A HEART for HOSPITALITY

Course Workbook

AHeartforHospitality.com
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Course Workbook

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**An Introduction**

**About Me**

❤️ I blog over at Youngwifesguide.com and my mission is to encourage other women in Gospel-centered homemaking.

**Our Story**

❤️ My husband and I got married when I was 19 years old. We were both still in college full time and working.

❤️ Now several years later, we have two year old twin boys and are expecting our second set of twin boys this summer. Our house is full and growing. It's chaotic and wonderful all at the same time. But of course, this produces its own challenges in extending hospitality.

**Hospitality will look different for all of us**

❤️ Every family will encounter different obstacles in extending hospitality.

❤️ From living in small spaces to wrangling many little kids, to figuring out how to fit hospitality into an already tight budget, and so much more.

❤️ But my prayer throughout this eCourse is that you will get practical tips for dealing with these very real problems, and also that you will come to understand better the call of hospitality on all believers and that God would instill in you a love of, a joy in, and a heart for hospitality.
Throughout this eCourse

❤️ Through the course we are going to begin our journey by taking a tour through Scripture, clearly defining what Biblical hospitality is and what it looks like.

❤️ Then we will dive into all the practical aspects of hospitality, such as meal planning, recipe ideas, hospitality on a budget, small space hospitality, and so much more!

❤️ Also included in your bonuses for this eCourse is a printable hospitality binder. All you have to do is print it out and you are ready to start extending hospitality. We've given you all the tools you need to get started!
Session #2
A Journey Through the Old Testament

Why We Must Start in the Old Testament

♥️ The Old Testament informs our reading of the New Testament

♥️ The New Testament writer’s definition of hospitality is derived from their understanding of the Old Testament.

What Did Hospitality Look Like To Those Living in the Old Testament

♥️ Hospitality was woven into the fabric of their culture

♥️ A common and expected part of Jewish living

♥️ A nomadic people often living in the wilderness and far away from civilized cities

♥️ Travelers relied upon the kindness of strangers to meet their most basic needs (food, water, shelter)

God commanded the Israelites to Serve Strangers

“When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. The stranger who sojourns with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.” - Leviticus 19:33–34
We Show Hospitality Because God has Showed Us Hospitality

“For the people of God in the Old Testament the duty of hospitality came right from the center of who God was. I am the Lord your God who made a home for you and brought you there with all my might and all my soul. Therefore, you shall love the stranger as yourself. You shall be holy as I am holy (Leviticus 19:1). Your values shall mirror my values.” - Strategic Hospitality from Desiring God Blog

The Story of Abraham & His Generous Hospitality

❤️ Genesis 18:1-16 – Abraham entertains the three angels and a son is promised to Abraham and Sarah in their old age.

❤️ Abraham’s eagerness and his willingness to extend hospitality to these three strangers is an incredible example to us today.

Abraham Ran to Greet His Guests

“When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth” ~ Genesis 18:2b

❤️ Reveals Abraham’s eagerness to literally run and serve these strangers with hospitality. How often do we show the same eagerness to serve in our own lives?

Abraham Called Them Lord

“O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree” - Genesis 18:3-4

❤️ Abraham humbled himself to a servant position by calling them Lord. He heaped honor and prestige upon these strangers in his eagerness to serve.
Abraham’s Hospitality was very generous

“And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes.” And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them.” - Genesis 18:6-8

Abraham went far above and beyond what was expected of him in serving these strangers. He was very generous with his time, resources, and energy. He treated these men as kings.

“What does this all have to do with our own lives today?

This emphasis in the Old Testament on hospitality, literally spills over into the New Testament and informs the writings of Paul, Jesus, and the early church.

“We look back and remember that we owe our life to an act of God’s hospitality. We were once strangers and aliens in the Egypt of sin and death. But God came to us in the Passover of his Son’s cross (1 Corinthians 5:7) and made us alive (Ephesians 2:5) and brought us out through the Red Sea of conversion.” - Strategic Hospitality from Desiring God Blog

In the same way, God has led us out of our own sin and death and led us into eternal life. That was God’s act of hospitality in our lives, and now we can turn around and give that hospitality back to those we come into contact with.
Your Assignment For Today

❤️ Before you walk away from this session today, open up your Bible and read through Genesis 18:1-16.

❤️ Watch for Abraham’s generosity, humility, and his eagerness and willingness to serve as you read.

