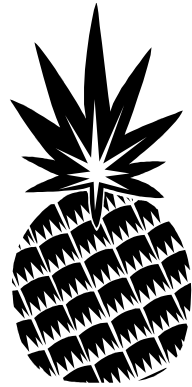


HOSPITALITY



H ... humility to serve

O ... openness to the needs of people

M ... manner of love and generosity

E ... expectation and excitement

AGENDA

Welcome	Sharon Staley	5 Minutes
Questionnaire	Jan Cornell	15 Minutes
Scriptural Examples	Sylvia Curry	15 Minutes
Personal Experiences	Sarah Watson	15 Minutes
Creative Solutions	Mary Duncan	15 Minutes
Group Sharing and Discussion	Sharon Staley	25 Minutes

A HOSPITALITY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Hospitality means . . .
 - a. having Ramen noodles for more than one.
 - b. hanging out at someone else's house.
 - c. inviting people over and letting them bring their own food.
 - d. making people feel at home.

2. To be hospitable I have to be . . .
 - a. an entirely different person.
 - b. a lot more outgoing than I am.
 - c. Martha Stewart's twin.
 - d. myself...only more relaxed.

3. Hospitality requires . . .
 - a. way too much time and money to do it properly.
 - b. more energy than I am willing to give right now.
 - c. less energy than in the past.
 - d. only the effort to make my guests feel welcome.

4. Things that make me say "no" to being hospitable . . .
 - a. I worry too much.
 - b. I'm too busy.
 - c. I don't like to feel obligated.
 - d. I can't live up to people's expectations of me.

5. When I think of who to invite, I consider . . .
 - a. my friends and family only.
 - b. the "in crowd".
 - c. an elderly Brother or Sister who may be lonely.
 - d. everyone, even strangers.

6. To be hospitable to a new neighbor who moves in, I can . . .
 - a. fill them in on all the latest gossip in the neighborhood.
 - b. point out some improvements their home needs.
 - c. try to find out as much as I can about their personal life.
 - d. apply the golden rule – what would I like someone to do for me.

7. I am a frazzled host if . . .
- a. I am still vacuuming while they nibble their appetizers.
 - b. I have to run to the store after they arrive.
 - c. I forgot to put an essential ingredient in the dessert.
 - d. I forgot to display Grandma's macramé hanging, and she is one of the guests.
8. I am a stress-free host because . . .
- a. I take time to be prayerful.
 - b. I do some delegating to other guests or other family members.
 - c. I maintain a good attitude no matter what happens.
 - d. I keep it simple.
9. When I have overnight guests . . .
- a. I warn them that my son's pet lizard sometimes gets loose.
 - b. I acquaint them with how to hold down the handle on the toilet.
 - c. I point out broken chairs in case they would break under their weight.
 - d. I know if I'm comfortable, they will be.

10. Rate yourself as a host:

	<u>Novice</u>	<u>Trainee</u>	<u>Expert</u>
Mingling with guests	_____	_____	_____
Serving my guests	_____	_____	_____
Open to God's leading	_____	_____	_____
Being flexible	_____	_____	_____
Putting my guests at ease	_____	_____	_____
Enjoying my guests	_____	_____	_____
Letting my guests know when the evening is over	_____	_____	_____

CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

SCENARIO #1

Your local Circle is planning to host your Area Ladies Circle conference and spiritual meeting next month. Your group wants to prepare a nice meal and decorate the tables to provide a warm, welcoming atmosphere. You have a small group and limited funds.

Plan a luncheon menu for forty (40) Sisters, using a food budget of \$3.00 to \$4.00 per person. Think creatively about a healthy meal and some inexpensive decorating ideas.

SCENARIO #2

Your branch/mission has several elderly members. Some do not have natural family in The Church; others are widows or widowers; and many of them do not drive any more. They are lonely and would like to visit with the other Brothers and Sisters in the branch. Some would like to be visited in their own homes as well, but they are not sure they can handle entertaining on their own.

Think creatively about how can you help to provide opportunities for visiting and fellowship for these members.

SCENARIO #3

Your branch/mission membership is small, and everyone lives at a distance. On Sundays, everyone usually brings their own lunch so the group can enjoy some fellowship together after the services. One Sunday, a family of six from the neighborhood decides to visit your Sunday School for the first time. They enjoy themselves and decide to stay for the preaching and communion portion of the meeting. You feel God's prompting to invite them to stay for lunch so they can socialize with the group. But you did not bring any extra food.

Use creative thinking to find a positive outcome for this situation.

SCENARIO #4

You have had a long, stressful week at work. All day Saturday you have been busy catching up on errands, laundry, and preparing to file your income tax return. You did not get a chance to grocery shop or clean the house. At 9:00 PM on Saturday evening, you get a call from a carload of Saints who are traveling through your area. They ask for directions to the church building, because they plan to worship in your branch/mission tomorrow. You would love to extend a dinner invitation to them for after the church services (or even invite them to spend the night at your home), but it is now very late – and you have a messy house and little food in the refrigerator!

Think creatively of a way to handle this situation.