

My Church Family

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. HEBREWS 10:25

When our church fell apart, we found ourselves heartbroken, discouraged, feeling like failures, and looking for a new church to replace the one my husband and I, along with 20 other people, helped start 15 years earlier. What was once a healthy, active, soul-winning and ministering church became very sick, problem ridden and financially devastated, and eventually closed its doors.

I thank God for First Place for Health at this very discouraging time in my life. All of the ladies of my First Place for Health class ministered to me in one way or another throughout this very painful time. Through their attendance in class, cards of encouragement, weekly prayers, a listening ear, and godly counsel, they helped me in more ways than I can express. First Place for Health became “my church family,” while my husband and I sought God’s direction for a church where we could become members and serve Him.

“Let us not give up meeting together . . . but let us encourage one another” through the difficulties of life. Better together? Oh, yes! Next time you get the thought that you don’t make a difference in your First Place for Health class, or that it won’t matter if you miss today, think of me and remember that your attendance alone might be the very thing that ministers to someone else in your class.

Your very presence might be the encouragement someone else needs that day to make them realize they are not alone in the battle. Prayer: Lord, help me to minister to others as I have been ministered to. Help me to make the time to encourage others and to reach out.

Karen Ferguson, Houston, Texas

This devotional taken from the book *Better Together*, available in our online store.