

3 John 5-8 Making Room

1. Welcome 5

A. Faithful

"On this occasion of the concourse of so many strangers, and needy and suffering people, let your hospitality and your good works abound."

Augustine, *Sermon 31 on the New Testament*

"Part of our ability to sustain hospitality in the midst of an unjust and disordered world comes from putting our small efforts into a larger context. God is at work in the world, and our little but significant moves participate in that work." Christine Pohl, *Making Room*

B. Strangers to You

"Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."
Romans 12:13 ESV

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." -Hebrews 13:2 ESV

2. Observable Love 6

A. To Possess a Kind Reputation

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant"
1 Corinthians 13:4 ESV

"Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."
Ephesians 4:31-32 ESV

"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."
Colossians 3:12-13 ESV

"Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor." -Romans 12:10 ESV

B. Sending Them on Their Journey

"You will do well" = "please"

"Sending the missionaries on their way involved providing for their journey- supplying them with food and money to pay for their expenses, washing their clothes, and generally helping them to travel as comfortably as possible." IH Marshall, *The Epistles of John*

3. For the Sake of the Name 7, 8

A. This is About Jesus

"Hallowed be Thy Name"

"Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name."
Matthew 6:9 ESV

"So I poured out my wrath upon them for the blood that they had shed in the land, for the idols with which they had defiled it. I scattered them among the nations, and they were dispersed through the countries. In accordance with their ways and their deeds I judged them. But when they came to the nations, wherever they came, they profaned my holy name, in that people said of them, 'These are the people of the Lord, and yet they had to go out of his land.' But I had concern for my holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations to which they came."
Ezekiel 36:18-21 ESV

B. Accepting Nothing from the "Pagans"

"Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay." -Matthew 10:8 ESV

"After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks." -Acts 18:1-4 ESV

"For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God." -1 Thessalonians 2:9 ESV

“If we have sown spiritual things among you, is it too much if we reap material things from you? If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we even more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ. Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel. But I have made no use of any of these rights, nor am I writing these things to secure any such provision. For I would rather die than have anyone deprive me of my ground for boasting. For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.”
1 Corinthians 9:11-18 ESV

C. Everyone Plays a Part in Sending the Good News 8

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” -Matthew 28:19-20 ESV

Reflection: How are you making room in your life for others who are outside of your regular family and friend group?

Follow UP in the Word through the Week...

Monday: Romans 12:13. If we understand hospitality to mean “love of strangers”, how do we carry out this command?

Tuesday: Hebrews 13:2. Many say this could point back to Genesis 18 where Abraham offered food and respite to strangers who ended up delivering promises to Abraham. How does this further encourage you to make room in your life for others?

Wednesday: Ephesians 4:31-32. How does this passage make room in our lives for a reputation of kindness?

Thursday: Ezekiel 36:18-21, Matthew 6:9. How were the people of Israel taking away from the Name of the Lord and how does Jesus instruct us to pray? How does this then show up in your life in how you represent the Name of Jesus?

Friday: 1 Corinthians 9:11-18. Where was Paul drawing his income from and why? Why is it important that the Gospel was preached free of charge with the Corinthians? How can the message of the Gospel get distorted if this approach is not embraced?

Saturday: Matthew 28:19-20. How are you a fellow worker as John puts it in 3 John in getting this work of the Great Commission done?