

Character Trait for October 28-November 3 is Initiative

Philippians 1:9-10, "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ"

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

Initiative: Recognizing and doing what needs to be done before I am asked to do it

Derivation: **Ini•tia•tive** n 1: the power or ability to begin or to follow through with a plan or task 2: a beginning or introductory step; an opening 3: the lead

Weekly Verse: Matthew 7:7 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

Bible Story: Nehemiah 1-2 tell the story of Nehemiah rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem.

Quote: "Unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered you will never grow."

Application: **Ways to show initiative at school and home:**

- **Do It Yourself:** People with initiative are DIY types; they don't wait for others to do the work for them but do it themselves. They especially don't rely on Mom or Dad to do it for them every time. What have you always left for your parents to do that you should be doing yourself?
- **Do What Needs to be Done:** Look at the activities that you are involved with, either at home or school. What needs to be done that isn't getting done? Volunteer yourself to do it instead of waiting for someone else to do it.
- **Do More Than Expected:** Anyone can do the minimum, but people with initiative do more than is expected of them. Maybe you notice the trash isn't at the curb to be picked up, so you take both it and the recycling out.

Discussion Questions:

Why do you think it is difficult to take initiative? What do you see in your own life that prevents you from exercising initiative?

Do you find it easier to show initiative at school or on a sports team or other activity than it is to show initiative at home? Why do you think that is true?