

## **SHINE**

My daily life should be a living testimony to the better way Jesus offers.

## **SPEAK**

Spiritual things should naturally come out in my conversation with others.

# **4 Simple Things We All Can Do To Reach The Lost**

## **INVITE**

As we talk positively about spiritual things, we should invite others to check it out for themselves.

## **WELCOME**

We must make sure that those who come to check us out are warmly welcomed.

# FIRST TIME GUESTS

- James 2:2-4 “ Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. 3 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," 4 have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**

# FIRST TIME GUESTS

- “Be **not forgetful to entertain strangers**, for thereby some have entertained angels in unawares” (Heb 13:2).
- Abraham’s reception of the heavenly messengers provides excellent lessons in how a church should treat its guests!

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**



**“Entertaining angels in unawares”  
(Heb 13:2).**

# FIRST TIME GUESTS

How should they be treated?

**LESSONS FROM GEN 18**



# LESSONS FROM GEN 18: 1-8

- Demonstrate *respect* (vs 1-5).
- Make *haste* to greet guests (vs. 2).
- Make your *welcome obvious* (vs 2b)!
  - Receive a guest as if he were the Lord Himself (Matt 25:40)!
  - Paul – “You received me as an *angel of God, as Christ Jesus Himself*” (Gal 4:14).

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**

# LESSONS FROM GEN 18: 1-8

- Show them **favor** (vs 3).
- Meet their **needs/make them comfortable** (vs 4-5).
- Consider a guest to be sent by God (vs).
- Involve others (vs 6-7).
- Guests should receive **the best** we can offer (vs 7).

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**



# LESSONS FROM GEN 18: 1-8

- Stand ready to *minister* (vs 8).
- Summation: **“AND THEY DID EAT”** (vs. 8).
  - If guests are received properly, they will be *ready to be feed on the Word.*

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**



# THE FOUR “I’S” OF A WELCOME

- Identify new faces!
- Introduce yourself.
- Inquire about their interest (family, job, etc).
  - Show hospitality. Invite them to eat with you.
- Introduce them to others.

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**



# TEN COMMANDMENTS OF AUDITORIUM MANNERS

- #1: Don't hog the end of the row.
- #2: Don't fight for your regular seat.
- #3. Don't stare at new people.
- #4. Smile and greet everyone you meet.
- #5. Introduce yourself and introduce them to others.

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**

# TEN COMMANDMENTS OF AUDITORIUM MANNERS

- #6: Offer assistance (not directions).
- #7: Share your Bible or song book if no PP.
- #8. Be sensitive to the spiritual needs of the guest.
- #9. Sincerely compliment the guest.
- #10. Take time to get acquainted after services.

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**

# “I’M A NICE STRANGER”

“I wouldn’t make a complaint, I’m a nice guest. *I just don’t go back!* And there are millions of us who can be reached by a little *hospitality, warmth and friendliness.*”

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**

# FIRST TIME GUESTS

**ARE YOU JUST A NICE  
COMPLACENT CHURCH MEMBER  
OR ARE YOU GENUINELY  
CONCERNED ABOUT THE SOUL  
OF A STRANGER??**

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**

# HOW IMPORTANT ARE VISITORS?

- Churches *grow primarily* from “visitor flow.”
  - 75% of converts come from friends and relatives of members!
- **Capturing their information is critical!**
  - Enables follow up and a warm greeting!
  - Provides a data base for “invitation events.”
  - Provides a record for prayer!

What can we do to increase the likelihood of getting the cards filled out and returned?

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**

# HOW CAN WE INCREASE VISITOR FLOW?

- **Jesus:** “**Ask** and it shall be given unto you.”
- Remember: “*The fields are white*” (John 4:35). Share the gospel first at times.
- 10% of visitors come from the marquee, and it increases to 20% if it is a changeable marquee.
- Use the invitation cards. Be persistent!

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**

# ***INVITE PEOPLE TO...***

- Men's breakfast
- Ladies class
- Specific Sermon Topics
- Gospel Meetings
- VBS children up to adult
- Invitation Events!

**25%**

of those who  
do not attend  
church  
services would  
come if invited

# ***Invitation Events***

- **Sunday's Coming –  
Resurrection**
- **Authentic Love – I Cor 13**
- **Could the NT documents  
have been forged?**

**25%**

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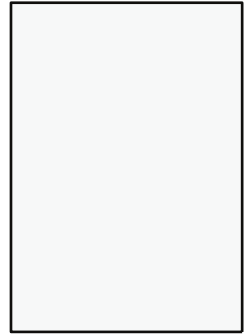
The Johnson Avenue Church Family

[www.jacofc.org](http://www.jacofc.org)

**Use postcards..**

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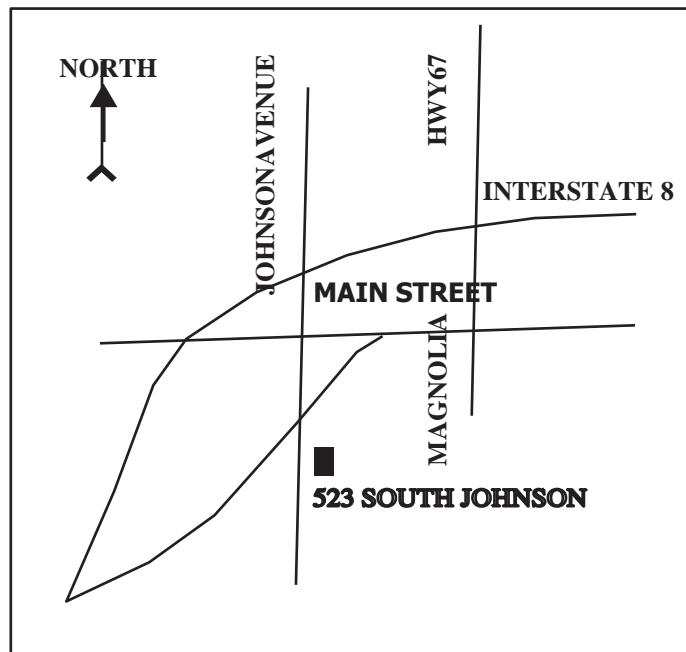
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**“Where Families Build Eternal Homes”**

**The Johnson Ave Church meets at 523 S. Johnson Ave, El Cajon, CA 92020**

## **Regular Assemblies**



### **Sunday:**

9:00 a.m. Elective Bible Classes for all

10:00 a.m. Praise-Prayer-Preaching

6:00 p.m. Worship-Edification Service

### **Wednesday:**

7:00 p.m. Elective Bible Classes

### **Spanish services**

Call Oscar: 619-227-3730

**[www.jacofc.org](http://www.jacofc.org)**

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**THIS IS YOUR SPECIAL INVITATION TO BE MY GUEST**

From: **Brent Hunter** Date: **Jan 22**

Event/Topic: **Rx for the B.E.S.T. marriage**

**Visit our website at [www.jacofc.org](http://www.jacofc.org)**

# HOW CAN WE MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION?

- **Worship enthusiastically!** Good singing.
- 1 Cor 14:24-25 “But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in while everybody is prophesying, he will be convinced by all that he is a sinner and will be judged by all, and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. **So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"**

**ENTERTAINING STRANGERS**

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