

Born with Identity
Part 15: People of Diligence!
Slide Notations

Big Recap... Word and Spirit people! Servant and Slave people! Forgivers of people: others and selves! Refusers of offense: yours and mine! Soldiers, not Cops, for Christ! Doctors of Spirit, Soul and Body! Partner's in Someone's Miracle! People who are *All-in! Spirit Filled and non-scary! Faithful Givers!*

Not one of those attributes of our identity is a Sunday morning demonstration or a part time experience!

Big Recap... *In* the Word, "being filled" by Spirit! Servants to men and Slaves to God! Forgivers of people: all sins/all time! Refusers of offenses: every day! Soldiers defending from enemy! Doctors of Spirit, Soul and Body! Partnering in Miracles/Someone needs! People who are All-in! *Spirit Filled, every day, all places! Faithful Givers, steady extenders/King!*

Often, we think of lives like this as lives of the hot shots; the chosen and anointed; people of special giftings and talents!

Does that even sound like the people God chooses and uses? Does that sound at all like His character, or His Word?

1Cor1.26-29 You have seen in your calling how that not many wise men (after the flesh), not many mighty or noble are called: but God has chosen the foolish things to confound the wise, weak things to confound the mighty, base things, things despised has He chosen so that no flesh can glory in His presence...

1Cor2.1-4 We don't come with excellency of speech, or of wisdom – we're just people who know nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified! People who stand in weakness and fear and trembling, void of enticing words, standing only in the power of the Spirit!

1Cor3.1-23 You're looking around to see who has the brightest star so that you can follow them – isn't that totally carnal? Who is anyone compared to the God who gives the increase to the seeds of truth we sow? We are just laborers in His field! No man is worthy of glory – glory in God who gives men for your benefit because you are Christ's and He is God's!

1Cor4.6-16 I say all these things to stop you from comparing and being puffed up. Who is it who makes one differ from another? God! What do we have that God didn't give? Nothing! And if we have received everything what is there to glory about? We are last, spectacles, fools for Christ, weak, despised... look, you were born in Christ, just follow me as I follow Him!

So greatness in the kingdom of God has nothing to do with background, personality, intelligence, talent, favor, looks, richness...

Then what is it that makes some men and women so powerful and obvious?

Diligence: 1. an earnest and enduring applying of oneself to a task... is what leads to *the consistency of faith* that heroes are made from! A word that usually means a persistent, steady, pursuit with careful attention given to an effort to attain, obtain, or accomplish a task. It speaks of disciplined, committed approach to something... It connotes intensity of focus or labor to a desired or expected end of something... It captures both "plotters" & "plodders..."

Biblically validated principle... "ekzeteo" "Without faith it is impossible to please God... he that comes to God must believe that He is, and, that He is a rewarder of those who *diligently* seek Him!" **H11.6**

Diligence: 2. Speed! Speed that is under power, speed picking up force, speed sustained by momentum, speed toward a destination! Gk: *speudo*: speed, *spoude*: speed, eagerness, earnestness!

“And we desire that every one of you show the same *diligence* to the full assurance of hope unto the end: That you be not lazy, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”

H6.11,12

“Our desire is that you make *speed* toward the fullness of confidence – *don’t be slow in this* – get on track and follow them who are *speeding ahead* to inherit the promises.”

H6.11,12 remix

“We have promises whereby we partake of the Divine nature... and beside this, *giving all diligence*, add virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness and love to faith; so you are never barren. W/o this you are blind, short-sighted, and you have forgotten you have been purged from your old sins. *Give diligence* to make your calling stable and if you do you will never fall!” **2P1.4-10**

With these precious promises of God to share in His divine nature, *make all speed to build on your faith...* by which you bear fruit! Again, *with speed* make your place sure! **2P1.4-10 remix**

The speed by which we chase something, move to attain something, speaks to our perceived value of it!

If we *perceive* the kingdom of God to be *a treasure* hidden in a field... like *a pearl of great value*... how fast will we move to have it?

The Kingdom of God... a treasure hid in the field *which when a man found he hid it and for joy went and sold all he had to buy it!* **Mt13.44** Pearl of great price... *when he found it went and sold all he had to get it!* **v45**

Indifferent? Laid-back? “I’m getting there” Developed a plan/went/got it done! They made “speed” to get the treasure!

What kind of plotting, planning, speed would you employ to get the treasure, or lay hold of the pearl? What does *diligence* look like to you personally? Is it a plan to work? Or the work it takes to accomplish the plan? Or both?

There is a place in Christ where faith flows consistent! No short-cuts but we can expedite getting there by diligent, intentional, all forward gears pursuit of God and His kingdom!

The Bike!