



THEME OF THE MONTH

Diligence

Focused Commitment to Complete a Given Task (Diligence vs. Indifference)

1. Constant, earnest effort to accomplish what is undertaken
2. Steady and careful application
3. The degree of care and caution required by circumstances
4. Earnest and persistent application of effort

Why is Diligence Important?

“Watch out so you don’t lose what you have worked so hard to achieve. Be diligent so that you will receive your full reward.”

2 John 1:8 NLT

“Lazy people don’t even cook the game (food) they catch, but the diligent make use of everything they find.”

Psalm 30:7 NLT

“Be diligent, and don’t neglect this matter, for we must not permit the situation to harm the king’s interest...”

Deuteronomy 6:17 NLT

“Be diligent and turn from your indifference.”

Revelation 3:19 NLT

How Do We Practice Diligence?

1. We practice “best efforts” in all assigned tasks and duties.
2. We are careful and deliberate in the performance of our duties.
3. We maintain “quality control” by doing our very best all the time.
4. We pay attention to detail, as details matter.
5. We avoid a “don’t care” attitude and focus on excellence.



MAT CHAT TALKING POINTS

1. What do we mean by “constant, earnest effort”? Why is this important?
2. How does practicing “best efforts” (doing my best) benefit those you? Others?
3. Is laziness a bad thing? Why or why not?
4. Why should we be careful and deliberate in performing our duties?
5. Explain neglect? Why is this a destructive practice in our lives?
6. What is “quality control” and why is it important in the performance of a task?
7. Why do details matter? If we neglect the details, what happens?
8. What role does “caution” play in living a life of diligence?
9. Why is a “don’t care” attitude detrimental? How does it affect others?
10. Why is “good enough” the enemy of “excellence”?

Talking Points:

Diligence is Fundamental: Without diligence, we cannot strive for excellence. Mediocrity is the normal existence for those who fail to strive for excellence, and our lives (as well as the lives of those around us) are less fulfilled as a result.

Diligence requires Commitment: Diligence, by nature, is a long term commitment to doing our very best at all that we put our hands to do. Scripture reminds us that whatever our hands find to do, we do it as unto the Lord, putting forth our very best effort.

Diligence requires Integrity: Putting forth our best effort requires honesty, as ultimately only we know if we are doing our very best or not. When diligence is blended with integrity, the end result is excellence in effort and accomplishment.

Diligence promotes Success: People who are diligent achieve great things in life. Success cannot be garnered without diligence, and those who give 110% of themselves will achieve things in life most people can only dream about. Mediocrity (good enough) is the enemy of excellence, and there are few people who strive to make excellence a daily part of their lives.