

# Advent CONSPIRACY

## Would words of encouragement be meaningful to this person?

- Make a sound bite of words of encouragement for the person's phone or computer
- Leave regular voicemails of encouragement
- Write a heart felt note, rather than sending an email
- Write or give a poem that expresses how you feel about the person
- Make a list of top 10 reasons why you love him or her and frame it
- Create a collage picture of words about the person
- Create a journal with different quotes or messages across the tops of the pages
- Write a love letter
- Make a bookmark with encouraging words
- Occasionally, hide notes in various places, like a lunch bag, under a pillow, in a sock drawer, on the bathroom mirror or in the car
- Is there something you own that you know someone else REALLY wants? Wrap it up with a special note and give it to him or her
- Do a parade of notes by giving a short note for several days in a row
- Have your kids help make handmade cards for loved ones

## Does this person enjoy spending quality time with others?

### Does this person desire more time with you?

## Would this person enjoy a gift of a shared experience together?

- Schedule Skype dates with someone out of town
- Go for monthly coffee dates
- Schedule regular date nights with a member of the family
- Make dinner together
- Go for a picnic together
- Take a walk and talk by the lake or in a park
- Create personalized coupons for things to do together that focus on time together
  - One hour of \_\_\_\_\_ together (Scrapbooking, Gardening)
- If you have a friend or family member that lives out of town, give them a "meal of the month club." Commit to visiting them, and providing a meal, once a month for the next year
- Take a class together, such as cooking, photography, painting or gardening
- Go to a sporting event or the theater together
- Take dance lessons
- Plan a road trip together, could be a day trip or cross country
- Go camping together

## What hobbies does this person enjoy?

- Writing: Make journal or create an idea board
- Scrapbooking: Buy supplies, such as special paper, hole punches or stickers
- Puzzles: Collect brain-teasers, word searches, Sudoku, or trivia workbooks
- Gardening: Purchase a new indoor plant, a helpful tool or gardening book/magazine

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## Would this person appreciate your help more than a gift?

### What chore or activity does this person most dislike?

- Offer to regularly commit to doing one of the following or take requests
  - House projects
    - Clean the gutters
    - Mow the lawn
    - Spring cleaning
    - Clear the driveway of snow
  - Household chores
    - Doing the dishes
    - Cooking
    - Cleaning
    - Making the bed
    - Babysitting
    - Run errands, such as grocery shopping, picking the kids up from school, gas up the car
    - Walk the dog, especially in the winter

## Would this person enjoy a homemade gift from you?

- Make a hat, scarf or blanket
- Make handmade cards and give them a stack to send to other friends
- Teach someone a skill, ie knitting, woodworking, cooking, golf
- Create personalized coupons for things to do together that focus on time together
- Make stationary kits
- Wrap a blank canvas, ask him or her to tell you what kind of painting they would like from you

## What sport does this person enjoy watching or playing?

- Buy two sporting event tickets and keep one for yourself to go with them
- Join them and watch a sporting event on TV and make this person's favorite finger food
- Give them sporting lessons, ie golf, tennis
- Go bowling together
- Take them golfing, fishing or to play tennis

## What does this person enjoy eating? Do they enjoy cooking?

- Make your own jams, salsas or cookie plates
- Make a family cookbook, where everyone submits favorite recipes
- Gift a gift of food with a favorite recipe attached
- Give wine glasses along with a favorite wine recommendation
- Assemble a kitchen basket, include small kitchen items such as towels, utensils, oven mitts or spices
- Create a coffee or tea basket
- Take the person to their favorite restaurant
- Get dessert to go and take it to their house or to a park
- Create a \_\_\_\_\_ of the month club, such as coffee, wine, jam, chocolate

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## Does this person enjoy reading?

- Purchase magazines or a magazine subscription
- Purchase a book (cookbook, novel)
- Make a special bookmark for a reader
- Create a recommended reading list and pair it with a book store gift card
- Give a stack of favorite used books
- Read a book together and discuss it

## Does this person enjoy music?

- Burn a CD of favorite or meaningful songs
- Give a gift card for a music purchase
- Buy a CD
- Buy two concert tickets and keep one for yourself to go with them
- Purchase instrument lessons for them

## Does this person enjoy movies, TV or video games?

- Purchase movie tickets
- Have a movie marathon of this person's classic favorites
- Buy a used video game
- Assemble a movie basket, include popcorn, favorite candy and a DVD or rental gift card
- DVR all their favorite shows and watch them together
- Throw a party to watch their favorite TV show with themed snacks
- Set aside time to play video games together

## Does this person love family and friends?

- Create a family photo calendar
- Create a family photo book of a memorable trip or grandchild
- Make a family cookbook, where everyone submits recipes
- Give a picture frame with a family photo or of you and the recipient
- Buy a board game and play it together
- Have your kids paint pictures for loved ones
- Kids can decorate a pre-made frame and put a special photo of themselves or your family inside
- Make a family fun pack to encourage family time

## Does this person enjoy exercising or healthy living?

- Purchase a workout DVD
- Purchase a cookbook with healthy recipes
- Schedule time to exercise together
- Take a fitness class together, ie yoga or spinning
- Purchase a healthy living magazine
- Go to the farmers market together and purchase items to make a healthy meal