



April 2016 - Encourage  
Week 16 April 4/10-4/16

And let us not give up meeting together. Some are in the habit of doing this. Instead, let us encourage one another with words of hope. Let us do this even more as you see Christ's return approaching." Hebrews 10:25 NIRV

We need to meet together, encourage each other and help one another. We gather together to share our faith and strengthen one another in the Lord.

We are all fighting spiritual struggles and the world is dealing with persecution. My NIV Study Bible reads "Anti-Christian forces will grow in strength" yikes!!! (that Yikes is not in the study, but I say yikes because it is and seems to be getting worse by the day!)

Difficulties should never be an excuse for not meeting together and man, I don't know about you, but my own difficulties have gotten in the way of everything the past few months. I know that I am not alone and is important to recognize the issues and encourage each other to keep going. Let's continue to encourage each other through sharing our faith, our difficulties, our art and our lives.

We are in this together and I sure appreciate all of the encouragement from all of you. I am working on trying to pass the encouragement onto others even though sometimes it is difficult. I want to encourage you to do the same.

Consider meeting together. I had a plan of helping to set up small groups of those who document their faith. I have been reminded once again that it is not my plan but His. What I can do for you right now is to encourage you to gather with friends in your area to get together, share, pray, journal, create or just sit and chat. There are no rules or guidelines but rather, just to gather together.

Benefits of small groups:

- Small groups provide excellent support in times of crisis, change, and stress. You'll have a sense of stability and security knowing there are people who really care for you and are committed to standing with you.
- You can really feel like a part of the family. "Most people who have been a part of a group say the greatest benefit is the close relationships and friendships that develop."

The What & Why of Documented Faith

Q: What is Documented Faith?

A: It is a creative way to record, illustrate, document, journal and doodle the everyday moments, Bible verses, inspirational quotes and a growing relationship with Jesus and with others in a planner, binder, art journal, notebook, on a post it note or inside and outside the margins of a journaling Bible.

Q: Why Document My Faith?

A: To develop the habit of spending time reflecting, reading, worshipping, learning and memorizing God's word in a creative way.

Q: How Do I start?

A: First, it is free. All you need to do is register your name and email so that you receive a weekly email. You can follow along each month with a specific focus word and weekly with a verse that coordinates with that word. What and how you create is totally up to you. Whether you journal, memorize, reflect, create and/or apply the verse and word into your everyday life, the most important thing is that you are in the word.