Essentials for Frontline Workers

Week 3: Grow in Grace by Welcoming All

Hebrews 13:1-3

Did you ever enter an event (a party, meeting, gathering…) where you felt awkward and out of place? Describe the situation and what made it feel so uncomfortable. What happened? What would have made you feel more welcome?

Every church describes itself as “the friendliest church in town.” Yet many new people feel uncomfortable about visiting a worship service for the first time. Why?

**Welcome All People In Here**

“Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.” Hebrews 13:1-2

Hebrews says newcomers to a church are like secret angels sent from God. If this is so, why are some churches so hesitant to roll out the red carpet and work hard to welcome them?

What can churches do to make guests feel more welcome on Sunday and beyond?

**Welcome All People Everywhere**

*One thing Covid has taught us: if church only happens inside a building, it’s not going to last. Jesus never intended His Church to be just an event inside a building. We are a movement bringing His grace and salvation to the world.*

Why do we put church in a box? How will church be different if we see it more like a movement than a Sunday event?

**Let Go of Your Fear – “**Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.” Romans 12:13-14 Do you have concerns about starting a spiritual discussion with someone? Why might listening be a better approach than debating?

Why is there a lot of heated debate on social media? What drives it? How can we share God’s love and truth on these platforms?

**Let Go of Your Ego** – “Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.” Romans 12:16

What can each of us do to bring down the hidden barriers which divide races and ethnic groups?

What is something you can do to be welcoming this week?

Who can you invite to join us next week? Finish in prayer by asking God to open your eyes to the secret angels He sends.