Take some time to reflect & pray

❤️ Then take some time to pray that God would mold your heart today so that you could have the same joy, humility, and generosity toward strangers and those within your community as Abraham did for those three strangers that day.

❤️ Because if you only take away one thing from this entire course, I pray it’s this.
Hospitality was so important to the New Testament Church

- Hospitality was vital to the growth, stability, and the daily life of the early church.

“Hospitality is becoming an almost forgotten Christian virtue in our style of life today, particularly in big cities with their rampant crime on the streets, their locked-in apartments and all their affluent, urban and bourgeois devices which attempt to create privacy in our homes and our lives. In the New Testament, however, hospitality was a distinctive mark of Christians and Christian communities.” - Hospitality Commands, pg 6

Hospitality Was Vital in the Life of the Early Church

- The Greek word for hospitality that is used in the New Testament is philoxenia which literally means “Love for Strangers”. Each time we are commanded to practice hospitality, God is literally commanding us to have and show love for others!

- The root of hospitality is LOVE. Love for those in God’s church, love for strangers, love for neighbors, love for unbelievers, love for those within our own families, and love for God.

The Concrete Expression of Christian Love

“The Christian practice of hospitality was not viewed simply as a means of overcoming a practical problem. Theological statements by different authors in the New Testament show that it was frequently viewed as the concrete expression of Christian love.” - Hospitality Commands, pg 16
We are to use hospitality to serve those within the church

“Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.”
~ Romans 12:13

❤️ Serving those within the church can take on many different forms: bringing a meal to a family with a new baby, volunteering your time or resources to widows or those who cannot physically take care of their homes or yards, reaching out to new comers in your church, and so much more!

❤️ We are to use hospitality to serve unbelievers and strangers

❤️ This is often a lot harder form of hospitality to practice but it’s just as important.

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

We are to serve and practice hospitality without complaining

“Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.” - 1 Peter 4:9

❤️ God surely knows our hearts! He wants us to serve Him with joy and humility.

❤️ He is not merely concerned with our external actions but also the state of our hearts.

❤️ He knows that we can tend to act selfishly or serve while complaining.
Hospitality in the Early Church

❤️ Hospitality was not seen as a “gift” that was only given to certain believers, but rather a command expected of all Christians.

❤️ God commands each and every believer to live out and practice hospitality.

“During the early centuries of Christianity it was the Roman church more than any other which was distinguished by the generosity with which it practiced this virtue [hospitality]...A living interest in the collective church of Christ throbbed with peculiar vigor throughout the Roman church...and the practice of hospitality was one of its manifestations.” - Hospitality Commands, pg 7

How This Plays Out in Our Own Lives

❤️ So how can we take this principle of hospitality that we see practiced in the New Testament and apply it to our own lives in a culture so far removed of that of the early Church? By focusing on brotherly, Christian love.

❤️ When we have and show love to those around us – we are extending Biblical hospitality.

What is the root of hospitality?

“Hospitality is a practical way to love others. Therefore, a person practicing Biblical hospitality should also be a loving person. This element separates Biblical hospitality from social entertaining or even distinguishes between the hospitality of a believer and an unbeliever. Believers can uniquely display God’s love as they extend hospitality. Entertaining focuses on having a beautiful table decor or preparing gourmet food. Biblical hospitality is a demonstration of love. Food and other elements
are merely tools used to express our love for people. Our motivation for being hospitable women is a response to God’s work in our lives. Hospitality is one way we can tangibly demonstrate our love for God.”

- Practicing Hospitality, Pg 50

Your Assignment For This Week

❤️ Print out that quote, or read it through several times and really cement in your heart that Biblical hospitality is a demonstration of God’s Love.

❤️ Pray that God would give us this loving heart to serve without grumbling or complaining. Pray that God would open up your heart for all the serving opportunities already present in your life.
Session #4:  
A Definition of Biblical Hospitality – The Joy of Serving Others

What comes to your mind when you think of hospitality?

Hospitality can come in many different forms:

❤️ Inviting a family over to dinner after your kid’s soccer game

❤️ Sharing a picnic at the park with that single mom who lives down the street

❤️ Inviting a new couple from church over to lunch after service

What is the ultimate Purpose?

❤️ While Hospitality can come in many different forms, the ultimate purpose of hospitality is to:

▪ Honor and obey God by serving those around us!

