



Our Manual for CHURCH@HOME...for the Holidays



May our CHURCH@HOME be a place of encouragement and building up...
"Always seek to do good to one another and to all" (1 Thessalonians 5:15)

The word "encouragement" literally means "to put courage into." Its opposite, "discouragement," means "to rob people of courage." Since we can't give what we don't have...

I / we will encourage myself by doing the following the rest of the year:

I / we will avoid discouragement by avoiding or limiting the following the rest of the year:

I / we will actively seek to encourage and build up everyone through:

- 1) Respecting each other's work**
- 2) Using words that bless and avoiding words that bruise**
- 3) Consciously noting (journaling, make mental notes, etc.) where I have encouraged someone and when I have discouraged someone**
- 4) I will admonish myself with God's help and seek to repair discouragement**



May our CHURCH@HOME be a place of unconditional love & high esteem...
"Esteem them very highly in love" (1 Thessalonians 5:13)

Robert Frost once wrote, "Home is the place where, when you have to go there, they have to take you in." May our homes run ripe with the grace, love and affirmations of God (Luke 15:11-32).

**I / we will let love lead the way in how
I act and interact with others.**

**I / we will love in the following
tangible ways through the end of the year:**



May our CHURCH@HOME be a place of patience and peace...

"Be at peace among yourselves... be patient with all" (1 Thessalonians 5:13-14)

**"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God"
(Matthew 5:9)**

I / we will seek the way of peace and practice patience rooted in love.



May our CHURCH@HOME be a place of prayer...

"Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

I / we can't do any of this without God's help and the good news is "The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it" (1 Thessalonians 5:24).

I / we will make prayer a more regular part of my CHURCH@HOME the rest of this year by doing the following:



May our CHURCH@HOME be a place of worship - actively acknowledging God's presence with us...

*"Do not quench the Spirit... May God himself sanctify you entirely"
(1 Thessalonians 5:19, 23)*

The original story of the beginning of the "Church" in the Book of Acts states clearly that God does not dwell simply in "temples built with human hands." We know clearly the difference between being the church and going to a building.

I / we will make worship a regular part of our home and be more aware of God with us!



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