

**Title:** Diligence V – Diligent Leadership  
**Pastor:** Fred May  
**Date:** 7 September 2008  
**Time:** 10h30



**Proverbs 12:24a**

<sup>24</sup> The hand of the diligent will rule...

**Definition of diligence:**

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

**II Corinthians 8:7**

<sup>7</sup> But as you abound in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—*see* that you abound in this grace also.

**1. Governing**

**Romans 12:8 NIV**

<sup>8</sup> if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

**a) Governing people**

**(i) Nurture growth**

**Luke 10:1**

<sup>1</sup> After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

- appoint
- train
- support
- evaluate

**(ii) Maintain justice**

**Deuteronomy 19:16-19**

<sup>16</sup> If a false witness rises against any man to testify against him of wrongdoing, <sup>17</sup> then both men in the controversy shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who serve in those days. <sup>18</sup> And the judges shall make careful inquiry, and indeed, *if* the witness *is* a false witness, who has testified falsely against his brother, <sup>19</sup> then you shall do to him as he thought to have done to his brother; so you shall put away the evil from among you.

- Investigate matters thoroughly
- Treat impartially

**b) Manage the vision**

**(i) Establish and maintain the ethos**

- let vision be VALUE DRIVEN & RESULT ORIENTED
- let vision be PRIORITY-GOVERNED

Purpose – principles – people – practice – policy

## (ii) Build a team

### I Samuel 22:1-2

<sup>1</sup> David therefore departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. And when his brothers and all his father's house heard *it*, they went down there to him. <sup>2</sup> And everyone *who was* in distress, everyone who *was* in debt, and everyone *who was* discontented gathered to him. So he became captain over them. And there were about four hundred men with him.

### II Samuel 23:13-17

<sup>13</sup> Then three of the thirty chief men went down at harvest time and came to David at the cave of Adullam. And the troop of Philistines encamped in the Valley of Rephaim. <sup>14</sup> David *was* then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines *was* then *in* Bethlehem. <sup>15</sup> And David said with longing, "Oh, that someone would give me a drink of the water from the well of Bethlehem, which *is* by the gate!" <sup>16</sup> So the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Philistines, drew water from the well of Bethlehem that *was* by the gate, and took it and brought *it* to David. Nevertheless he would not drink it, but poured it out to the LORD. <sup>17</sup> And he said, "Far be it from me, O LORD, that I should do this! Is *this not* the blood of the men who went in *jeopardy* of their lives?" Therefore he would not drink it. These things were done by the three mighty men.

- spend time together in battle
- develop an inner circle based on loyalty and trust
- sacrifice for them and cultivate love & respect
- savour victory together
- honour them – inward & outward

## 2. Leading

### Romans 12:8, 11

<sup>8</sup> he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

<sup>11</sup> not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

### Model servant leadership

- Set the bar on:
  - Passion for serving
  - Spiritual fervency
  - Commitment to excellence

### Colossians 3:23-24

<sup>23</sup> And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, <sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

Model integrity

- The blessing of sacrifice, e.g. Jacob

### Genesis 31:38-42

<sup>38</sup> These twenty years I *have been* with you; your ewes and your female goats have not miscarried their young, and I have not eaten the rams of your flock. <sup>39</sup> That which was torn *by beasts* I did not bring to you; I bore the loss of it. You required it from my hand, *whether* stolen by day or

stolen by night. <sup>40</sup> *There* I was! In the day the drought consumed me, and the frost by night, and my sleep departed from my eyes. <sup>41</sup> Thus I have been in your house twenty years; I served you fourteen years for your two daughters, and six years for your flock, and you have changed my wages ten times. <sup>42</sup> Unless the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Fear of Isaac, had been with me, surely now you would have sent me away empty-handed. God has seen my affliction and the labor of my hands, and rebuked *you* last night.

- Christ-like commitment

### **Mark 15:47**

<sup>47</sup> And Mary Magdalene and Mary *the mother* of Joses observed where He was laid.

- could not confront the mob
- could not mount a legal defence before the Sanhedrin
- could not appeal to Pilate
- could not motivate cowardly disciples BUT DID:
  - stay at the cross when others fled
  - follow His body to the tomb
  - prepare spices for His embalming
  - believe till the end

## **3. The 'Son' principle**

### **a) The protégé**

#### **I Corinthians 4:16-17 (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup> Therefore I urge you to imitate me. <sup>17</sup> For this reason I am sending to you Timothy, my son whom I love, who is faithful in the Lord. He will remind you of my way of life in Christ Jesus, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every church.

- Committed to ongoing growth

#### **I Timothy 4:15 NIV**

<sup>15</sup> Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress.

- Receiving mentorship: instruction, counsel, encouragement, correction, warning.

### **b) The builder**

#### **Philippians 2:19-22 NIV**

<sup>19</sup> I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. <sup>20</sup> I have no-one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. <sup>21</sup> For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup> But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.

- Witness to the outside - unbelievers, skeptics, cynics

#### **Ezra 5:8 NIV**

<sup>8</sup> The king should know that we went to the district of Judah, to the temple of the great God. The people are building it with large stones and placing the timbers in the walls. The work is being carried on with diligence and is making rapid progress under their direction.

- Related and integrating

#### **Ephesians 4:3 NIV**

<sup>3</sup> Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

- Unflagging passion

**Hebrews 6:10-12 NIV**

<sup>10</sup> God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. <sup>11</sup> We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure. <sup>12</sup> We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.