

Make Every Effort

Luke 13:23-25 (NIV)

²³ Someone asked him, “Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?” He said to them, ²⁴ **“Make every effort to enter through the narrow door,** because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. ²⁵ Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, ‘Sir, open the door for us.’ “But he will answer, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from.’

Romans 14:13-19 (NIV)

¹³ Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister. ¹⁴ I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean. ¹⁵ If your brother or sister is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy someone for whom Christ died. ¹⁶ Therefore do not let what you know is good be spoken of as evil. ¹⁷ For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, ¹⁸ because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and receives human approval. ¹⁹ Let us therefore **make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.**

Ephesians 4:1-6 (NIV)

¹ As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³ **Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.** ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Hebrews 4:9-11 (NIV)

⁹ There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; ¹⁰ for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his. ¹¹ Let us, therefore, **make every effort to enter that rest,** so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience.

Hebrews 12:14-15 (NIV)

¹⁴ **Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy;** without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

2 Peter 1:5-11 (NIV)

⁵ For this very reason, **make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge;** ⁶ **and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness;** ⁷ **and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.** ⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, **make every effort to confirm your calling and election.** For if you do these things, you will never stumble, ¹¹ and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 3:13-15 (NIV)

¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. ¹⁴ So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, **make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.**

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