

Initiative is seeing what needs to be done and doing it.



DAY 1

Read Colossians 3:23a

We all have big jobs that have to get done. Sometimes the hardest part is staying focused on the task in front of us. It's easy at times to let distractions get the best of us.

Draw or write some things that distract you in the space below.

What if we decided to think differently about WHY we're working? What if think about every single job as if we're working for God? Even if no one else sees or notices what you've done, God does! God sees everything you do! God is so pleased when you finish what you start and get the job done with excellence.

Circle your number one distraction from above. Each time this particular distraction shows up, repeat today's verse and ask God to help you look for ways to help the people you love instead.

DAY 2

Read Ephesians 4:32

Have you ever helped someone and then that someone didn't say "thank you"? Maybe they didn't even notice that you helped them at all? It's kind of annoying to help and then not even get the credit, isn't it?

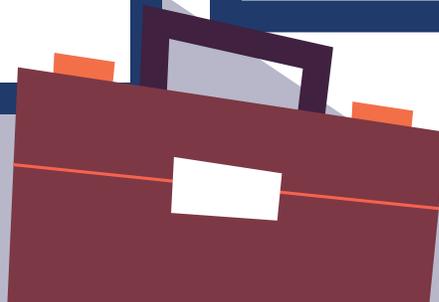
Think again.

When you stop to help, the helping isn't really for the payoff. You help, you show kindness, and you forgive because of God. When you choose to stop what you're doing and help someone else, you're really reflecting on what God has done for you.



God Is...

Grab a piece of paper, a pencil, and some kind of timer. Set it for 5 minutes. In that time, write down all the things you love about God. Write down things that are true about God and things God has done. Then read through your list as a prayer, giving thanks for all God has done. Ask God for help as you make a commitment to look for ways to help the people you love.



DAY 3

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:13

6:45am. . .

Your mom wakes you up and reminds you to complete your morning routine (get dressed, brush your teeth, make your bed, etc.). You throw on your clothes and head downstairs. But there's no bowl of cereal waiting for you. Why? You didn't make your bed or brush your teeth. There's a new rule in your house: if you don't finish your tasks, the kitchen is officially closed. Sounds like some tough love, huh?

When your mom asks you to do something, do you ignore her or do it halfway? When there's a job to be done, don't wait for Mom, Dad, or someone else to do it. Ask God to help you show initiative as you look for ways to help the people you love.

One Thing

Write one task your parent does each week that you could take over, and for an entire week, challenge yourself to complete it without being asked.

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DAY 4

Read 1 John 3:17

Do you have a brother or sister, or a close friend or neighbor? When was the last time you helped them? This verse is pretty clear about what we should do when we see someone in need. If we choose to help, we're showing others the love of God. If we don't, it's like holding up a big sign that says, "There's no love in me."

When it comes to taking care of people who need help, we have to remember to show initiative. It's not enough to notice the need. We need to show others GOD's love by pitching in to help out family or friends.

Name five things you do on a regular basis to help someone in your family or a friend. If you can't think of five, leave the lines blank and ask God to show you new ways to help this week. without being asked.

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Look for ways to help the people you love.