**Hospitality**

**Things we should say to Church guests**

1. **“Thank you for being here.”** It’s just that basic. I have heard from numerous church guests who returned because they were simply told “thank you.”
2. **“Let me help you with that.”** If you see someone struggling with umbrellas, young children, diaper bags, purses, and other items, a gesture to hold something for them is a huge positive. Of course, this comment is appropriate for member to member as well.
3. **“Please take my seat.”** Give up your seat for the elderly, a family with young children or anyone that you think could use a seat more than you. This is dying to self.
4. **“Here is my email address. Please let me know if I can help in any way.”** Of course, this comment must be used with discretion, but it can be a hugely positive message to a guest.
5. **“Can I show you where you need to go?”** Even in smaller churches, guests will not know where to find the nursery, restrooms, and small group meeting areas. You can usually tell when a guest does not know where he or she is to go.
6. **“Let me introduce you to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”** The return rate of guests is always higher if they meet other people. A church member may have the opportunity to introduce the guest to the pastor, other church staff, and other members of the church.
7. **“Would you join us for lunch?”** First, the situation must obviously be appropriate before you offer the invitation. This approach has the highest guest return rate of any one factor. What if your church members sought to invite different guests 6 to 12 times a year? The burden would not be great; but the impact would be huge.
8. **“Please come back next week!”** In the era of technology that we are living in, a personal invitation goes a long way.

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