▪ As Christians we are called to practice Biblical Hospitality…and practice it with joy!

Obeying God’s Command to Practice Hospitality

“Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice’ (1 Sam 15:22). The words of John 14:15,21-24 clearly identify that the primary evidence that individuals are Christians is their choice to obey their Father’s commands....I learned that to please my heavenly Father I need to respond to all of his instructions with an obedient spirit and not just pick those that appeal to me – and that includes my response to what his Word teaches about hospitality.” - Practicing Hospitality, Pg 22
Hospitality IS a Biblical Command

Because Hospitality is a Biblical command, we should want to respond to God’s Word and OBEY what it teaches about hospitality.

“Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.”
- Romans 12:13

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

“Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.” - 1 Peter 4:9

What does it meant to show hospitality without grumbling?

“First Peter 4:9 builds on the instructions to practice hospitality and reminds me that my attitude is of utmost important – I am to practice hospitality without complaining! This verse challenges me to conduct a heart search to discern what my attitude is and whether I am approaching this opportunity to minister enthusiastically (Colossians 3:23).” - Practicing Hospitality, Pg 23

Is our hospitality and serving laced with love, joy, and are we approaching these serving opportunities with enthusiasm?

Let’s Make a Clear Definition of Hospitality

The ultimate purpose of hospitality is to minister to those around us – both believers and unbelievers.

Our hospitality is a form of ministry and is a way that we show love, care, concern, and how we can serve those within our churches and communities.
What Does God Require of Us When Extending Hospitality?

“Hospitality from a Biblical perspective is to recognize that God is more interested in caring relationships than the mold behind the shower curtain...It need not matter if we live in a single-room apartment or a split-level ranch, the only real requirement is allowing God to use our lives and our possessions...Our homes and our lives are indeed the most powerful combination of ministry to our world.” - Hospitality with Confidence, Pg 9

Hospitality is about love

❤️ Hospitality is about God and how he uses you and your possessions to serve those you come into contact with – both friends and strangers, both believers and unbelievers.

ANYONE can extend hospitality

❤️ Anyone can extend hospitality to those around them – even the single gal who lives in a dorm can find ways to extend hospitality to those living in her dorm hall or the women she meets on campus.

❤️ Hospitality is about investing in other’s lives and learning how you can best serve those around you.

Hospitality Could Transform Our Churches if we let it

❤️ We could have a revolution within our churches of believers reaching out into our unbelieving neighborhoods and inviting families over, new people to the church quickly getting plugged into church life, and Christians really genuinely caring and serving for one another – through the Biblical art of hospitality!
Your Assignment for Today

❤ Take some time today or this week before you move on to the next session, to meditate upon the true meaning of hospitality and pray that God would use it to transform your heart.

❤ Write out the definition on a piece of paper and place it somewhere that you will see it throughout the day.

The definition again

❤ The ultimate purpose of hospitality is **to minister to those around us – both believers and unbelievers.**
Session #5
Preparation Your Heart for Hospitality

Plan & Prepare Ahead for Smoother Hospitality

❤️ But with a little preparing, of both your heart and your home, hospitality can run a lot smoother and more efficiently.

❤️ This will leave you more time to focus on the guests in your home and to be good witnesses for Christ!

❤️ This leaves you free to focus on the really important aspect of hospitality: People!

Management Skills ARE Important

“Management skills are important for Christian women primarily because such skills are the key to extending hospitality with ease, enjoyment, and resourcefulness...Management helps us maximize our time, energy, and resources. Simply put, management allows us to plan and organize events so we are free to focus on our real priority – people!” - Practicing Hospitality, pg 102-103, emphasis mine.

Preparing Your Heart for Hospitality

❤️ How can we begin to prepare our heart for extending hospitality?

Put on Humility

❤️ Practicing hospitality takes humility.
It’s so easy to fall into the sin of pride when inviting others into your home or bringing them a meal. It’s easy to make hospitality about your home or your cooking.

But at the end of the day it isn’t about either. It’s about Christ and our service to His Kingdom.

We practice hospitality because we want to reach people with God’s Word and encourage them in their walk.

Come Up With a List of Questions

Because hospitality is about so much more than food and center pieces, we must be intentional about keeping a Christ centered focus when practicing hospitality.

