

Series: Successful Living

Title: The Slothful Man vs The Diligent Man

Text: Proverbs

Dictionary "SLOTHFUL": Inactive; sluggish; lazy; idle.

Dictionary "DILIGENT": Constant in effort or exertion to accomplish what is undertaken; industrious.

I. Actions of the Slothful Man.

A. Makes Excuses. [Slothful Servant (Matt 25:24-28)]
1. (Prov 22:13; 26:13, 16; 20:4)

B. Sleeps. [The Disciples (Matt 26:36-46)]
1. (Prov 19:15; 26:14; 6:9-11)

I. Actions of the Diligent Man.

A. Works Hard. [Epaphroditus (Phil 2:25-30)](Prov 10:4)

B. Is Prepared. [David (2 Chron 23:5, 14; 29:2-3)]
1. (Prov 22:29; 27:23)
2. *Be thou diligent to know the state of thy*

II. Characteristics of the Slothful Man.

A. Is Wasteful: (Prov 12:27; 18:9)

B. Is Lazy. [Ahab (1 Kings 2:1-4)] (Prov 19:24; 26:15)

C. Will Not Work: (Prov 21:25; 24:30-31)
[Some at Thessalonica (2 Thes 3:8-12)]

II. Characteristics of the Diligent Man.

A. Is Not wasteful: [Jesus (John 6:1-13)](Prov 12:27)

B. Plans Things Out: Joseph: (Gen 41:32-40)(Prov 21:5)

III. Consequences of the Slothful Man.

A. Is Burdened: (Prov 12:24)

B. Has Problems and Trouble: (Prov 15:19)

C. Becomes Poor: (Prov 13:4; 20:4; 24:30, 34)

III. Consequences of the Diligent Man.

A. Has Riches: (Prov 10:4);

B. Is Satisfied: (Prov 13:4)

C. Has Plenty: (Prov 21:5)

D. Is In A Place of Authority: (Proverbs 12:24)

6 Keys to Success from Solomon: 2 Chron 2:1,5

God Introduced Work: (Gen 1:26-28; 2:15-20)

Sin Cursed our World and our Work: Gen 3:1-6

- Gen 2:16-17 God had already assigned a job to Adam.
- Gen 3:16-19 it would now take more effort.

We must understand work. Col 3:1,17

- We can find fulfillment in our vocation as long as it is God's will for us. Col 3:23-24

So Why Work?

- **To serve the Lord:** (1Pet 1:1)

- **Be a Witness:** (Col 3:25)

- **Support our families:** (2 Thes 3:10-12)

- **Support the Lord's work:** (2 Cor 8:7-8; 1 Cor 16:2)

- **Share with others:** (Eph 4:28; 1 Jn 3:17-18; James 2:15-16)

- **Support the Government:**

o Christ affirmed it: (Lk 20:25)

o Paul affirmed it: (Rom 13:1-7)

- Peter affirmed our obedience as a witness (1 Pet 3:13-15)

6 Keys to Success from Solomon: (2 Chron 2:1,5)

1. **Work Enthusiastically:** (2 Sam 24:24)
 - a. **Do it with all your Might:** (Ecc 9:10; 2 Chron 4:19-22)
 - b. **Put Your heart in it:** (Col 3:23)
 - c. **Do it for God:** (Col 3:22)

2. **Work with Integrity:** (Ecc 7:1; Prov 22:1)
 - a. **Your work will come to light:** (1 Cor 3:13-15)
 - i. **Your lack of integrity will also come to light:** (Num 32:23)
 - ii. **Your Integrity will prove itself in the longterm outcome:** (Lk 7:35, Prov 22:29)

3. **Work Skillfully:**
 - a. **Do Beautiful Work:** (1 Kings 7:15-22)
 - b. **Sharpen your Axe:** (Ecc 10:10; James 1:5)
 - c. **Always be growing, Improving, Adapting:** (Phil 3:12-14)
 - d. **Work Harder:** (Ecc 10:10) *“Put to More Strength”*
 - i. **Not everything is going to come easy:** (Heb 12:4)
Show up early, Stay Late: (Prov 27:23)
 - ii. **The difference between pro teams comes down to desire!**

4. **Work Efficiently: Work Smart:** (Ecc 3:1-8)
 - a. **Manager your Time:** (Eph 5:15-16)
 - b. **Work Strategically:** (Prov 10:4)

5. **Work Cooperatively:** (Ecc 4:9-12)(2 Chron 2:3,8-9)
 - a. **Build a Team:** (Phil 3:16)

- i. (2 Chron 2:7) *He recruited talented people.*

- b. **Work together:** (Eph 4:3; 2 Chron 2:17-18)

6. **Work Persistently:** (Ecc 11:6) *Plant all the Seed!*
 - a. **Some of your effort will pay off Big!** (Mark 4:8)
 - b. **Don't quit:** (Ecc 9:4, Gal 6:9)

**It's time to FALL in Love with your Church
The First Baptist Church of Kingstowne's Covenant**

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ. We engage therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel throughout all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions, to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of

intoxicating drinks, as well as the illegal use, abuse or sale of all mind altering substances and chemicals; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling, and Christian courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this Covenant and the principles of God's Word.