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# LEADER GUIDE

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## LENTEN SMALL GROUP STUDY

### 6-WEEKS LEADING UP TO EASTER

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#### Week 5

March 18

Title: Hospitality

Scripture: Luke 14:12-14

Action: Provide Hospitality

Prayer Practice: Intercessory  
Prayer

#### Preparation for small group gathering: watch sermon from March 18

Welcome to the Group: (15 minutes) Check in with your group. Have your group share their experience of praying with their body this past week.

Go around the room and share a time when someone showed you radical hospitality.

Opening Prayer: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Book of Common Prayer*)

Opening Video: Hospitality. (4 min) Press Pause on the video after Pastor Angie's introduction and questions.

#### Group Discussion: (20 minutes)

1. What examples can you give of extremely good and extremely poor hospitality?
2. Besides offering shelter or food, hospitality can be offering a safe place to express ideas or opinions. What can you do to create a safe environment? What is easy or difficult about that?
3. Who are the Mary and Joseph's in our community? Who are the innkeepers? What is your role?
4. Read Luke 14:12-14 with the group.
5. Who in your life needs to be shown hospitality that cannot or will not show it in return.
6. What are the situations in which you are likely to help your neighbors and situations you are not. How can you overcome your discomfort and fear to show hospitality?

Video: Pastor Angie presents the Action. (4 minutes)

#### Group Discussion (5 minutes)

1. What did it feel like when you were being prompted to pray for those you might not always pray for?
  2. Do you have any insights that you would like to share from this prayer time?
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Hand out the prayer card to use during the week.

Prayer Time: (10 minutes) Introduce prayer as a community practice. Use whatever method you prefer, or use the example below.

Say to group: This is the time where we are able to share the joys and concerns that are on our hearts. It is our honor and privilege as a group to hold each other in prayer throughout the week. Please take notes during this time of sharing so that you may be praying for each other throughout the week.

Closing prayer: Gracious and loving God, thank you for always showing us love and radical hospitality. Help us to show the same love to all of your children. Help us to be mindful of those who need to know you and need to feel your love. Today, O God, we lift our joys and concerns up to you. We ask that you care for each of us, our families, our church, and our community throughout this week. Be with us until we gather again. In your son's name we pray. Amen.



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