Easy Questions to Get Conversation Started:

- Have you lived in our town your whole life?
- Where did you meet?
- Ask for the story of how they got married
- And so on

Develop Your Schedule for the Night Intentionally

Make sure you are the one leading where the night goes. Come up with a game plan before your guests arrive.
After dinner you can invite the family to all play a board game together. Or show the kids to the play room and offer the adults coffee and dessert so you can talk more.

To Be In Prayer

Be in constant prayer that GOD would be the one directing your hospitality.

BEGIN the entire process of hospitality in Prayer. And don’t forget to include your husband and your kids in this time of prayer and reflection.

And remember – prayer and serving doesn’t end when they walk out of your front door. Remember to continually pray for those you’ve gotten to know.

Study What Biblical Hospitality Means

The most important part of hospitality is the Biblical meaning.

Without God’s Word guiding us, hospitality is nothing more than empty entertaining.

Don’t forget: The ultimate purpose of hospitality is to minister to those around us – both believers and unbelievers.

Planning is an important part of hospitality

“Planning is an important part of hospitality. Without planning you will not be prepared to meet the needs of guests, and you might miss opportunities to extend hospitality. Planning suggests you are anticipating opportunities to prepare a meal, invite a guest to stay the night, or open your home to others
in some way...Any time you extend hospitality, planning is required. Unfortunately, we are often unprepared because we have not anticipated opportunities.” - Practicing Hospitality, pg 103

For further study:

- **Practicing Hospitality** by Pat Ennis and Lisa Tatlock
- **Hospitality With Confidence** by Grace Pittman
- **The Hospitality Commands** by Alexander Strauch
- **The Christian Homemaker’s Handbook** by Pat Ennis and Dorothy Patterson
Session #6
How to Practice Hospitality on a Budget

Hospitality Doesn’t Have to Be Fancy or Expensive

“Many people don’t practice hospitality because of the expense. You don’t, however, have to impress people with sumptuous meals or be the best entertainer in your church. Hospitality is to be a service to others, not an ego inflator.” - Hospitality Commands, pg. 51

It’s not about US

❤️ When practicing Biblical hospitality, we must remember that it’s about service to others, and not about ourselves.

❤️ When you put on love and humility, those things don’t matter.

God is more concerned about caring relationships

“Hospitality from a Biblical perspective is to recognize that God is more interested in caring relationships than the mold behind the shower curtain...It need not matter if we live in a single-room apartment or a split-level ranch, the only real requirement is allowing God to use our lives and our possessions...Our homes and our lives are indeed the most powerful combination of ministry to our world.” - Hospitality with Confidence, pg 9

Frugal Tips for Extending Hospitality

❤️ Hospitality is not about having the perfect house or showing off your cooking skills. Hospitality is about meeting people where they are and learning how you can best serve them - whether that be with a warm meal or friendly conversation.
Hospitality doesn’t need to be expensive. You don’t need special skills or resources. All you need is a willingness to serve and the motivation to go do it!

Hospitality is about a heart for service

“Hospitality is about a heart for service, the creativity to stretch whatever we do have available, and the energy to give the time necessary to add a flourish to ordinary events of life.” – Practicing Hospitality, pg 15

Host a Simple Dinner

- Make a simple meal of spaghetti and meatballs with a simple side salad.
- Or have breakfast for dinner and make french toast with fruit.

- The real reason you are getting together is for community, so don’t put all your focus on the food…it doesn’t matter that much!

Host Dessert and/or Coffee

- I often do this during the week and invite other moms and women over to my house for coffee and desserts.

- It’s simple, easy and doesn’t cost very much!

Meet at the park

- Each family brings their own lunch (and I usually grab a dessert or snack) and we have fun with our kids at the park.
That way it isn’t a strain on either family!

Host a Potluck

Hosting a potluck outside is a great way to show hospitality even when you don’t have a lot of room or money!

Ask each couple to bring either a main or side dish and you instantly have a great party.

Stretching Your Budget Further

Make simple meals with simple ingredients and learn how to stretch those meals to feed larger families and groups.

As you get into the habit of hospitality, you start to learn better what types of meals are cheaper, which meals feed large groups better, and so on.

Just remember, this is a form of service.

Ultimately, hospitality is a form of service.

It’s a service that God has called all Christians to. Will it cost a few dollars extra to make spaghetti for another family? Yes.

