

Let Your Generosity Speak | Romans 12:9-21

1. Before hearing the sermon on Sunday morning: (a) how would you define the word 'hospitality' and (b) what kind of priority would you have placed on offering hospitality as part of your Christian witness, if any? Are you friends very different to you? Why? Why not?

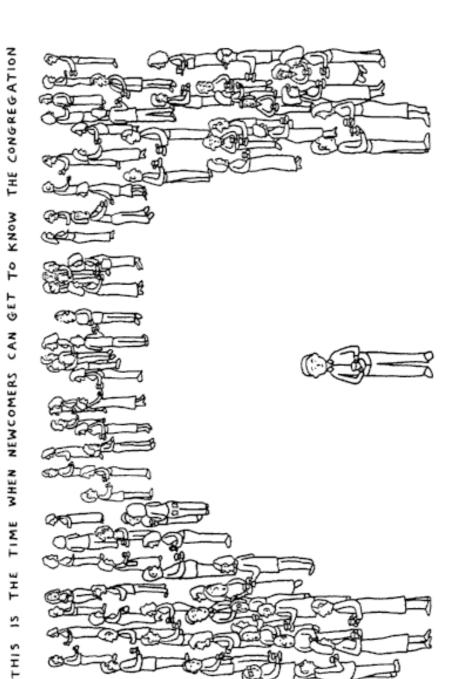
READ: 1 Peter 4:8

- 2. "The finest way to express love deeply is by being hospitable to one another". Do you agree or disagree with this statement?
- 3. Up until this point in 1 Peter, Peter has been prioritising the need to worship God and live holy lives. Why do you think he suddenly starts getting concerned with, (what might appear on the surface), the unconnected issue of hospitality?

READ: Romans 12:9-21

- 4. Which words or phrases particularly stick out from these verses of Scripture? Why?
- 5. In these verses, God calls us to (a) love sincerely, (b) share with those in need and (c) to practise hospitality. Which of these three do you find most challenging to fulfil? Why?
- 6. Think about your answers to question 1. In what ways do these Scripture verses affirm or challenge your definition of hospitality? Does Romans 12:9-21 affirm or challenge your priority in offering hospitality? Is 'practising hospitality' a spiritual disciple and/or a spiritual gift?
- 7. What types or groups of people might you find it most challenging to welcome into your 'space'? Why? Discuss the picture overleaf. What contribution do you make to welcome others within the life of CBC?
- 8. "All too often the church practices hostility rather than hospitality to those who are strangers." In what ways is this statement true or false?
- 9. Look at the list of words below. In which order would Jesus place the words to demonstrate his Kingdom-priorities? What order of priority best describes how churches/CBC often deal with the stranger?

AFTER-SERVICE COFFEE



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