

Title: The Power of Diligence
Pastor: Fred May
Date: 20 July 2008
Time: 10h30



Proverbs 12:24a

²⁴ The hand of the diligent will rule...

1. Definition

- Passionate – enthusiasm with intensity
- Perfectionist – utmost attention to detail
- Productive – prolific, hard-working
- Persevering – persistent consistency

2. Six steps to blessing

- Study
- Pursuing godliness
- Obedience
- Stewardship
- Victory
- Leadership

a) Study

Diligent in studying Scripture – life purpose

II Timothy 2:15 NASB

¹⁵ Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

- The heart of worship: privilege of presentation
- The ambition to please GOD, to meet with His approval
- Through Scripture: reading / feeding on – I Timothy 4:13

I Timotheus 4:13

¹³ Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

- Memorising / internalising

Psalm 119:11

¹¹ Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.

- Meditation – passion of life

Psalm 1:2

² But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

- The desire to SERVE – true worship invariably produces servanthood.

Matthew 4:10

¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

- Introduces a new dimension, a working relationship.
- Spiritual progress becomes measurable.

John 15:5, 8, 16

⁵ I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

⁸ By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

- The desire to study:
 - The pursuit of truth

I Peter 2:2

² as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

II Thessalonians 2:10

¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

- Commitment to build - life on the Word and the Word into life.
- Developing skills, i.e. "rightly divide" [not inventing a new Gospel but interpreting the simple truth of Scripture].
 - "cutting straight" is a Greek idiom:
 - paving a straight road across country
 - plowing a straight furrow across a field
 - a mason squaring a stone perfectly for specific placement
- Thus: interpretation & application / 'revelation' defines one's existence. Biblical illiteracy is gravely dangerous and costly.