But God calls us to be good stewards of HIS money and one way we do that is by serving Him with our finances.
Session #7
Quick Cleaning Tips for Extending Hospitality

Routinely Do Deep Cleaning

❤️ If you keep up on it, then when it's the day you are having guests over, it will be a lot easier to tidy up and get rid of the clutter.

❤️ I created a daily disciplines sheet to help me keep up on it all (you can download my sheet from the Bonus downloads page)

Download the Daily Disciplines Sheet

❤️ Starting today, do the daily tasks and before you know it, you will be catching up on all those pesky house chores.

❤️ It really makes extending hospitality so much easier and then frees you up to focus on your guests and sharing His Gospel.

❤️ Plus your husband and kids will probably be a lot happier to have a happy and relaxed mom the day of.

Quick Cleaning Guide

❤️ Included in your Hospitality Binder Kit that you got with this course, is a Quick Cleaning Guide.

❤️ Start going through this list early in the day so that you can relax more in the evening as it gets closer to extending hospitality.
Put on Humility

❤️ And just remember, even if your house is in total chaos, **God can still use that to serve those you’ve invited into your home.**
Go to Downloads Page to Download it and print it out

Our Family Hospitality Mission Statement

❤️ Use this page to develop your family mission statement for extending hospitality.

❤️ This is a good place to write in the definition of hospitality, what hospitality will look like to your family, any key Bible verses you want to remember, and inspiration for keeping your heart in the right place when extending hospitality.

Our Family Hospitality Invite List

❤️ We want to be prayerful and intentional about who we invite over to our house.

❤️ It's helpful to write it down on this sheet because it's surprising how quickly you forget.

Family Hospitality Meal Plan Cards

❤️ While the point of hospitality is not all about the food, it's so nice to have these meal plan cards to help you get organized.
Printable Name Cards

❤️ This page is just a fun one and a good way to get your kids involved if they are old enough.

Quick Cleaning List

❤️ We went over this sheet in session #7.

❤️ Print out this sheet and use it the day of (or even the day before) as a quick cleaning guide to get your house ready for guests!

Kitchen Equivalents

❤️ I cut mine out and attached it to the inside of my spice cupboard. It's been a life saver so many times in the kitchen!

Recipe Cards

❤️ These two sheets are hospitality requirements of mine.

❤️ It's all right here and ready for me to create my meal plan and shopping list!

Scripture Verses and Quotes

❤️ I like to pull these out on stressful days to get my heart focused back in the right spot.

❤️ A fun way to get kids involved!
Assemble Your Binder

❤️ Now that we've gone through all the pages, your assignment for today is to get this binder printed out and all assembled!

❤️ Get your kids involved and make a fun project out of it so that they can start getting excited about the idea of hospitality as well!
Session #9
Small Space Hospitality

Don’t Take it Personally

“The people who offer to have the get-together at their house might be good-heartedly thinking of the apartment-dweller’s finances and inconvenience in having their family over.” - Wendy

❤️ Try not to take it personally and just remember our overall goal in extending hospitality: To serve others!

The Culture Doesn’t Teach Hospitality: Be Patient

❤️ Families within and outside the church are often not familiar and may not be comfortable with hospitality.

❤️ Go with the flow and get to know the family. And just be thankful for whatever opportunity you do have minister to that family.

Keep Families with Children in Mind

“The family could be very aware of the work the apartment-dweller will have to do in order to host a family, perhaps their children are not as well trained as they’d like, and they’re concerned that their children will break things in an apartment, or make too much noise and disturb others in the building.” - Wendy

Make it Easy for the Family

“Sometimes coming to a building at night also can be intimidating, and even scary for some, and the apartment person should realize that their guests..."
may not be familiar with the area, the apartment complex, or how to get in, where to park, etc., Perhaps there could be ways to make this easier—invite them to follow you home after church, in daylight, be outside to greet them, and show them the way to your apartment, walk them to their car, provide a map to the building.” – Wendy

Ask the Family You Are Inviting Over to Help

❤️ Do not assume that the family will or even can bring something but if you know this family wants to contribute then let them!

Make Your House Kid Friendly

❤️ Be ready for kids being in your apartment.

❤️ Grab a couple classic kid movies at Goodwill or find Veggie Tales on Netflix and offer to put a movie on for the kids.

Keep Practicing and Learning!

