

# diligence:

investing my time and energy to complete each task assigned to me

get 'er done!

**Diligence n. 1: Steady application of effort to accomplish a task. 2: exerting oneself to fulfill what is undertaken without unnecessary delay. 3: acting with great care and effort.**

A person cannot put his heart into his work unless he is personally interested in it. Diligence requires that a person take his or her work personally. Diligence requires more than interest, it also requires the self-discipline to set aside other distracting interests and stay focused.

Diligent individuals choose to make the most of every ability

and will overcome any disability. Men and women of character work hard, regardless of whether they have a chance to win. They don't win by chance - they win by choice.

Diligence is doing a job right. It is insisting on quality - not taking the "easy out" through any compromising shortcuts.

Realistically, shortcuts are always attractive. A shortcut that saves time and energy is not necessarily a lack of diligence. However, a shortcut that hides defects in order to avoid effort is not only not diligent, but it is also dishonest.

**"Never, never, never give up!"**

- Winston Churchill

**"Diligence overcomes great difficulties. Sloth makes them."**

- Benjamin Franklin

**"The block of granite, which was an obstacle in the path of the weak, becomes a stepping stone in the path of the strong."**

- Thomas Carlyle

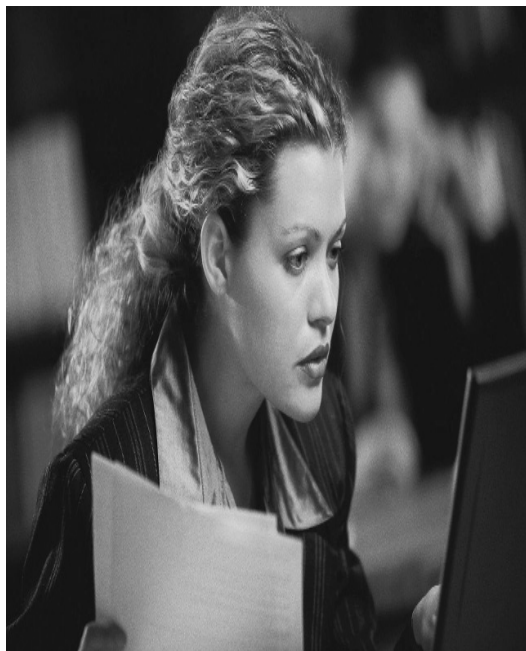
## diligence vs. slothfulness

Diligence is dedicating myself and my resources to seeing a task to completion. It is sticking with the job without allowing distractions to draw me away. It's doing whatever is necessary to finish.

### Diligence is:

- Finishing my projects.
- Doing a job right.
- Following instructions.
- Concentrating on my work.
- Not being lazy.

put your heart into it!



Sometimes in life we are faced with tasks we do not enjoy. Nevertheless, diligence requires that we choose to take a personal interest in the project. Unless we give our heart to the task, we cannot truly dedicate our energy to see it a success.

Diligence requires more than interest. It also requires the self-discipline to set aside other distracting interests and stay focused. Diligence is not just hard work. It is Heart work!

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## From the director:

The Vision for Topeka City of Character is that the community will become a place of good character where people work together to ensure that homes and streets are safe, education is effective, business is productive and citizens care for one another.

Reading the headlines in the paper each day, we may feel like the little boy with his finger in the dike with the dam about to burst. I am convinced that every effort to solve problems in our community has to begin with developing good character.

Character is the inward motivation

to do the right thing whatever the cost. We can help instill character in our lives and in the lives of those around us. The first step is to emphasize good character, using the character words of the month. Take the character quality of the month poster that is distributed in the Topeka Capital Journal the first Tuesday of the month and post it at home, work, school, or church. Use it to facilitate discussion and incorporate character in your life one character quality at a time.

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## We still have words of the month that need sponsors!

October - Loyalty

December - Sensitivity

January - Enthusiasm

February - Flexibility

For your sponsorship, you will receive advertising opportunities on billboards, 40,000 word of the month posters, and a newsletter recognition.

For more information, contact  
Cindy Patton at 233-3699!

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***Good character is the key to success!***