

1 THESSALONIANS 4:9-12

Loving Christians, Hostile World

⁹Now as to brotherly love, you don't need anyone to write to you, because you yourselves are being taught by God to love one another, ¹⁰for that in fact is what you're doing toward all the brothers throughout Macedonia.

The Labor of Love

Yet we urge you, brothers, to keep excelling more and more, ¹¹and to embrace the goal of leading a quiet life, and of attending to your own affairs, and of working with your hands, just as we directed you, ¹²so you may conduct yourselves in a way that wins the respect of outsiders, and so you won't be in need of anything. ■

The Love of Labor

As the world ratchets up the hate,
the church must courageously
dial up the love.

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Yet we urge you, brothers,

to keep exceling more and more,

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that wins the respect of outsiders,**

and so you won't be in need of anything. ■