

## **Loving Neighbors to make them Friends of God**

Matthew 5:46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? 47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? 48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

Lu 14:12 Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbors; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompense be made thee. 13 But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: 14 And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

**There are many ways to be hospitable.**

**Why do you invite your friends** when you have a special meal or get-together?

**What can we expect to happen** if we made a regular habit of extending our hospitality to strangers, especially those who could not afford to return the kindness?

- It might seem awkward at first.
- There will be a lot of people we just won't "click" with. But among them will be a few who do.
- Lets ask the question, "Who would those strangers be?"

Other church members who might still feel like outsiders.

First-time visitors to church or Sunday School class

There will be people we meet at work or at a store, or a ball game, and the Holy Spirit will prompt us to be friendly and talk with them. God will guide us what to do next.

**What else will happen...**

**Be wise as serpents, harmless as doves**

**What else will happen if we show the love of Christ and hospitality to strangers** Luke 14:14