



RECEIVE  
*The*  
KING



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**John 1:10–14**

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**Luke 2:6–7**

“In the beginning was the  
Word...”



## John 1:10-14



He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God-- <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. <sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.





## Luke 2:6-7

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.







God loves you





To touch where nothing touches,  
do what no one does.



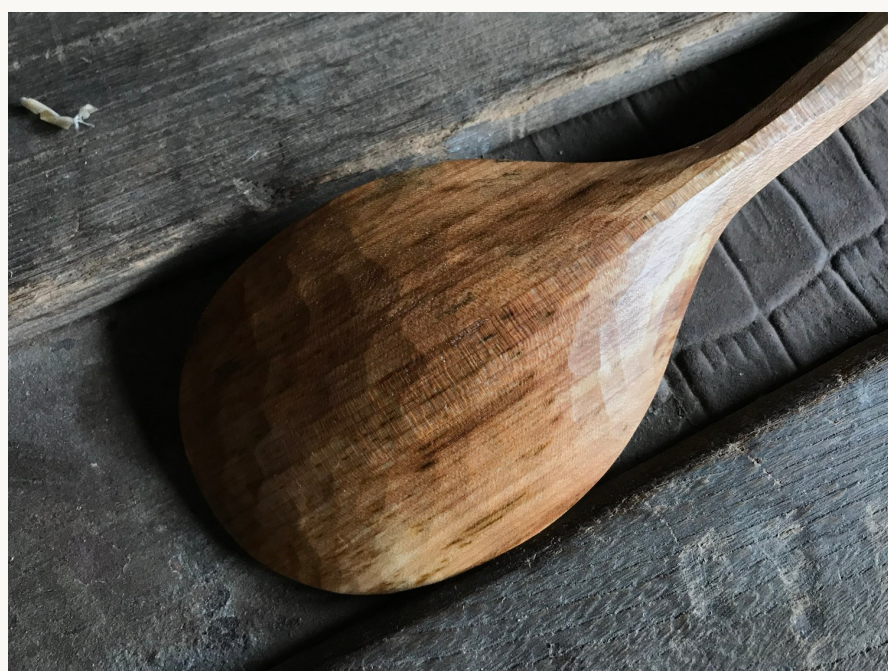








Hospitality makes the abstract  
and spiritual reality of love *sensible*.  
Love that tastes and touches.





If cooking is love made edible;  
**Hospitality is love made sensible.**





# Hospitality

Definition:

The thoughtful, intentional pursuit of welcoming people into an experience of belonging in which they feel seen, special, wanted, alive and cared for.





# Hospitality vs Imposition

## **Invitation**

Sacrificial

Voluntary

Generous

Honest

Kind

Modest/meeek

Grounded/humble

## **Intrusion**

Extractional

Manipulative

Entitled

Devious

Rude

Brazen/impertinent

Delusional





# THE Question:

In the conflict between man and God...

Who is the hospitable one  
and  
who is the imposing one?






Jesus the Christ is  
the inviting host,

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not the  
imposing intruder.





**1. God is the hospitable one.  
We are the imposers**

**Isaiah 55:1**

"Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters;  
and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk without money and  
without cost.





The Son of God  
is offered a stable



So, God invites the  
appropriate guests,  
and Mary hosts





Herod murders  
all boys under 2



God invites  
Persians through  
the stars









To be like God,  
we have to be hospitable to imposers.

We have to do for them what no one  
ever does.





## **2. God's demands are those of a host; not an intruder.**

**Matt. 22:12**

And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.



## 'Fairly big problem': Squatters invade homes and refuse to leave. How is this legal?

*The nuisance of squatters moving into a home reflects a breakdown in basic deterrence of our laws. Property offenses have been steadily downgraded as priorities in many cities.*

**Jonathan Turley** Opinion contributor

Published 5:10 a.m. ET July 3, 2023



“A retiree friend of mine was away from her home in Sarasota, Florida, when a squatter moved in and refused to leave. The woman falsely claimed that she had a lease and trashed the home. Eventually, she was arrested but promptly released. She then returned and stole my friend's car. The police said there was likely little that would happen to the squatter.”









## **Matthew 25**

Wise and foolish virgins- basic prep

Talents- just interest

Sheep and Goats- basic care

## **Matthew 22**

Wedding feast- dress for it





## Matthew 22:9-14

Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' <sup>10</sup> And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. <sup>11</sup> "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. <sup>12</sup> And he said to 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' him, ' And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup> Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

<sup>14</sup> For many are called, but few are chosen."







**If you come, you are a guest.**

The most fundamental posture  
of a guest is that you are a  
recipient of grace.

**Dress for it with Faith.**



**If you come, you are a guest...  
until you are a co-host**

The kitchen is the place of the most  
work *and* the most belonging.

**Be a fitting host.**



**3. We have proven obstinate and  
accuse God of imposition**

John 1:10-14



He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.




John 1:5 NIV84 The light shines in the darkness,  
but the darkness has not **understood** it.

John 1:5 NIV The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not **overcome** it.

John 1:5 NIC The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not **mastered** it.







## John 3:19-21NIC

**This is the verdict:** Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

<sup>20</sup> Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But the doer of the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly their deeds have done has been done ‘in God’.







A flood light  
to expose us?

Or a beacon  
to guide us?







## **4. God continues to invite and welcome obstinate imposers**



**Isaiah 65:1-3**

“All day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations-- 3 a people who continually provoke me to my very face...”



