****

**Essential**

**Practices**

**Let God Touch Your Heart**

[Grab your reader’s attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

**The Essential Practice of Hospitality**

*Romans 12:13b*

Pastor Kevin Snyder

Coast Hills Community Church

March 6, 2016

“Practice hospitality” (Romans 12:13b)

**Definition of hospitality:**

1. The friendly reception and treatment of guests or strangers.
2. The quality or disposition of receiving and treating guests and strangers in a warm, friendly, generous way.

Guess who is coming to dinner? (show slide)

Greek word xenos means “stranger”, but also “guest” and “host”

From xenos comes the NT word for hospitality: Philoxenia which means a love of the guest/stranger or enjoyment of hosting guests.

When Jesus shares meals with others, “guests” become “hosts” and “hosts” become “guests”.

**Zacchaeus – Luke 19:1-10**

“The main enemy of hospitality is superiority. When you think you are better than someone you are not that hospitable. “

**The Context of “Practice hospitality”**

**Romans 12:9-16**

**9 “**Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. **10**Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. **11**Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. **12**Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. **13**Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. **Practice hospitality.**

**14**Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. **15**Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. **16**Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.”

“Hospitality is making space, making room, for someone when you don’t have to” –Seth McKoy

Jesus makes room for the stranger, the other, the ones on the outside.

**What is humanity’s response to Jesus?**

**Luke 2:7-8**

“And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.”

When Jesus hosts us in our own space, our hearts are touched and our lives are transformed to be able host others (that are not like us) with the same hospitality that Jesus has shown us! (Wally please make sure this comment get into the program part)

**Would you allow Jesus into your space and be your host?**

**Would you receive the hospitality of God?**

**Hospitality is not just about dinner. It is about revealing the character of God.**

**How can we be hospitable this week?**