

Attitude and Effort

Story: One day a gentleman was walking down the street on his way to work. Along his way he saw three men laying bricks. He sidestepped the first man and asked, "Excuse me sir, what are you doing?" The man grumbled and complained, "I'm just laying bricks." He approached the second man and asked the same question. The man halfheartedly said, "I'm putting up a wall." Upon arriving at the third man he again asked the same question. The third man beamed, "I'm building a spectacular cathedral which will serve thousands of people for centuries to come!"

The third bricklayer built with a clear and compelling vision. He knew his hard work contributed to some larger and more meaningful purpose. He connected his daily work with his vision, that led him to have a much better attitude than other two. He was driven by his vision and attitude to put forth great effort.

When you can envision the result, rather than just the work, you can change your "have to's" to "get to's" and you will have a better attitude and greater effort.

Questions to consider:

What motivates you?

How do you view the teams mission, vision, and core values?

Is there anything that holds you back or hinders from being the best you can be?

Context: In Hebrews 11 many people were commended for living a life of faith in God. These individuals suffered many trials and faced hostility and opposition because of living a life of faith. At times, they felt like quitting and became weary and discouraged. They were flawed and far from perfect, yet God commends them because they looked to Him and stayed on mission.

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1-3

1. Why do we need to be reminded of others who have gone before us?
2. Is there any sin in your life that you need to lay aside?
3. What is the race God has given you to run?
4. What is your motivation?
5. Do you find yourself comparing the race God has given you to the race God has given to someone else?
6. How was Jesus able to finish the race he was given by God (the cross)?

Key Verse: "...for the joy set before Him endured the cross..." Hebrews 12:2

Anchors to remember:

- Keep a "Big Picture Focus"