



CONFERENCE 2021

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

MAKING FIRST IMPRESSIONS COUNT

Authentically Welcoming People

- The heart behind the welcome.

BIBLICAL VIEW OF HOSPITALITY

- As followers of Christ we emulate His love and compassion when we show hospitality.
- Throughout the bible hospitality is mentioned.
 - But when you host a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind, and you will be blessed (*Luke 14:13-14*).
 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me” (*Matthew 25: 34-36*).

TO TRULY “MAKE A FIRST IMPRESSION”

.....we have to understand that going to a new church can be awkward and that we only have ONE shot to make a good first impression!

STREET TO SEAT

Systems in Place for Making it Less Awkward:

- Parking
- Welcome Table
- Greeters
- Refreshments
- Info-Bar
- Ushers

BEFORE A VISITOR EVEN SITS DOWN.....

There are 4 areas of contact through which you can influence your guests during the pre-service that will go a long way to making the first impression count:

- Greeted
- Directed
- Treated
- Seated

THE PRE-SERVICE

Greeted:

- Parking
- Welcome Table/Info Area
- Greeters
- Refreshments

Directed:

- Signs, signs, everywhere there's signs...

Treated:

- What do guests want to feel when they visit your church for the first time?

Seated:

- Our goal is to remove barriers so that the message is not lost before it could be found.

WHAT IS YOUR WELCOMING QUOTIENT?

Take a moment to think about this.

DO YOU HAVE A STORY OF BEING GENUINELY WELCOMED?

How did it make you FEEL?

GENUINE WELCOMING INVOLVES...

- Genuinely welcoming churches are more than just friendly congregations.
- Welcoming churches have a heart and a mission.

A WELCOMING CULTURE...

- People are accepted for who they are.
- People are supported in sharing their unique, God-given gifts.

What are some of the unique gifts of those in your church?

VOLUNTEERS

- Have a heart for serving.
- Know the why.

TAKE-AWAY

- People with the heart to serve
- Parking Lot Host - ALWAYS
- Signage
- Well Trained Team
- Well Loved Team

THANK YOU!

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