

# HOW TO DEVELOP DILIGENCE

## OUTLINE

### I. WHAT IS DILIGENCE?

### II. TO WHOM DOES GOD COMMAND US TO SHOW DILIGENCE?

1. Show diligence to God.
2. Show diligence to parents.
3. Show diligence in obeying conscience.
4. Show diligence to teachers and elders.
5. Show diligence to civil authorities.
6. Show diligence to employers.

### III. HOW DID JESUS DEMONSTRATE DILIGENCE?

1. He was diligent toward God.
2. He demonstrated diligence to His parents.
3. He displayed diligence in obeying His conscience.
4. He showed diligence to His elders.
5. He encouraged diligence to rulers.
6. He taught diligence to employers.

### IV. WHO IN HISTORY SHOWED DILIGENCE?

1. The Real Hero of the Spanish-American War
2. A Letter to Garcia
3. An Employer's Plea for Diligence

### V. HOW DOES THE BEAVER DEMONSTRATE DILIGENCE?

- A beaver is always busy.
- A beaver prepares for future generations.
- A beaver maintains good grooming.
- A beaver prepares for times of scarcity.
- A beaver keeps a functional home.
- A beaver does its work with precision.
- A beaver warns its family of danger.

### VI. HOW DOES THE SLOTH ILLUSTRATE SLOTHFULNESS?

- The sloth has an abundance of idle time.
- The sloth majors in rest and sleep.
- The sloth is a slow mover.
- The sloth neglects bodily care.
- The sloth spends its waking hours eating.
- The sloth will starve rather than work.

- The sloth sees things upside down.
- The sloth adapts to its environment.
- The sloth teaches its offspring by example.

## **VII. WHAT ARE SEVEN SYMPTOMS OF SLOTHFULNESS?**

1. Rationalizing Slothfulness
2. Making Soft Choices When It Comes to Exerting Effort
3. Disregarding the Importance of Time and Seasons
4. Failing to Finish Tasks
5. Living in a World of Wishful Thinking
6. Bringing Painful Damage to Employers
7. Struggling With Self-Induced Fears

## **VIII. WHAT ARE THE STEPS TO CONQUER SLOTHFULNESS?**

1. Be energized by the power of God.
2. Counteract slothfulness with hunger.
3. Learn the principles of diligence.
4. Begin the discipline of early rising.
5. Respect times and seasons.

## **IX. HOW TO BE DILIGENT**

1. How to Show Diligence to God
  - Diligently listen to His voice.*
  - Diligently keep His commandments.*
  - Diligently love the Lord your God.*
  - Diligently study the Bible.*
  - Diligently carry out good works.*
  - Diligently seek the Lord.*
  - Diligently grow in faith.*
2. How to Show Diligence to Your Parents
  - Get up early in the morning.*
  - Make your bed as soon as you get up.*
  - Adopt unpopular chores.*
  - Complete your studies with enthusiasm.*
  - Finish every job you begin.*
  - Do projects with brothers and sisters.*
  - Start your own home industry.*
  - Let your neighbors observe your diligence.*
  - Look for people who need your help.*
3. How to Show Diligence to Conscience
  - Study the work of God's Spirit.*
  - Make a diligent evaluation of your thoughts.*
  - Be consistent in your prayers for others.*

4. How to Show Diligence to Teachers

*Go beyond the assignments you are given.*

*Present your reports in an attractive form.*

*Request extra projects to work on.*

*Be fervent in spirit.*

*Always be ready to edify a gathering.*

*Adopt your elders' burdens as your own.*

*Tackle the cleaning job no one wants.*

5. How to Show Diligence to Government

*Enlist prayer for officials.*

*Research your country's history.*

*Offer to serve those in office.*

*Evaluate proposed laws by God's Law.*

6. How to Show Diligence to Employers

*Understand the pressures on your boss.*

*Clearly define your job responsibilities.*

*Become an expert on your job.*

*Find a more effective way to do your job.*

*Arrive early for work.*

*Keep socializing to a friendly greeting.*

*Be productively busy all the time.*

*Write a manual about your job.*

**X. WHAT QUALITIES MUST BALANCE DILIGENCE?**

1. Patience
2. Gentleness
3. Humility
4. Love

**PRACTICAL ASSIGNMENT**