

Welcoming, Sides & After-Service Prayers

“ Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

Hebrews 13:1-2

Discussion:

- When you are being welcomed somewhere, what do you appreciate?
- When you are being prayed for, what do you appreciate?

Core Principles:

- Come ready to serve, pray God will use you, wear your name tag and a smile!

Welcoming

1. Greet brothers, sisters, and stranger with the same warmth
2. Aim for a handshake with everyone, including the kids (or a Hi 5!)
3. Help orient strangers to the building
4. **AFTER** the service, bring newcomers to morning tea with you; introduce them to a staff member, or encourage them to fill in a welcome card

Sides

1. With welcomers, assemble the newsletters
2. Take a head count 15 minutes after the start, record the number in service book
3. Pass offering bags during appointed song, take to front for prayer
4. **AFTER** the service, help tidy the pews/ welcome table

After Service Prayer

1. Pray for the congregation during the service
2. Aim to be in the side chapel as soon as the last song finishes
3. Set out 2/3 seats around you
4. Listen; clarify, then pray for people by name
5. If sensitive issues are raised, assure people of your discretion, but you are not bound by secrecy
6. You may refer people and issues to staff team

Suggestions & Resources:

- APBA (Green prayer books) has 'Occasional Prayers' pp. 202-217
- Psalms for various experiences - laments, eg Ps. 13, 22; confession, eg Ps. 51; protection, eg. Ps. 11.
- Silence
- Others?

Questions?