

BLESSING OF QUARANTINE

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

December 13, 2020

Message: I let this passage roll around my head and heart for a couple of days. Some phrases jumped out– be cheerful, pray all the time. God uses our spirit, soul, and body to keep us fit for the coming of the Master.

This ties in nicely with Advent – waiting, preparing, having patience for what is to be.

When this pandemic first started, I intended to get loads of things done, work on projects I was in the middle of, finally be super-productive! But the stress of it all soon became too much. I was stressed and not resting, praying, or focusing on what is important in my life. I thought this would be over soon and we could get back to being “normal and routine.” Boy, was I wrong!!

Going back to church safely helped me to get back on track in my spiritual life. This is a time that should not be rushed, and we can be cheerful in our own lives, despite the sadness and sickness that surround us. I rekindled the spirit by praying while walking my new puppy, Cooper. I find solace in being alone with my pet, enjoying God’s wonderful sunrises. Family time was important before, but I am now acutely aware of the precious moments we spend with one another and I realize not everyone will have this opportunity.

This quarantine has provided lots of opportunities to take pleasures in the small things in life, give thanks for what we have, pray for others, and wait patiently. I think I might just be getting the hang of this Advent and waiting thing!

Prayer: Precious Lord, thank you for moments of quiet. Thank you for the joy found in the smallest things throughout the day. Thank you for helping my spirit to grow and learn while I wait patiently for your return. Amen.

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