



NAVIGATE

CHANGE
YOUR
DIRECTION

Industria: Constructing Diligence

May 17th, 2015

THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS DILIGENCE:

RECOGNIZE THAT APATHY LEADS TO DESTITUTION

So how long are you going to laze around doing nothing? How long before you get out of bed? A nap here, a nap there, a day off here, a day off there, sit back, take it easy—do you know what comes next? Just this: You can look forward to a dirt-poor life, poverty your permanent houseguest! – Proverbs 6:9-11 (MSG)

Woe to those who live in luxury and expect everyone else to serve them! Woe to those who live only for today, indifferent to the fate of others! Woe to the playboys, the playgirls, who think life is a party held just for them! Woe to those addicted to feeling good—life without pain! those obsessed with looking good—life without wrinkles! They could not care less about their country going to ruin. – Amos 6:3-6 (MSG)

Diligence: a persistent and earnest application to an undertaking, giving steady effort and attentive care, knowing it will serve others in some beneficial way.

THE FOUR WHEELS OF DILIGENCE

1. STEADY APPLICATION

Easy come, easy go, but steady diligence pays off. – Proverbs 13:11 (MSG)

An inheritance quickly gained at the beginning will not be blessed at the end. – Proverbs 20:21 (NIV)

1 Thessalonians 4:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12

2. READY ACTION

May the God who has chosen the city of Jerusalem as the place to honor his name destroy any king or nation that violates this command and destroys this Temple. “I, Darius, have issued this decree. Let it be obeyed with all diligence.” – Ezra 6:12 (NLT)

Preach the Word; be ready (KJV – instant) in season and out of season. – 2 Timothy 4:2 (ESV)

Matthew 25:1-13

3. FOCUSED ARTISTRY

Idle hands make one poor, but diligent hands bring riches. – Proverbs 10:4 (HCSB)

For we are God's masterpiece, he has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. – Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

Everything that the God of Heaven has required should be precisely done for the temple of the God of Heaven. Why should there be wrath against the empire of the king...? – Ezra 7:23 (NET)

4. ATTENTIVE CARE

Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it. – Genesis 1:28 (KJV)

Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it. – Genesis 2:15 (NASB)

All the families on the earth will be blessed through you. – Genesis 12:3 (NLT)

I Will Change My Direction Today by...

- Memorizing [Proverbs 13:11](#).
- Repenting of apathy, unconcern, and purposelessness.
- Finding a place to make a real contribution in society without getting paid a dime for it.
- Surrendering to the will of Christ to be a blessing in this earth.

WALK THE TALK

A Growth Group Guide

1. What did you hate doing when you were growing up that you later found out was beneficial to your life?
2. Read Proverbs 6:6-10.
 - a. Why do you think Solomon used an ant to describe the value of work?
 - b. How does the industry of ants rebuke the vice of laziness?
 - c. When you add Proverbs 30:24 to this picture, why is preparedness part of the true mindset of diligence?
3. Read Proverbs 24:27, 30-34.
 - a. Why is it so important to remain diligent with priorities in life?
 - b. What are some of the negative fallouts with neglect, in this passage? How do these metaphors speak to the fallout in today's world?
 - c. How can we "apply our hearts" and "learn our lesson" to rebuild those places we have neglected?
4. Looking back over the virtue series we have been in, what areas of your life are wide-awake right now? What areas are still asleep, and how will you awaken them?