

“One Nation *Under God*”

Based on Hebrews 13:1-2 (NIV)
Rev. Roger Madden, preaching
June 30, 2019

Hebrews 13:1 - Keep on loving each other as brothers.

† “... loving each other as brothers” calls me to love others even in our differences.

† Each and every person has a common heavenly Father ... God.

† I will not always get along with others but that does not excuse me from not loving them with brotherly love.

Hebrews 13:2 - Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.

† If I avoid strangers, I would never meet anyone.

† I am to welcome strangers when I meet them for I may be welcoming a messenger from God.

Hebrews 13:2b - ... by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.

† Three Old Testament people “entertained angels” without realizing it.

- Abraham (Genesis 18),
 - Gideon (Judges 6), and
 - Menoah (Judges 13).
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† What makes us distinctive as Christians is our desire and ability to love the stranger, love the person different from us, because we love the God who created all of us.

† Diversity is what forged our nation and makes this a great country.

† Loving someone else is what this life is all about and that someone else was once a stranger.

Applying Today’s Message to My Life:

† Where are my ancestors from?

† Who are people I fear?

† Who are strangers that have become people I love?

† What is one way, this week, that I can bless God by showing brotherly love to a stranger in this “waiting room” we call life?