

Love

And now I will show you the most excellent way.

13 If I speak in the tongues⁴ of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames,⁵ but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when

Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.

~ 1 Peter 4:9

Hospitality Lessons from a Prostitute, Barbarians and Drug Addicts

I. Hospitality may REQUIRE A RISK.

So the two men set out and came to the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there that night.

~ Joshua 2:1

But someone told the king of Jericho, “Some Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land.” So the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab: “Bring out the men who have come into your house, for they have come here to spy out the whole land.” Rahab had hidden the two men, but she replied, “Yes, the men were here earlier, but I didn’t know where they were from. They left the town at dusk, as the gates were about to close. I don’t know where they went. If you hurry, you can probably catch up with them.” (Actually, she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them beneath bundles of flax she had laid out.) So the king’s men went looking for the spies along the road leading to the shallow crossings of the Jordan River. And as soon as the king’s men had left, the gate of Jericho was shut.

~ *Joshua 2:2-7*



Hospitality Lessons from a Prostitute, Barbarians and Drug Addicts

- I. Hospitality may **REQUIRE A RISK**.
- II. Always be ready for **OPPORTUNITIES TO OFFER** hospitality.

Once we were safe on shore, we learned that we were on the island of Malta. The people of the island were very kind to us. It was cold and rainy, so they built a fire on the shore to welcome us.

~ Acts 28:1-2

Near the shore where we landed was an estate belonging to Publius, the chief official of the island. He welcomed us and treated us kindly for three days.

~ *Acts 28:7*

Hospitality Lessons from a Prostitute, Barbarians and Drug Addicts

- I. Hospitality may REQUIRE A RISK.
- II. Always be ready for OPPORTUNITIES TO OFFER hospitality.
- III. Do not SHOW FAVORITISM when it comes to hospitality.

My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others? For example, suppose someone comes into your meeting dressed in fancy clothes and expensive jewelry, and another comes in who is poor and dressed in dirty clothes. If you give special attention and a good seat to the rich person, but you say to the poor one, “You can stand over there, or else sit on the floor” well, doesn’t this discrimination show that your judgments are guided by evil motives?

~ *James 2:1-4*

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