

# WELCOMING THE STRANGER

--Luke 8:1-3 (The Message)

## 2. Expanding Your Circle of Love

*“Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you,”*  
--Romans 15:7

1) At home with \_\_\_\_\_.

*“<sup>27</sup> After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, “Follow me.” <sup>28</sup> And he got up, left everything, and followed him. <sup>29</sup> Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house; and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and others sitting at the table with them. <sup>30</sup> The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”*  
--Luke 5:27-30 (Living Bible)

*“<sup>5-6</sup> When Jesus arrived in Capernaum, a Roman army captain came and pled with him to come to his home and heal his servant boy who was in bed paralyzed and racked with pain. <sup>7</sup> “Yes,” Jesus said, “I will come and heal him.”*  
--Matthew 8:5-7 (NRSV)

2) At home with \_\_\_\_\_.

*<sup>1-3</sup> Jesus continued according to plan, traveled to town after town, village after village, preaching God’s kingdom, spreading the Message. The Twelve were with him. There were also some women in their company who had been healed of various evil afflictions and illnesses: Mary, the one called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out; Joanna, wife of Chuza, Herod’s manager; and Susanna—along with many others who used their considerable means to provide for the company.*

3) At home with \_\_\_\_\_.

*“<sup>33</sup> Their next complaint was that Jesus’ disciples were feasting instead of fasting. “John the Baptist’s disciples are constantly going without food and praying,” they declared, “and so do the disciples of the Pharisees. Why are yours wining and dining?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus asked, “Do happy men fast? Do wedding guests go hungry while celebrating with the groom? <sup>35</sup> But the time will come when the bridegroom will be killed; then they won’t want to eat.”*

--Luke 5:33-35 (Living Bible)

*<sup>27</sup> As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.*  
--Galatians 3:27-28 (NRSV)