

## **The Power of Persistence – Lesson 3**

### **Ephesians 4:16**

Paul says when the body is working together, properly, every person in place, doing their part, we can expect increase and we can expect the Body to be edified, to be built up. So, in order to do that, we have to be persistent in our approach to the things of God.

#### **Read 2 Peter 1:10**

Notice, the bible says it's possible for us to never fall, but it requires effort. It requires persistence.

In our last lesson, we said we have to change our thinking concerning work. If you're going to be diligent, you've got to change how you work. Work is not a curse, it's God's plan for bringing out our potential. Once I overcome all the myths and negativity associated with work, I must be mindful of the fact that how I work is important. When it comes to work, God tells us how to work. **Ephesians 6:5-8**

#### **Read Colossians 3:23**

So, regardless of the attitude of the supervisor, you are required to do your job right.

When you set your heart to be diligent in all areas of your life, you should anticipate seven things getting in the way:

1. Unbridled Ambition
2. Selfishness
3. Deception
4. Pride
5. Rebellion
6. Stubbornness
7. Reprobate Thinking

Many people start out focused, determined, committed, diligent, but somewhere along the way the persistence diminishes. What happened? What caused the diligence to diminish?

1. You had relationships with others who slowly eroded your faithful heart— **Read Psalm 1:1**
2. Riches and success also produce apathy—**Read 1 Timothy 6:17**
3. A “rightness” distortion—**Read Matthew 20:1-13**
4. Rumors that are unfounded that tend to distort your perception
5. The reason that birthed the zeal and passion initially is forgotten