❤️ And always remember that the goal of hospitality is to share Christ with those in our church and our neighborhoods!
Session #10

Tools for Extending Hospitality

The Basics

- Bowls, plates, cups, and silverware for enough people
- Serving dishes (for things like bread, salad, appetizers)
- Napkins
- Enough seats for everyone
- Coffee accessories (coffee mugs, sugar, creamer, etc.)
- Ice and water easily accessible for guests during dinner
- Other drinks available? (ice tea, sodas, etc.)

Develop Your Schedule for the Night

- Think through each step of the night so that you can plan to have things out and ready for when guests arrive.
- How will you set the ambiance in your house before guests arrive?
- How will you serve the food? Do guests get their own drinks?
- What is your plan for after dinner? (Serve dessert, make coffee, play a game, etc)
Prepare Your House for Kids

❤️ As a mom of two little ones, it is so welcoming and relaxing to be invited over to someone's house who doesn't have kids but who have thought it through.

Little Kids are Messy & Unpredictable

❤️ You want to make your invited guests feel welcomed into your home.

❤️ Think of your house through the eyes of a little child.

❤️ Think about the meal you are serving and if it's kid friendly or not.

Plan Some Activities for Little Ones

❤️ Strive to make their life a little easier by picking up a couple of inexpensive toys, a coloring book, or even a veggie tales movie to put on in the other room!

❤️ That young family you invited over will be so thankful that you actually thought ahead to what their needs are with little kids.

Learn From Others

❤️ I have picked up some of my best hospitality secrets from watching other women extend hospitality.

❤️ Watch, study, and learn from older women who have been extending hospitality for years!
Study what food they make, how they present it, how they keep the night flowing, the questions they ask, and more!
Session #11

Putting Together Simple Meal Plans

My 3 Favorite Crockpot Recipes


❤️ Kid Approved Mac & Cheese - http://momswithcrockpots.com/2012/01/slow-cooked-macaroni-cheese/


3 Simple Meal Plans

❤️ Creamy Tomato Soup and Grilled Cheese Meal

▪️ This tomato soup is to die for!! http://www.thetarttart.com/2012/11/tomato-soup/

❤️ White chicken Chili Soup with a loaf of bread *See recipe below*

❤️ Italian Pesto Chicken and Rice or Mashed Potatoes

▪️ This recipe is SO easy and so amazing: http://www.thepinningmama.com/easy-dinner-recipe-italian-chicken-bake/

3 Easy Make Ahead Desserts


❤️ Pumpkin Cream Cheese Muffins - http://www.food.com/recipe/pumpkin-cream-cheese-muffins-74401
❤️ Lemon Blueberry Cheesecake Bars
"For a wife and mother it is often challenging to balance the Biblical mandate of practicing hospitality with the priority offering the needs of her family. Perhaps you too can relate to this tension. While the ministry of hospitality often focuses on those outside our home, it should begin within our home. If this occurs, generosity and kindness extended to others become an extension of our family hospitality. We see this modeled in the example of the Proverbs 31 woman. She fed, clothed, and managed her household before extending her hand to the poor and needy (Prov. 31:10-31). The needs of her own family were met before she journeyed out into her community." -Practicing Hospitality, page 73-74.

Remember What Season of Life You are In

“Embracing our seasons of life allows us to continue to practice hospitality joyfully with creative flexibility and resourcefulness, while at the same time maintain our God-given priorities.” – Practicing Hospitality, pg 78

Teaching our kids about Christ

❤️ Having a firm commitment to daily meal times, is an excellent time to share with your kids about Christ.

It's an time we can slow down, focus on our family, and is another way we live out the command from Deuteronomy 6:4-9"

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as
symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." - Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Teaching our kids traditions and about hospitality

❤️ Give your kids a head start and a firm foundation for practicing hospitality!

❤️ Start modeling hospitality now and forming family traditions and you will have an impact on their lives forever and will hopefully impact that family that they have one day.

Set the atmosphere in the home

❤️ Often we only pull out the fancy China and clean and decorate for when others are coming into our home!

❤️ But we have to remember to set the mood in our own homes and create special nights and memories for our own families as well!

Get the kids involved

Get your kids invested so that family meal time is something to look forward to instead of something to dread.

