

Elohim Great Banquet Sponsor Responsibilities

Guidelines for being the best possible sponsor for your guest.

"To Know Jesus as Savior and Lord and to make Him Known."

Here are a few suggestions for inviting a guest that should increase your effectiveness, help you properly interpret the Great Banquet, and outline your responsibility in sharing God's grace as a sponsor. The responsibility for the growth of a new Banquet guest rests squarely on the shoulders of you, the sponsor. Follow these steps to be a good sponsor:

1. Select a guest who wishes to strengthen his/her spiritual life; who wants to have a better understanding of prayer, the sacraments, study and Christian action; who strives to live a Christian life that bears fruit for God; or who seeks to know Jesus as Savior and Lord and to make Him known.
2. Be intentional about talking to the prospective guest about the Banquet. Make a specific date (or at least be intentional) to explain all about the Banquet. Answer all his/her questions. If the person is married, talk to both husband and wife, equally, and get both of their commitments if possible. Tell the story of the Great Banquet by letting them know what happened to you at your Banquet/Cursillo/Emmaus. Tell them how meaningful the talks, chapel visits, or worship services were. We ask only that you not share about agape acts and the Candlelight Service.
3. Explain to him/her the community Gatherings (Fourth Day meetings are announced at Closings and in newsletters), and about group reunions.
4. You are responsible for agape letters for your guest. Make sure your Guest's First and Last Name are on ALL letters. Ask your guest's spouse to write an agape letter, and you are also responsible for asking all others for such letters. Family letters should have the word "Family" in the upper right-hand corner so they can be opened first.
****SPECIAL NOTE:** Gifts are not accepted for guests or team members during the Banquet weekends. Gifts are better given before the Banquet or immediately following on their 4th day.
5. When you get a letter confirming your guest, call immediately and share your joy. After speaking with your guest, be sure to call the community registrars to confirm his/her participation. If for any reason your guest cannot attend, call the community registrars immediately. There could be a waiting list of people who want to attend, so the sooner notification of cancellations is made, the sooner they can be accepted.
6. Keep in touch with your guest until you bring him/her to the Send-off on Thursday night of the weekend at 6:30 p.m. (CST – Illinois time) at the Great Banquet location. If for any reason your guest changes his/her mind about attending during this time, please call the community registrars immediately.
7. Make plans to bring your guest to Send-off and plan to stay for Sponsor's Hour which is held immediately following Send-off. This is a time when guests and team members are prayed for by name, and you can pray and sacrifice for your guest.
8. Come to Candlelight and Closing, and celebrate the weekend with your guest. Make plans to take your guest home after the Closing.
9. Bring your guest to the next community Gathering and Singspiration following his/her Banquet.
10. Make sure your guest gets into a reunion group. Invite him/her to yours for a few times so he/she can experience the reunion group. If he/she does not want to become a part of your group, encourage him/her to find one of his/her own.
11. Encourage your guest to be a Christian witness in his/her family, vocation, and church. Be his/her cheerleader so Christ is shared with the world. "See how they love one another." Show evidence in your life that Christ and you are an overwhelming majority.

Where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I... Matthew 18:20