famous in his city, and people started calling him "President Austin."

Austin's story shows that generosity is not only for grown-ups or people with lots of money. He used what was in his hand—his allowance, his time, and his willing heart. When God shows us someone who needs help, we can choose to share what we have instead of waiting for someone else to do it.

💬 Discussion Questions:

- What amazing thing did the early church do so that no one in their new family would go hungry?
- What did four-year-old Austin learn while watching a nature show with his dad?
- Luke 3:11 says if we have two coats, we should give to someone who has none. What is something you have that you could share with someone in need?

🎨 Activity:

Set a table with several snacks, but give your child only one plate. Tell them they have to "feed" their stuffed animals, siblings, or you. As they share their snacks from their plate, explain that the early church did the exact same thing! When we give away what we have, we show others that God is our provider and that we trust Him to keep us full, too.

Hospitality/Service Day 3



🎵 Listen to
Scripture Song:



Today's Promise (#178) — KJV

Matthew 25:34–36, 40 "...Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me... Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

💖 Apply the Promise!

When you invite a lonely person to sit with you, or share your food with a stranger, Jesus says it is exactly the same as doing it for Him! True hospitality is loving Jesus by loving others.

📖 Bible Story (Acts 18)

Priscilla and her husband Aquila were busy tentmakers who had to move away from their home to a new city called Corinth. Moving is very hard, but Priscilla and Aquila loved God, and they loved hospitality! They believed their house did not just belong to them; it belonged to God.

One day, a tired traveling preacher named Paul came to their city. He did not have anywhere to sleep, and he needed to make money to buy food. Priscilla and Aquila did not ignore him. Instead, they warmly opened their front door! They invited Paul to live in their house, eat at their table, and work alongside them making tents.

Because they were so kind to him, Paul stayed with them for a year and a half, preaching the gospel! Later, Priscilla and Aquila moved again. This time, they met a brilliant but confused young preacher named Apollos. Once again, they opened their home, invited him over for dinner, and gently taught him the truth about Jesus.

They were so generous that they even let the early Christians use their living room as a church! Priscilla and Aquila were not famous kings or wealthy politicians. They were just ordinary people who used their home, their food, and their extra beds to serve God.

Priscilla and Aquila show us that hospitality is more than having a perfect house or fancy food. It means using what God has given us—our home, table, time, work, and friendship—to strengthen others. When we welcome people with love, our homes can become places where God's work is helped and His people are encouraged.

☀️ True Story

In the fourth century, a young soldier named Martin of Tours was serving in the army. One freezing winter day, Martin was riding his horse toward the city gates. The icy wind was bitterly cold, and the snow was falling fast.

As he approached the gate, Martin saw a poor beggar sitting in the deep snow, shaking from the freezing cold. The man was wearing barely any clothes. Many wealthy people and other soldiers walked right past the poor man, ignoring his sad cries for help.

But Martin refused to look away. He wanted to help, but he had no extra money or warm clothes hidden in his bags. All he had was the heavy military cloak he was wearing on his own back.

Martin did not hesitate. He drew his sword, carefully cut his warm cloak right in half, and gently wrapped one piece around the freezing stranger. People laughed at Martin for wearing a ruined coat, but he did not care.

That very same night, Martin had a beautiful, wonderful dream. He saw Jesus in heaven surrounded by angels, and Jesus was wearing the exact torn cloak Martin had given away! Jesus smiled and told the angels, "Martin clothed me."

Martin's story gives us a clear picture of generous love. We may not have everything someone needs, but we can share what we do have. A coat, a meal, a room, a kind welcome, or a little time can become a gift to Jesus when it is given to someone in need.

💬 Discussion Questions:

- What was Priscilla and Aquila's job?
- What did Martin do with his heavy military cloak when he saw the freezing beggar?
- Is there someone new at your church or school who needs a friend? How can you show them hospitality this week?

🎨 Activity:

Have the children work together to pack small care bags with items like snacks, water, and a kind note or drawing. Talk about who might need these and plan to give them to someone in need, a neighbor, or a local ministry. Talk about it: Jesus said when we care for others, we are serving Him. Even small gifts given with love can show God's kindness and make someone feel seen and cared for.

Hospitality/Service

Day 4



🎵 Listen to
Scripture Song:



Today's Promise (#179) — KJV

Hebrews 13:2 "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

❤️ Apply the Promise!

When you are kind to someone you don't know, you never know who you are actually helping! God wants us to treat every single stranger as if they were an angel sent straight from heaven.

📖 Bible Story (Genesis 18)

Abraham was sitting in the shade of his tent during the hottest part of the day. It was the quiet time when everyone always rested.

Suddenly, he looked up and saw three strangers standing a little way off. Abraham quickly jumped up, ran to meet them, and bowed down politely.

He begged the tired men to stay, wash their dusty feet, and rest under his tree. Abraham and Sarah immediately rushed to prepare fine food.

They did not just give them leftovers. Sarah hurried to bake fresh bread, and Abraham ran to the herd to select a tender, young calf.

They served the men cool milk and meat. Abraham stood humbly by them under the tree, serving them exactly as if they were actual royalty.

