

THE *Big 3*

EPISODE: 157

TITLE: Are You Treating People Like Guests or Like Family?

Helping others feel like part of a family, rather than guests to a program, is key to really experiencing the gospel in action.

Here are three key things to believe and consider when preparing to welcome others...

1. **God sees every other person on earth as his kids and part of his family**, so that makes them all brothers and sisters. Some of his kids are far from him or don't know and trust him yet, but that's why we are here! We get to start showing them Dad's love and that there is a place at his table for them.
2. **God is not looking for or expecting perfection from us or our hospitality skills**. Lose the fear of having a perfect house, being Martha Stewart, or impressing everyone with your efforts and skills. That's not what draws others close to our heart or God's. When we see others as part of the family, we can then welcome them into our "mess"—into to our lives and normal family rhythms.
3. **Begin to see your house as a tool and resource for building community and Kingdom**. Viewing your home not as a refuge or hiding place, but rather as God's house, changes our view and the ethos of how we treat others who join us there. Start having a weekly "open table" where anyone and everyone gets invited in regularly and treated like a member of the family—not as a guest.

The goal is not for *us* to look good, but for others to see and experience how good our heavenly Dad is! Every time we have someone over there is an opportunity to make them feel like part of the family. This is all about *them* and how they think God perceives them. Our actions, even well-intentioned ones, speak volumes!

Thanks for listening... we'll see you in the next episode!

Caesar & Heath

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