

May Virtue: Diligence

Doing your best and working hard until you're finished

Diligence is a virtue and the opposite of sloth. To be diligent, you need to have the kind of self-discipline that does not wait to be asked to serve, that does not need to be reminded a second time even when you'd rather be lying down on the couch in front of the TV!! For it to become an ingrained character quality it must be practiced daily. That means we must will and strive to do our best and work hard until finished. Some practical evidences of diligence we can see in our lives today are seen in the following "I will" statements:

- A. I will finish my projects.
- B. I will do a job right.
- C. I will follow instructions.
- D. I will concentrate on my work.
- E. I will not be lazy.

Remember this about Diligence:

1. Give it your best shot.

A diligent job is a job well-done. Diligence is giving our best effort in everything we do.

2. It's the little things.

Being diligent is doing the little steps well, to make the end product good. Diligence is especially important when trying to reach a goal. Diligence is doing a little each day to reach a goal, rather than waiting until the last minute to get something done.

3. It can be tiring.

Diligence is not for the weak or easily distracted. Being diligent is not always easy. Diligence requires effort, but the results are worth it. Not just from what is achieved, but from the feeling that you know you did your best, no matter the outcome.



Don't forget-----God also wants us to be diligent in taking care of our soul. That means we need to pray and learn about God. Sometimes we are so busy and our lives are filled with distractions and interruptions, that we do not listen to God as we should.