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Karatina University Town Campus CU

Mid-Week Fellowship

2nd June 2021

Topic: **Academic Diligence**

Speaker: Anthony Kimani

**What is academic diligence?**

Academic is belonging to an academy(school) or other higher institution of learning: also, a scholarly society or organization.

The dictionary defines diligence as the qualities of a hard worker, including **conscientiousness**(careful), **determination,** and **perseverance**.

Diligence is a combination of both hard work and patience because being persistence requires patience.

Diligence is one of the most important attributes of a person. One must therefore feel privileged to have got it.

In general, academic diligence can be defined as working tirelessly on academic tasks which are beneficial in the long run but tedious in the moment especially in comparison to more enjoyable, less effortful diversion.

**What does the Bible say about diligence?**

There are a lot of texts in the Bible speaking about diligence but Ecclesiastes 9:10 is my best ‘whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might’.

There’s a call for us brethren to be diligent in whatever we do. It’s a requirement for us to invest our effort tirelessly and do what we’ve been called upon to do. I like a text from one of the spurgeon’s readings that ‘it’s a general rule of the moral world that those men prosper who do their work with all their hearts, while those that go to do something half their heart, are certain to fail’.

2rd chronicles 31:21[ NKJV] says ‘And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, in the law and in the commandments, to seek His God, he did it with all his heart. So he prospered.

This is a proof that anything done carefully, persistently, and tirelessly will surely be successful. This case equally applies to diligence in academics. Whatever we do, whether in our classes or in our personal studies, with diligence, the results will be success.

**Why is Academic Diligence important?**

Fareed Siddiqui (2014) in his article comments that ‘diligence is one of the most important attributes of a person. It is a heavenly gift that has been endowed upon a person. One must therefore feel privileged to have got it’.

It’s indeed a great opportunity for us to be diligent in our academics as it has more benefits than we probably could imagine. We cannot surely exhaust the importance of diligence.

Edward D. Smith in his article explains that, ‘as diligent students, we’re active in the learning process, and its an opportunity to do things on our free will. Being diligent in studies means that you do not passively wait for others to teach you, but you are anxiously engaged in understanding the truth. The end results will be a joyful satisfaction in learning.

* Through diligence, you’re able to **prepare-** you make plans to prepare effectively, avoid distractions, and work hard to completely understand what you’re studying.
* You **engage-** the whole process of participation through asking or answering questions and providing academic help to others are important part of learning and success.
* Helps you to **improve**- you consistently revise your study habits to increase your capacity to learn, including: planning, organizing key concepts, and reviewing materials systematically.
* When we’re diligent, our souls are rewarded. Proverbs 13:14 says “*the soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, while the soul of the diligent is richly supplied*
* Diligence boosts confidence in our work and results. A diligent soul is certain that everything he has done has been done from the innermost will and commitment.

**What are the challenges to academic diligence, and how can we overcome?**

One of the challenges to a diligent student is distractions. As a focused student, you’ll surely encounter things that draws your concentration to the main goal. Its advisable to stay focused on whatever you do and make use of every opportunity you have.

There’s also boredom in patience. Patience is one of the virtues of diligence, and as you wait, you’re more likely to get bored and loose your focus. In such instances while you’re patient, remind yourself of the goals. Let them motivate you to do more.

**Are we diligent?**

The question I’d like to ask us is whether were diligent in our studies. Are we making most of our time, accomplishing our tasks and investing in our goals? Remember, God has given you your career and expects you to work smart on it.

Your diligence benefits everybody. When you’re diligent, you inspire others to be diligent. Your fellow students watch closely as you make progress and they’re motivated in the same.

My prayer is that God will help us to maintain a diligent life in whatever we do, especially in our studies.

That in fullness of time, we will look back and say ‘surely diligence pays’.

Thank you!