

The Pursuit of Excellence

Bible Study

Excellence is preeminence in accomplishment or attainment, especially when no earthly standard of comparison is involved.

1. What do you see about the excellence of God?
Exodus 15:7 Deuteronomy 32:1-4 II Samuel 22:31 Psalm 8:1
Psalm 36:7 Psalm 150:2 Proverbs 22:20,21 Isaiah 12:2-5
2. In what ways did Christ demonstrate excellence?
Matthew 12:28 Matthew 17:24-27 Mark 7:37 Hebrews 1:4 Hebrews 8:6

*Excellence is not to be confused with perfection.
The latter puts one under the law. The former has to do with avoiding mediocrity.*

3. What is our means for excellence as followers of Christ?
II Corinthians 7:1 II Corinthians 12:9-10 Colossians 4:12 Hebrews 13:20,21 I Peter 2:8,9
4. For each passage below list one or more observations about excellence.
I Corinthians 9:24-27 I Corinthians 12:31 Philippians 1:9-11 Colossians 3:17,23
Colossians 4:6 I Peter 1:18,19 I Peter 2:11,12

To pursue excellence means that as representatives of Christ we do all things well for His glory.

5. What can you learn from these OT references to women of excellence?
Ruth 3:11 Proverbs 12:4 Proverbs 31:10,29
6. These verses talk about standards.
 - a. Describe the meaning of a standard in Numbers 2.
 - b. In Isaiah 49:22 and Isaiah 62:10 what is the function of a standard? Who is the standard? How is my standard related to excellence?
 - c. What can you learn from II Corinthians 10:12 about your standard?

The Biblical idea of excellence is each believer reaching his greatest potential.

7. Paul prays for excellence in Philippians 1:9-11 for the Philippians. How is commitment to excellence translated in these Philippians passages?
1:19-26 2:1-11 2:12-18 3:1-11 3:12-21 4:2-9
8. For each of these passages list one or more thoughts on faithfulness and how this could relate to excellence. Summarize.
Daniel 6:3,4 Luke 16:10-12
9. For each of these passages list a thought on perseverance and how this could relate to excellence. Summarize.
Romans 5:3,4 II Corinthians 8:11
10. What are some ways a commitment to excellence would impact your personal walk with Christ? Your life with your family? Your home and possessions? Your relationships with others? Your job? Your ministry?
11. Write your own definition of the Biblical idea of excellence.
12. What application is the Lord asking you to make? List PROBLEM, PASSAGE, PLAN, and be sure to PRAY.