***Gospel Live in the Nitty-Gritty of Life***
***Hebrews 13:1-6***

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***Getting Started***

- What is one favorite memory or meal around a dining table that made you feel deeply welcomed, valued, or known?

- When you think of the phrase "feeling secure," what is one non-financial thing in your life that instantly comes to mind?

***Key Ideas for Discussion***

1. Your Supper Table: Loving Solidarity vs. Self-Protective Isolation (vv. 1–3)
2. Your Sex Life: Covenantal Fidelity vs. Self-Indulgent Autonomy (v. 4)
3. Your Safety Net: Providential Rest vs. Materialistic Anxiety (vv. 5–6)

TT: The test of whether you truly believe in the superior covenant of Christ is found in your Supper Table, your Sex Life, and your Safety Net. Through Christ, our unapproachable God is approachable.

***Digging Deeper*** **(Read the sermon text again and discuss the following questions.)**

- **The Trap of the Abstract:** In *The Screwtape Letters*, C.S. Lewis observed that believers are often derailed not by grand intellectual heresies, but by ordinary domestic squabbles and subtle worldly compromises. Why is it so easy to keep our faith in the realm of "abstract virtues", and why is the transition from Hebrews 1–12 (high theology) to Hebrews 13 (nitty-gritty ethics) so vital for Christian maturity?

- **The Supper Table (*philadelphia* & *philoxenia*):** The sermon notes that the Apostles reclaimed the secular word *philadelphia* (brotherly love) for the local church bloodline and paired it with *philoxenia* (love of strangers). How does opening our private dining tables translate abstract doctrines—like divine adoption or disarming cultural hostility—into a tangible, lived reality?

- **Solidarity in Suffering:** In verse 3, the pastor commands believers to "remember" those in prison as if suffering with them. Given that visiting first-century Roman prisoners involved severe risks to one's reputation, freedom, and property, what does biblical *remembering* look like, and how does Emperor Julian's complaint about early Christians illustrate this radical solidarity?

- **Honoring the Marriage Bed:** Verse 4 calls for marriage to be held in honor (*timios*—precious weight, like Christ's blood in 1 Pet. 1:19) and kept undefiled. The sermon contrasts biblical purity with ancient Greco-Roman hedonism and Gnosticism. How does viewing sexual self-control as an "embodied act of worship" counter modern culture's view of sexual autonomy?

- **The Common Root of Greed and Immorality:** The sermon highlights that sexual impurity and financial greed are repeatedly linked in Scripture and spring from the exact same root. What is that shared idolatrous root? Why is wealth described as a "terrible god" and a "fake safety net"?

- **The Emphatic Five-Fold Promise:** In verse 5, God guarantees His covenant presence through an emphatic five-fold negative in the original Greek ("I will never, no never leave you; nor will I ever, ever forsake you!"). How did Casper ten Boom's decision regarding "blessed money" versus "unblessed money" illustrate true contentment rooted in this promise?

- **Unshakable Courage:** Verse 6 quotes Psalm 118:6: *"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"* How did Casper ten Boom's response to the Gestapo officer embody this verse? What makes this confidence unshakable even when earthly security collapses?

***Apply It!***

- **Your Supper Table:** Our culture often treats hospitality as a tool for transactional networking and social leverage. Look at your upcoming calendar: How can you move toward biblical philoxenia (love of strangers) by inviting a neighbor, college student, newcomer, or isolated believer into a meal this month?

- **Your Sex Life:** In a digital, hyper-sexualized culture, gospel fidelity requires radical vigilance. Whether single or married, what is one practical boundary or habit you need to evaluate in your media consumption, digital devices, or relationships to ensure marriage is honored and the body is treated as a holy temple?

- **Your Safety Net:** Where are you currently tempted to build a self-made safety net rather than resting in God's promise never to leave or forsake you? What is one practical step of risk-taking generosity or trust that you can take with your budget this week to break the grip of financial anxiety?