But these men were not just ordinary travelers. Abraham had no idea, but one man was the Lord, and the others were two powerful angels!

Because of his eager hospitality, the Lord gave Abraham an incredible promise. He literally entertained angels from heaven without even knowing who they actually were.

Abraham's example teaches us that hospitality begins with a willing heart. We may not know how important a simple act of kindness will be. When we welcome others, share our food, give our time, and treat strangers with respect, we are serving God.

☀️ True Story

In the sixteenth century, King James the Fifth of Scotland loved to travel. He would often dress up in very ordinary, poor clothes to hide.

He wanted to see how his people truly lived. One evening, the disguised king was walking near a bridge when he was attacked by thieves.

A poor farm worker named John Howieson heard the loud shouting. He quickly ran out to help the dusty stranger and bravely chased the robbers away.

John had no idea he was talking to the king. He invited the tired man into his humble home, washed his wounds, and offered water.

John did not ask whether the stranger was rich, famous, or important before he helped him. He simply saw a person in need and opened his heart and home.

To thank him, the disguised man politely invited John to visit the royal castle the very next day.

When John arrived, he was shocked to discover the stranger was the king! Because of his kind hospitality, the king gave John a farm.

This story gives us a simple picture of hospitality. We should not show kindness only to people who look important, rich, or impressive. God wants us to welcome others with warmth and respect. When we serve someone who seems ordinary, poor, tired, or unknown, we may be blessing someone far more important than we realize.

💬 Discussion Questions:

- What kind of delicious food did Abraham and Sarah rush to prepare for their tired guests?
- What did John Howieson do when he saw a poor, ordinary stranger being attacked near the bridge?
- If you knew a real angel was coming to your house today, how would you treat them differently than a normal guest?

🎨 Activity:

Give each child a blank piece of paper and some bright markers. Ask them to design a beautiful, colorful "Welcome" mat for a front door. As they draw, explain that true hospitality isn't about having a perfect, fancy house; it is about having a warm, welcoming heart! Hang the picture by your front door as a reminder to always be ready to show God's love to visitors and strangers!

Hospitality/Service

Day 5



🎵 Listen to
Scripture Song:



Today's Promise (#180) — KJV

1 John 3:16–18 "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."

❤️ Apply the Promise!

When we truly love God, we won't just say nice words to people who are hurting; we will share what we have and show our love through real, helpful actions!

📖 Bible Story (2 Kings 4)

Elisha was a prophet who often traveled from place to place doing God's work. One day, he passed through a town called Shunem. A woman who lived there noticed him and invited him to come into her home for a meal.

After that, whenever Elisha passed through Shunem, he stopped at her house to eat. The woman began to understand that Elisha needed more than one meal. He needed a quiet place to rest during his travels.

She spoke with her husband and made a generous plan. They built a small room for Elisha on the wall of their house. Then they furnished it with a bed, a table, a stool, and a lamp. She did not wait for Elisha to ask for help; she noticed the need herself and looked for a way to meet it.

The Shunammite woman did not only say kind words to God's servant. She used what she had to meet a real need. Her home became a place where Elisha could rest, pray, and be refreshed for his work.

God saw her kindness. Later, Elisha told her that she would have a son, and God gave her the child she had longed for. Her generous care brought blessing not only to Elisha, but also back into her own home.

Her story shows that hospitality does not have to be showy or fancy. It means noticing what someone needs and helping in a real way. When we have food, a room, a chair, a bed, or time to share, love can use those simple things to bless someone else.

🌟 True Story

On September 11, 2001, the United States suffered a terrible tragedy, and all American airspace was immediately shut down. Hundreds of airplanes were ordered away.

Thirty-eight airplanes were sent to land in the small town of Gander, Newfoundland. Almost seven thousand tired and frightened passengers suddenly needed food, beds, phones, and comfort.

A woman named Beulah Cooper was one of the people who helped. She prepared food and went to serve the passengers. There she met a stranded traveler named Monica Burke, who was upset and overwhelmed.

Beulah did not only bring food and walk away. She saw Monica's need and invited her into her own home. She gave her a safe place to sleep, warm meals, and the comfort of being cared for like family.

What began as a frightening delay became the beginning of a lasting friendship. Beulah and Monica stayed connected long after the planes were allowed to leave. A few days of hospitality became a memory of kindness that neither woman forgot.

Beulah's story gives a clear picture of love in action. She saw a stranger in need and did what she could with the home, food, and time God had placed in her hands. Hospitality is not only saying, "I care." It is opening the door, setting the table, and helping someone feel safe and loved.

💬 Discussion Questions:

- What did the Shunammite woman do the very first time she saw Elisha passing through her town?
- When thousands of passengers were stranded in Gander, what was the first thing Beulah Cooper made for them?
- Why is it sometimes easier to just say, "I hope you feel better," instead of actually doing the hard work to help someone?

🎨 Activity:

Give each child a cardboard box and some craft supplies. Challenge them to build a "little chamber" like the Shunammite woman did! Have them cut a door and create a tiny bed, table, and stool using folded paper. As they work, explain that 1 John 3:18 tells us not to just say nice things, but to do helpful things. We can use what God gives us to make others feel loved!