## Isaiah 55:1-3

"Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters;  
and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk without money and  
without cost. 2 Why spend money on what is not  
bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?  
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your  
soul will delight in the richest of fare. 3 Give ear and  
come to me; hear me, that your soul may live. I will  
make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful  
love promised to David.









## Luke 4:18-19



"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."





## Isaiah 61:2-3

“...to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion-- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.”










## Romans 5:5-11

“...hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. 6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die-- 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while we were *enemies* we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.”









Isaiah 65:1-3

Isaiah 55:1-6

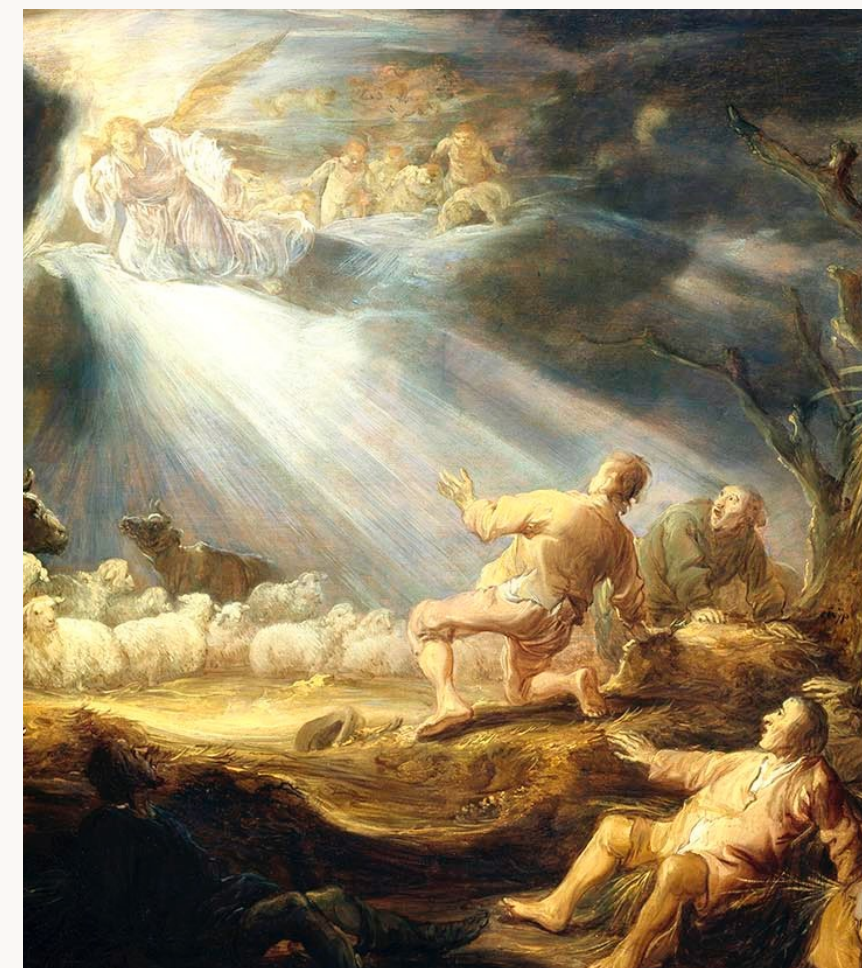
Luke 4:18 / Isaiah 61:2-3

John 1:5

# The year of the Lord's favor

John 1:12

Yet to all who received him,  
to those who believed in his  
name, he gave the right to  
become children of God...







# Hospitality

Definition:

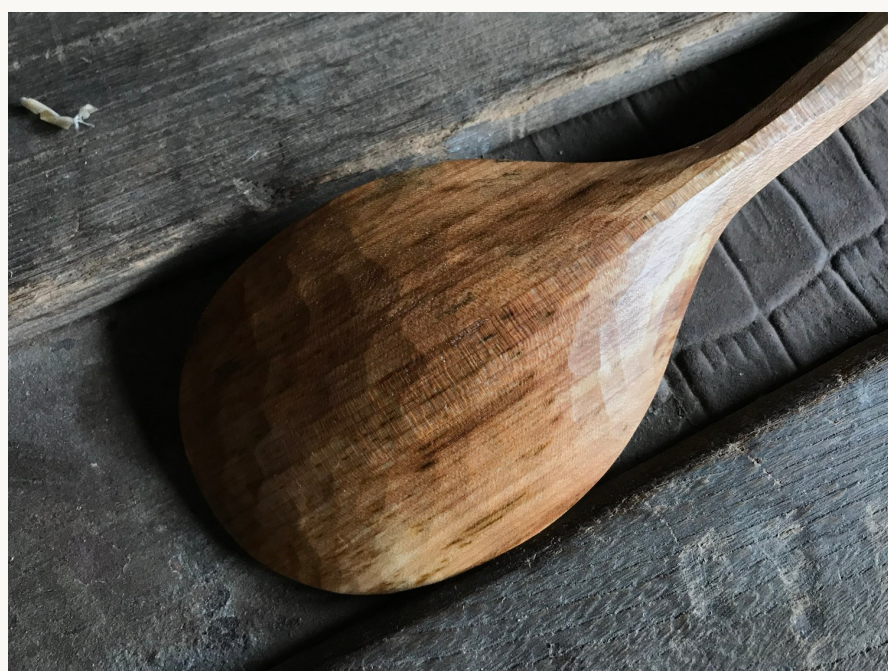
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Matthew 21

Nothing is  
more  
hospitable  
than this.





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