

Character Trait for February 25 to March 4 is Diligence

Proverbs 11:3, "The integrity of the upright guides them"

CHARACTER: the qualities built into an individual's life that determine their responses, regardless of circumstances.

Diligence: Focusing all of my energy to complete the tasks assigned to me.

Derivation: di•li•gence *n* 1: steady application of effort to accomplish a task 2: exerting oneself to fulfill what is undertaken without unnecessary delay 3: acting with great care and effort

Weekly Verse: 2 Timothy 4:7 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Bible Story: 2 Timothy 4:1-8. In this section of scripture Paul not only gives Timothy instructions on how to live, he also spends a few verses looking back at his own journey. Being near the end of his life allows him perspective on what has been important for him and lets him look ahead to the reward waiting upon the completion of his life.

Quote: "Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard."

Application:

Diligence is the decision to use our energy and time in the best way possible. This is a defining characteristic of the employees of many successful businesses. As the application this week, can you think of businesses that you frequent whose employees demonstrate diligence? How do you think this helps them be successful?

Discussion Questions:

Think of a project you are working on or have recently completed. What were some distractions that threatened to pull you off-track? How did you overcome those distractions?

Are there projects at school or at home you are procrastinating on? Can you think of one or two steps that would begin the process of reaching your goal and getting these projects completed?

Can you think of a television show or movie that highlights diligence?