

Life Hacks from Proverbs

- *Life Hack – a usually simple and clever tip or technique for accomplishing some familiar task more easily and efficiently. Impact Definition – Simple ways to win in this thing called life.*
- **Impact Mission Statement** – *We exist to equip all people grow fully in Christ.*
- **Translation:** *We are here to help you win!!*

- **QUOTE:** *Winning happens because we are purposeful about renewing our minds with God's word, so that we think and act in line with his thoughts and actions.*

Week #3 – The Hand of the Diligent

Proverbs 10:4 (NKJV) – *He who has a slack hand becomes poor, but the hand of the diligent makes rich.*

Proverbs 12:24 (NKJV) – *The hand of the diligent will rule, but the lazy man will be put to forced labor.*

Proverbs 13:4 (NIV) – *A sluggard's appetite is never filled, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied.*

Proverbs 21:5 (NIV) – *The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.*

- *Diligent – constant in effort to accomplish something; attentive & persistent in doing anything.*

- **QUOTE:** *When Christians desire promotion and increase, prayer is not enough. We must add action to our prayers by being excellent at what we do.*

- **Matthew 25:21 (NLT)** – *The master was full of praise. 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been FAITHFUL in handling this SMALL AMOUNT, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!*
- God doesn't promote based on time served, good personality, disenfranchised people groups, how much a person wants it, last name, personal connections, etc.
- **God's System for Promotion** – *Be faithful over a small assignment and God will promote us to greater Kingdom responsibility.*

The Character of the Diligent

1. Refuse to Accept Average

- God has not called us to be average. And we are certainly not called to put forth average effort!!
- **Matthew 5:13 (MSG)** – *Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You've lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.*
- **QUOTE:** *Our work matters to God and is a reflection of His glory in our life wherever we go.*

2. Faithful to Their word

- **Psalms 15:4 (NLT)** – *Those who despise persistent sinners, and honor the faithful followers of the LORD and KEEP THEIR PROMISES EVEN WHEN IT HURTS.*

- **Psalms 138:2 (NLT)** – *I bow before your holy Temple as I worship. I praise your name for your unfailing love and faithfulness; for YOUR PROMISES ARE BACKED BY ALL THE HONOR OF YOUR NAME.*
- **QUOTE:** *The honor of our name is built day by day as people compare our word and our actions.*

- Reputation is who people believe we are in PUBLIC. Character is who we actually are in PRIVATE. We must develop and protect both.

3. Handle Their Business

- **Proverbs 6:6 – 11 (MSG)** *You lazy fool, look at an ant. Watch it closely; let it teach you a thing or two. Nobody has to tell it what to do. All summer it stores up food; at harvest it stockpiles provisions. So how long are you going to laze around doing nothing? How long before you get out of bed? A nap here, a nap there, a day off here, a day off there, sit back, take it easy—do you know what comes next? Just this: You can look forward to a dirt-poor life, poverty your permanent houseguest!*
- One of the traits of the diligent Christian is that WE HANDLE BUSINESS.
- We are children of the Most High God. He is excellent and His DNA is in us!!
- We pursue excellence whether we are being paid a little, a lot, or volunteering our time.
- **Colossians 3:23 (GNT)** – *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for people.*
- **QUOTE:** *Anything worth doing, is worth doing well – knowing we are representatives of Christ!*

4. Committed to Punctuality

- **Proverbs 10:26 (GNT)** – *Never get a lazy person to do something for you; he will be as irritating as vinegar on your teeth or smoke in your eyes.*
- Being chronically late often unintentionally communicates a few things:
 - **Pride** – it says, “I’m important enough that others should wait on me and my timetable.”
 - **Lack of Respect** – it says, “Your time or who you are doesn’t matter enough for me to respect your time and your commitment.”
 - **Lack of Discipline** – it says, “My life appears together, but in reality I lack the self-control necessary to wake up early, leave early, or plan appropriately to arrive on time.”
- **QUOTE:** *To arrive just in time is actually late and to arrive appropriately early is really arriving on time.*

5. Have a “No Excuse” Mentality

- **Proverbs 22:13 (GNT)** – *Lazy people stay at home; they say a lion might get them if they go outside.*
- **QUOTE:** *No matter where you started or why you started there, Christ in you can rewrite the ending to your story. NO EXCUSES!!*