

T H I S T H A T

PART 7: A LIFE OF EXCELLENCE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord [always doing your best and doing more than is needed], being continually aware that your labor [even to the point of exhaustion] in the Lord is not futile nor wasted [it is never without purpose]. (AMP)

PURSUE SUCCESS OR EXCELLENCE?

1. Success means being the best. Excellence means being _____ best.
2. Success means being better than everyone else. Excellence means being better _____ than you were yesterday.
3. Success means exceeding the achievements of other people. Excellence means matching your _____ with your potential.
4. Excellence is our goal. Success is merely the _____.

A LIFE OF EXCELLENCE

1. Excellence is giving our absolute _____
... and then _____.

Matthew 22:36-38 “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” 37 Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment.” (NIV)

2. Excellence is a _____.

2 Corinthians 8:7 But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving. (NIV)

1 Corinthians 10:23 We are allowed to do anything, but not everything is good for us to do. We are allowed to do anything, but not all things help us grow strong as Christians. (NLV)

Genesis 24

Genesis 24:14 May it be that when I say to a young woman, “Please let down your jar that I may have a drink,” and she says, “Drink, and I’ll water your camels too”—let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master. (NIV)

- ❖ Excellence is the commitment to go beyond what is required or expected.
- ❖ Excellence paves the way for _____.

3. Excellence is won or lost in the _____.

Matthew 25:21 His master replied, “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!” (NIV)

❖ Excellence is the refusal to compromise my actions from the vision in my heart.

4. Excellence is motivated by the _____ of our actions.

1 Corinthians 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. (NIV)

Colossians 3:23-24 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, 24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. (NIV)

Ephesians 6:7 Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people. (NIV)

5. Excellence is achieved through _____.

2 Timothy 4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. (NIV)

Philippians 3:14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. (NIV)

Philippians 1:6 ...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (NIV)

Matthew 6:19-21 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (NIV)