

HC

HALSBURY CHAMBERS

Christmas message



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ITS CHRISTMAS TIME AGAIN!



Put your problems on probation
Run your troubles off the track,
Throw your worries out the window
Get the monkeys off your back.

Silence all your inner critics
With your conscience make amends,
And allow yourself some happiness
ITS CHRISTMAS TIME AGAIN!

Call a truce with those who bother you
Let all the fighting cease,
Give your differences a breather
And declare a time of peace,
Don't let angry feelings taint
The precious time you have to spend,
And allow yourself some happiness
ITS CHRISTMAS TIME AGAIN!

Like some cool refreshing water
Or a gentle summer breeze,
Like a fresh bouquet of flowers
Or the smell of autumn leaves,
It's a banquet for the spirit
Filled with family, food and friends,
So allow yourself some happiness
ITS CHRISTMAS TIME AGAIN!

Written by Bob Lazzar-Atwood

Oh, that we can take this sentiment and waft it into every day of our lives! Why reserve this concept just for Christmas? Why not make EVERYDAY an opportunity to just do the 'right thing' and focus on the things that really matter?

Richard Carlson writes a book called "**Don't sweat the small stuff—and its all small stuff.**" It's a definite MUST READ for everyone, and an excellent stocking stuffer! In a nutshell, this pint sized book helps you to place things in perspective and to find balance to a harried stress filled life. No doubt, there is trouble all around us, much of which we ourselves cannot control. What we can control, however, is our reaction to what is around us. We can choose to let blind emotions such as anger, discourtesy, bitterness, unforgiveness, arrogance, hostility and jealousy blur our existence, or we can choose to be kind to each other, to forgive, to uplift and encourage, in meekness to correct, to strengthen and to support each other. These are choices that we get to make everyday. Sure, there may be people and circumstances that may 'rub' us the wrong way, but we can all learn to better control our reaction and respond in a more positive way to such negative stimuli. To react negatively to the point of regret on our part, simply gives that negative influence ultimate power over us.

As we recall the angelic chorus that heralded Christ's birth, "Peace on earth and goodwill to men," let us return with the song "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me!" As for the New Year, no doubt, it is one bound to be filled with its fair share of challenges, opportunities, trials and tribulations, adventures and opportunities. Through it all, I commend Ephesians 4 v 31 & 32 to you, thus:

*"Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."
Ephesians 4:31-32 New International Version (NIV)*

My prayer is that we all resolve to be a better people; to be more kind to each other; to not sweat the small stuff; to not render evil for evil and in all things, great and small, to just do the right thing.

Here's to wishing one and all, the blessings of a truly Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

Written By: Rionda Godet, Partner
rgodet@halsburylawchambers.com

