

## SERMON NOTES

Leviticus 19:33-34 - Loving the Stranger

Sermon Series: *Time For Change* #8

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### Questions for family/small group discussions:

Two ways that we are to treat/relate to the stranger:

**1. Do \_\_\_\_\_ do any \_\_\_\_\_ to him/her.**

What are some ways that you could or have mistreated someone who is different or in need of relationship or friendship? We saw that hospitality is a primary gospel offensive strategy against the isolating kingdom of darkness. Discuss how we can do harm by ignoring others or huddling in our homes or with our same old friends.

**2. \_\_\_\_\_ the stranger.**

a. When you see in Lev. 19:34 and 19:18 that you are to love and care for the stranger in the same way that you would for your own family or for yourself, what would that look like for you?

b. How does Luke 14:12-14 and Hebrews 13:2 change the way that you should extend invitations and hospitality?

c. What are the greatest barriers, factors or excuses that keep you from being faithful to loving the stranger?

d. Why is it so important for us to remember and embrace our identity as strangers (Lev. 19:34, Ex. 23:9)? How does this make a difference for our hearts and actions?

**Jesus left his home to become a \_\_\_\_\_ and was rejected on the cross so that we, who are \_\_\_\_\_, and deserve to be \_\_\_\_\_, could be welcomed home.**

e. We said that we need an ongoing recognition of our deep need for Christ from being a stranger. How can you nurture this deep need for Jesus and increasingly become a stranger?

f. We said that we can make real progress in making hospitality a way of life and can become the generous, welcoming father who scans the horizon for others when we become the lost son who is welcomed home every day. How do you see God pursuing, loving, and caring for you every day?

g. Pray for eyes that will scan and look for those in need of relationship. Who can you pursue and invite for lunch/coffee this week? Will you commit to get a bit weaned from the same old clique of friends and take a step in this way?

h. What are some practical, concrete steps that you or your small group or family will take to push out and extend hospitality? Hold each other accountable. Keep asking each other how you are doing in making progress in this way.

**Additional resource to consider:** *The Gospel Comes with a House Key: Practicing Radically Ordinary Hospitality in our Post-Christian World*, by Rosaria Butterfield.