



spiritual adult

# DISCIPLE ME

## TRACK 3: DEEPENING RELATIONSHIPS

## HOSPITALITY

### ICEBREAKER: AN EXTRA CHAIR

If you could invite *one person* - past or present – (except Jesus) to fill an empty chair at your dinner table this week, who would you choose and why?"

- **What's one thing you'd hope to learn from them - or one conversation you'd want to have?**

### STUDY: HOSPITALITY

As a Spiritual Adult, you're learning that life isn't about everything revolving around you. Things don't have to match your preferences or your comfort level for you to show up with love. Instead, you're widening your life - creating space for someone else's story, presence, and needs. That's humility in action, and it's a clear sign that you're moving from being influenced to becoming an influence. In today's conversation, we'll see that hospitality isn't about impressing people; it's about including them.

#### READ Romans 12:9-18

- When you read these verses, what stands out to you about the kind of person God is shaping you to become?
- Verse 13 says we should "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." What does the word "practice" show us about the kind of effort and intentionality hospitality requires?
- Where in your life have you previously had to "practice" something? What could you learn from that discipline that could help you in the area of hospitality?
- If you could describe, in your own words, what it looks like to extend the kind of hospitality described in Romans 12, what words or pictures would you use?

#### READ Hebrews 13:1-3

- When you consider what the author of Hebrews says here, how does hospitality fit into a larger calling to remember, love, and care for people who are hurting and overlooked?
- Who are the "strangers" in your world – the people you see but don't naturally gravitate toward?

- What could it look like to welcome someone who can't repay you – someone who brings no benefit, convenience, or comfort to your life?

## STUDY: HOSPITALITY AS INFLUENCE

Maybe you've never thought about it in these terms, but **hospitality is influence**. It takes the inward growth God has been doing in you and turns it outward for the sake of someone else. For a Spiritual Adult, this is a major shift. You're not just *receiving* encouragement, love, and welcome anymore - you're learning to *extend* it. You're becoming the person who changes the room simply by making space for others.

- When have you felt God nudging you to include someone - maybe someone new, someone quiet, or someone different from you?
- What barriers tend to keep you from making space for others?
- Where do you sense God inviting you to widen your life right now?

## EXERCISE: THREE CIRCLES

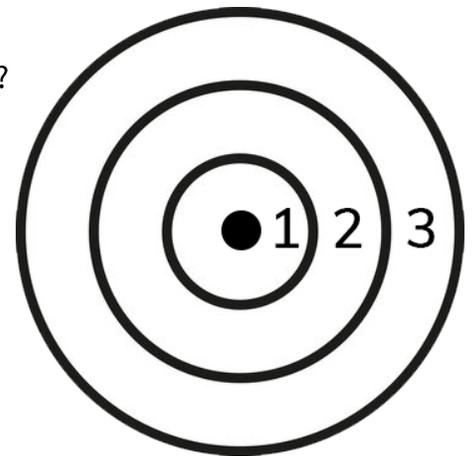
Use the image of the **three circles** to the right for the next exercise.

These circles represent the people God has placed in your life. **Circle 1** - represents **familiar people** in your life. These are the people closest to you - friends, family, coworkers, group members. **CONSIDER:** *How could you build deeper connections and make the people already in your everyday life feel more included and valued?*

**Circle 2** – represents the people you have **regular interactions** with. These are the people you see often but don't really *know* - neighbors, baristas, classmates, people in the church lobby, parents at your kids' events.

**CONSIDER:** *Who do you overlook simply because they've blended into the background? What small acts of hospitality could bring them into focus?*

**Circle 3** - represents **strangers and outsiders**. These are the people you don't know at all - newcomers, visitors, the lonely, the overlooked, the ones nobody thinks to notice. **CONSIDER:** *Who might God be placing in front of you that you've never paid attention to before? And how could you make space for someone who has no natural connection to you?*



## CHALLENGE: ROOM FOR ONE MORE

This week, choose one person - someone outside your usual circle (circle 1) and take one intentional step to make space for them. It could look like: inviting a coworker or classmate to sit with you, checking in on someone who seems quiet or overlooked, introducing yourself to someone new at church, starting a real conversation with a neighbor, asking a barista, server, or teammate a genuine question about their day. The goal isn't a big gesture. It's simply to widen your life for one person. Text your discipleship partner(s) about how you chose to make room for one more this week.