



PRAXIS

HOW THE CHURCH PRACTICES ITS FAITH

Sunday, September 18th, 2016

Praxis: How the Church Practices Its Faith. Hospitality.

In the Gospels, Jesus is always taking something ordinary and making it unique. In **Matthew 25:31-40** he tell us that when we are doing the ordinary things like giving clothes to the needy, feeding someone who is hungry, or visiting someone in prison; that we are doing a significant practice in God's name as unto God himself. **Together as a group read Matthew 25:31-40.**

- *What is Jesus communicating as important?*
- *When have you had your need met by someone else in this specific way?*

Throughout the Old and New Testament, God is establishing a **practice of radical sharing and generosity**. He is always making room for the "common good" amongst his covenant people.

- *Have someone read **Acts 2:42-46** and another read **Romans 12:9-13**.*
- *To what Christian living instructions does the writer make hospitality equal too?*
- *What kinds of things get in the way of taking hospitality seriously in our own lives?*

How we invite others into our lives is a mark of His presence in our lives. **We are called to make room for others, because God made room for us.**

- *How do we overcome our own inherited personality, when it is tempting to use it as an excuse to not be kind and hospitable?*
- *Why does opening our homes and time to others require an emotional toll?*
- *Where have you see this being done well in the lives of others?*
- *What about their practice is worth emulating in your own life?*

At Grace Community Church, we want to make room for the sojourner and stranger. We want children to feel welcome, friendships to be started, and people to find a place of refreshment when they enter our building. As we prepare to move into our first, permanent facility...

- *Where do you see us doing this well?*
- *Where have you been involved in the past at Grace in making this a hospitable place for our city?*