



Week 4

Open Our Hearts, LOVE All The People

Our Mission Statement

Open Our Hearts

"SEE ALL the PEOPLE"

"HEAR ALL the PEOPLE"

"LOVE ALL the PEOPLE"



Open Our Eyes – Week 3 Takeaways

- Make Time to HEAR the truth through the Holy Spirit
- DO NOT BE AFRAID to act on the truth
- COMMIT to Christ
- HEARING ALL THE PEOPLE helps us **grow in love**

What does the word "LOVE" mean?



Love means
never having to
say
you're sorry.

In Love Story (film)

GIFQUOTES.COM

The Whole Person – You

Beseech the Lord to –

- Open my Eyes – to SEE
- Open my Ears – to HEAR and LISTEN
- Open my Heart – to LOVE
 - The Glue bringing it all together in You – **Love**
 - But how to express and show Love to others

Matthew 10:40-42

New International Version

⁴⁰ “Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.

⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward.

⁴² And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

Love and Hospitality

“...(T)he deeper truth is that nothing will work unless it is done out of love. Before Jesus told us to go out and make disciples, He told us to love. Love one another. Love your neighbor as yourself. So this final week of our series is all about **hospitality**. **How do we welcome out of love?**”

Hospitality definition – “the friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers.”

Love and Hospitality Cont'd

“Hospitality, like love, isn’t a one-off moment, a one-time experience. It is a way of life, a way of being and living in the world.” Jesus “is saying, it seems clear, that you will be welcomed if you are a welcoming presence; that you will transform lives, even if only in seemingly small insignificant ways like offering a cup of cold water on a hot day, **only if you are transformed yourself. It isn’t words that bring us this grace; it is our whole being, our whole presence.**” “Opening our mouths must be preceded by opening our hearts.”

“Yes, we have something to say to the world, but it is only heard or only responded to if we say it out of love.”

Love and Hospitality Cont'd

⁴⁰ “Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.”

Commentary:

“Whoever welcomes the apostles welcomes Jesus and, therefore, ultimately welcomes the God who sent Jesus.” – David Senior

Love and Hospitality Cont'd

⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward.

Commentary:

Prophets or “wandering charismatics who taught in Jesus’ name were certainly revered in the early community..” – David Senior

Charismatic – “In general, its meaning is that anyone who is a true Christian and who exercises one of the many gifts that God's Spirit can give is charismatic. The apostle Paul used this term in 1Corinthians 12 to designate the supernatural gifts made available to individuals through the power of the Holy Spirit. These are many times referenced as the charismatic gifts of Christianity.” – Biblestudy.org

Love and Hospitality Cont'd

⁴² And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

Commentary:

“The little ones” ...” is a phrase used by Matthew with reference to humble Christians who are not church leaders and who may also be poor. Such persons must not be neglected or treated with disdain, because they too represent Christ.” – Douglas Hare

Love and Hospitality Cont'd

⁴² And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

Commentary:

In the prior passages “it describes the missionaries who are likely to suffer rejection, hatred, and even the threat of death because they come in Jesus’ name.”

“To offer hospitality to one of them will be rewarded because in so doing one receives Jesus himself.” – David Senior



open hearts

open minds

open doors

A red circular graphic with a laurel wreath border and an olive branch at the top. The text "OPEN ARMS" is centered in a bold, sans-serif font.

**OPEN
ARMS**





Love and Hospitality Cont'd

* This Lesson targets outreach, love and welcoming primarily to others outside our church community such as those visiting church services or that we meet in our community activities.

* *But closer to home, how does this Lesson apply to members of our **existing community** like the PACE Class or CUMC, family, friends, neighbors?*

- Each of us can only answer individually. What am I doing (or not doing)? What can I do better to outreach, show welcome, show kindness to our own existing community as we also love and welcome others.

Love and Hospitality Cont'd

“We can't scare people into the arms of God, but we can love them there. We can't force people into the fellowship of the church, but we can welcome them there. **This text tells us that hospitality is not an add-on, not an extra in the busyness of our mission and ministry. It is core. It is what defines us.**”

“I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, **but people will never forget how you made them feel.**” – Maya Angelou



easy

REMEMBER!!

- Open Hearts...Open Arms...with Smiles...Every Day
- ASK God how your talents can be used to LOVE & WELCOME ALL The People
- ENGAGEMENT the process of LOVING All the People
- Trust God as you reach out to others

Open hearts.
Open minds.
Open doors.



The people of
The United Methodist Church™

PRISSY – Personal Reflections on Hospitality