❤️ Let them decorate name cards and set the table how they like

❤️ Get them involved in the process of making family meals

❤️ Make them monogrammed aprons so meal time prep feels important and special
Fun ideas to make meal time special

Make weekly meal themes:

❤️ Mexican Fiesta night every Thursday

❤️ Homemade Pizza on Fridays

❤️ Popcorn and Ice cream on Sundays

❤️ And more! Incorporate your family's favorite traditions and have fun with it!
Session #13

Unusual Hospitality – Think Outside the Dinner Table

Bringing Meals to Those in Need

❤️ Neighbors and those in your church who just lost a loved one

❤️ New moms (don’t forget those who just adopted)

❤️ Shut-ins

❤️ Those who are sick (especially when it’s mom who is sick)

Tips for Bringing Meals

❤️ Deliver in disposable tins

❤️ Select meals that easily reheat

❤️ Select meals that freeze well (and include instructions for cooking)

❤️ Try and cook healthier meals when you can
Host a Tea Party

❤️ Host a tea part for widows within your church/community

❤️ Host a tea and Bible study for young teen girls

❤️ Host a mothers/daughters tea

❤️ Host a tea for young mothers and provide a babysitter/extra pair of eyes for little ones

Hospital Hospitality

❤️ Develop a cards ministry at your church or do it as a family

❤️ Bring flowers to those in hospitals or care facilities

❤️ Take time to sit and talk (or read) to those in the hospital/facilities
Session #14
Decorating Your Home for Christ

What’s the Point?

❤️ Is decorating worth it?

❤️ Why spend the time, energy, and resources?

❤️ Is it a waste of money or a necessity for your home?

When Decorating Can Be Used for God’s Glory

❤️ Are you motivated by pride in showing off your house?

❤️ Or is your motivation to make a warm, inviting house?

❤️ When my purpose in decorating my home is to make it warm, inviting, and as a place of refuge from the world, I can glorify God through that.

A Safe Haven for My Family

❤️ I want my husband to happily anticipate coming home each day.

❤️ I want my home to be relaxing; a refuge from this busy life.
❤️ I want my home to be warm and loving from the moment someone enters the front door.

❤️ I want my kids to grow up remembering our house, not as a perfectly clean museum of all my decorations, but as a warm and loving place to grow up where all of our actions and thoughts were directed back towards Christ.

A Place of Tranquility & Peace

❤️ A place that is conducive to the study of God’s word.

❤️ A place free of clutter so our minds can likewise be free of clutter.

❤️ I want my home, and the atmosphere in my home, to always point back to Christ and his redemptive work on the Cross.

Inviting & Welcoming to Newcomers

❤️ I want to share God’s word with those coming into our house by how our home feels; not stuffy and perfect, but rather comfortable and loving.
Session #15

Encouraging One Another On Towards Hospitality

I still have so much to learn!

❤️ If you still feel overwhelmed or inadequate in one way or another when extending hospitality, then I just want to encourage you that you are not alone.

❤️ It's so normal for women to feel insecure when inviting others into our own private domain: our home!

God calls us out of our comfort zones when we serve.

❤️ It's not meant to be easy all the time, but the sacrifice is worth it.

❤️ Jesus took the ordinary events of life and used those moments to teach others about His saving grace

❤️ We should follow His example and share the Gospel - and Christ's love - in those ordinary events of our lives - such as inviting someone over to share a meal.

My Prayer

❤️ My prayer throughout this course is that you would learn valuable and handy practical skills to make extending hospitality easier - but more importantly, that God would encourage you to get going and serve Him!
Learning to serve where you ARE

❤️ But the ultimate purpose is to be willing to use our house, our cooking skills, our possessions, and our family to serve Him.

❤️ Right where we are.

Your Challenge for Today:

❤️ Go out and serve Him.

❤️ If you want to start serving God with what he has given you, then pray for his courage and guidance and don't wait!

"Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen." – Hebrews 13:20-21
About Jami Balmet

Jami is passionate about Biblical Homemaking and striving to be a woman of God. Jami and her loving husband Jason are busy chasing down very active twin toddler boys and are expecting their second set of twin boys in July 2015. She has a heart for hospitality and making her home an inviting place that reflects Christ. She has a passion for helping young wives and young moms to be transformed by the Gospel and within their roles as Christian Homemakers. Jami has a bachelor’s degree in Biblical Studies and cherishes those days she spends in God’s Word. She blogs about her passions for Christian Homemaking at Young Wife’s Guide and offers practical books, courses, and conferences at Homemaking Ministries.