

Moments of Inspiration

GREAT LEADERS EXERCISE SELF-DISCIPLINE

by Iona Simmonds

The boss is coming, better look busy." There is a difference between busy and productive. Being busy is frantic, while being productive is focused. Being focused allows you to produce a better quality of work. Being busy is fueled by perfectionism while being productive is fueled by purpose. When you have a sense of purpose at work, you feel passionate, innovative, and committed. Discipline is an essential part of showing a good work ethic. The father here uses ants to teach his son how to avoid laziness and a lack of discipline in his life. The ants get the grain in summer because that is when grain grows. When the wind blows, some grain falls and the ants rush to get it. In summer the weather is most favourable to gathering. This little creature understands in order to seize those opportune moments we must be intentional. You do not need a boss to be disciplined. If you're self-employed, self-discipline is vital. I will end with this quote:

Key verse: Proverbs 6:6-8

Go to the ant, O sluggard, observe her ways and be wise, which, having no chief, Officer or ruler, prepares her food in the summer And gathers her provision in the harvest.

"You will never have a greater or lesser dominion than that over yourself...the height of a man's success is gauged by his self-mastery; the depth of his failure by his self-abandonment. ...And this law is the expression of eternal justice. He who cannot establish dominion over himself will have no dominion over others." - Leonardo da Vinci

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank you for being the perfect example of being self-disciplined. Even as a little boy you were focused on accomplishing your father's business. You understood timing was essential and sought every opportunity to be do what was necessary to accomplish the purpose for which you were sent. Even when the father turned his face away, you were determined to go all the way until the job was complete. Teach us to be self-disciplined and lead as you did all to the glory of God. Amen!