

Date: 22 September 2019

Speaker: Rev Clement Chew

**Topic: Abound in Hospitality**

Scripture text: 2 Kings 4:8-17

1. Hospitality is the act of being friendly and welcoming to guests and visitors. As Christians, we are to be hospitable to everyone, especially those who are of the household of faith. When we are hospitable, others will be able to see Christ's love in us and it will bring glory to God.

2. The Shunammite woman was a believer and had a standing in the society, yet she was humble and used her resources to glorify God. She exercised hospitality by preparing a chamber for prophet Elisha, so he had a place to stay whenever he went to Shunem. She was perceptive to opportunities for hospitality when she saw that it was important for Elisha's physical needs to be met to serve God as a prophet. Are we sensitive to opportunities the Lord has granted us to use our resources to exercise hospitality? It can be as simple as extending an invitation to a Gospel meeting or opening your home for fellowship group meetings.

3. The Shunammite woman was considerate in hospitality and took great care in providing a comfortable lodging which was conducive for Elisha to do his reading and writing. She gave of her best to him. Hospitality requires inconveniencing ourselves for the comfort of others and we must be willing and ready to do it. Hospitality is a spiritual gift given by the Lord and requires wisdom to be mindful of the needs of others.

4. Elisha remembered the hospitality that was rendered to him. He showed his gratitude by performing a miracle of granting her a son despite her old age. Elisha's miracle was done in the power of the LORD and it also shows that the LORD remembered and rewarded her act of hospitality. When our labours are constrained by the love of God, it will not be in vain and He will reward His faithful servants.