



THEME OF THE MONTH

Initiative

***Identifying and Doing What is Required Without
Having to be Asked or Told
(Initiative or Laziness)***

1. Leading actions, acts or steps
2. The ability to initiate action independently
3. Personal, responsible decision-making
4. The power of ability to begin or follow through

Why is Initiative Important?

“Lazy people sleep soundly, but idleness leaves them hungry.”

Proverbs 19:15 NLT

“Laziness leads to a sagging roof, idleness leads to a leaky roof....”

Ecclesiastes 10:18 NLT

“We were not idle when we were with you....”

2 Thessalonians 3:7 NLT

“Some of you are living idle lives, refusing to work...”

2 Thessalonians 3:11 NLT

How Do We Practice Initiative?

1. Be Observant: See a Need, Fill a Need
2. Don't Procrastinate, Be Pro-Active
3. Plan Ahead, Don't Wait Until the Last Minute
4. Manage Your Time Wisely
5. Encourage Others Through Personal Example



MAT CHAT TALKING POINTS

1. How does taking personal initiative help you? How does it help others?
2. Why is it so easy for most people to be idle (lazy)?
3. How can you take initiative without “taking over”?
4. How do you encourage others to take personal initiative?
5. How can you reward someone who took initiative and helped you?
6. Does taking initiative only apply to an individual or can it apply to a group?
7. How often must you be reminded to do what is expected and required?
8. If your level of initiative was graded, what would you receive? A, B, C, D or F?
9. If you could improve one area of taking initiative, what would it be?
10. Why does the Bible speak so strongly against laziness?

Talking Points:

Be Observant: Be aware of your surroundings and if you see something that needs to be done, don't wait on others to do it. Find a need, fill a need. Be helpful.

Be Pro-Active: Today is tomorrow's yesterday. Don't put off what you can do today for another day, as you only crowd your tomorrow with additional work.

Be Forward Thinking: Waiting until the last minute to study or prepare almost always results in a lackluster performance. Planning ahead avoids disappointment.

Be Time-Conscious: Everyone has only 24 hours in a day. People who take initiative manage their day, rather than allowing distractions to take away from what's required.

Be Encouraging: When others show initiative on your behalf, acknowledge their actions and complement them on their effort.