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PAUL OF TARSUS' WORDS

"For if I preach the Gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for this obligation is laid upon me; and woe is me if I do not preach the Gospel!"

(I Corinthians, 9:16)

Reflection:

According to Paul of Tarsus' words above, I should feel obligated to preach the Gospel of Christ to all those who are in need of enlightenment, guidance, and consolation, with the sole goal of assisting with the moral and spiritual growth of both my neighbor and myself.

Paul of Tarsus Project Team

Paul of Tarsus Project Working Team

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JESUS WITH YOU



Dedicate one of the seven nights of the week to the practice of the Gospel at Home, so that Jesus can stay overnight in your home.

Set the table¹, pour pure water, open the Gospel, spread the message of faith, gather the family and pray. Jesus will be visiting you.

When our home becomes a sanctuary, crime is left to the museum.

When the family prays, Jesus stays at home.

When hearts are united in the bonds of faith, harmony offers blessings of consolation, health, and peace to all. Jesus at home is life at home.

Do not wait for the world to bring you the certainty of the invariable good.

 $^{^{\}rm l}$ Set the table - In the sense of preparing the place where the Gospel at Home will take place.

Spread, from your Christian home, the light of the Gospel over the tormented world.

When a family prays at home, gathered in the blandishments of the Gospel, the whole street enjoys the benefit of their communion with the High.

If someone in an apartment building raises to Heaven the prayer of family communion, the whole building benefits from it, like an ignored lamp lit in a windstorm.

Do not stray from the guidelines of the Gospel amongst your family members. Continue praying faithfully, studying the Master's teachings with your children and with those you love, and, as much as possible, debate the problems that afflict you under the clear light of the message of the Good News, and examine the difficulties that disturb you under the consoling inspiration of Christ.

Do not venture out into the street that night, except for unavoidable duties that cannot be postponed. Stay at home so that the Divine Host can stay there, too.

And when the lights have gone out at the bedtime, pray once more, communing with Him, as He seeks to do, so that, bound to you, you may have Jesus with you at home once a week over seven nights.

THE PRACTICE OF THE GOSPEL AT HOME

Although people may often know the teachings of Master Jesus, not all of them are awakened to the importance of practicing them in their lives. A benefit we can provide to our neighbor is encouragement to practice the Gospel at Home.

GOALS:

- To learn, cultivate, and put Jesus' teachings into practice;
- To unite the family around Christian teachings;
- To create an environment of harmony and respect among family members;
- To create a protective dome by means of the family's thoughts and feelings against negative influences;
- To help people in need by means of prayers and vibrations.

EXPLANATIONS ABOUT PRAYER

THE QUALITIES OF PRAYER

(...) Jesus clearly defined the qualities of prayer. When you pray, He says, you should not make yourself conspicuous, but rather pray in secret; Do not prolong your prayers because it is not the number of words that will make you heard, but their sincerity; before praying, if you have anything against another, forgive them, seeing that prayer is not pleasing to God if it does not come from a heart cleansed of all sentiments which are contrary to charity; finally, pray with humility, as did the Publican, and not with pride, as did the Pharisee; look at your defects, not at your qualities, and if you compare yourself to others, look for what is bad in yourself.

THE EFFICACY OF PRAYER

(...) There are those who argue that prayer is ineffective because God knows all of our needs and it is pointless to list them to Him. They also add that, if everything in the Universe is linked together by eternal laws, our petitions cannot change God's decrees. (...)

THE POWER OF PRAYER

(...) The power of prayer lies in the thought and does not depend on words, the place, or the moment in which it is proffered. Therefore, it is possible to pray in all places, at any time, alone or with others. The influence of a place or time is only felt according to circumstances which favor the meditation Communal prayer has a more powerful action when all who are praying join together in a heartfelt thought and envisage the objective, since it is as if many beseeched together in one voice. But it will do no good for a large number of people to gather together for prayer if each one acts in isolation, on their own account. A hundred people can pray selfishly, whereas two or three joined by the same aspirations, praying like brothers and sisters in Christ, will give more power to their prayers than a hundred selfish people. (...)

HOW TO PRAY

(...) The first duty of all human beings, the first act which should mark the return to activity each day, is prayer. Most people pray, but only a very few really know how to pray! Of what importance to God are sentences which are mechanically linked together by habit, a duty to perform which weighs as heavily as any other duty?

GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GOSPEL AT HOME

- 1. Choose a day of the week and a time when family members can take part, strictly maintaining the schedule to ensure the assistance of Jesus' messengers.
- 2. Open the meetings to as many people as possible. A single family member doing the Gospel at Home will be of benefit to everyone. If you wish and if it is according to your beliefs, provide each participant with a glass of water so that, at the end, it can be fluidified according to the needs of each one.
- 3. Start the meeting by inviting those present to connect their thoughts to Jesus. After that, say a simple and spontaneous prayer (OUR FATHER), addressed to God, which can be made by any participant.
- **4.** Read a passage from the Gospel.

- 5. Make brief comments. Each participant reveals what they have understood from the reading, with simplicity and focus on the theme, avoiding any discussions. Always seek to apply Jesus' teachings to your personal conduct and daily life.
- 6. After that, send vibrations. At this moment, we become donors, and everyone is able to share positive thoughts and feelings. To vibrate is to collect thoughts and feelings and direct them to people, places and situations as below:
 - For peace on Earth and peace in the hearts of all people;
 - For religions and philosophies that are spreading the Gospel of Jesus throughout the world;
 - For the assistance of the sick, imprisoned, unbelievers, and suicides;
 - For the country, state, and city where we live;
 - For the home where the Gospel is being done, for those present and their families, and for their workplaces.
- 7. Say the closing prayer (OUR FATHER).

