

## Quotation about Diligence

*“Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh, how beautiful!' and sitting in the shade.”* - Rudyard Kipling -

### Reminders

**Business meeting:** next Sunday, November 10 at 2:00 p.m.; if you have an item for the agenda, give to Jim.

**Ladies' Bible class:** next Sunday, November 10 at 4:00 p.m.

### November Birthdays

1 Maria Morales	16 Alessandro Lomeli
6 Ashley Tanner	17 Maureen Nichols
10 Daniel Brown	18 Carlos Pena
10 Felix Perezchica	30 Karen Nichols
16 Alessandro Lomeli	

### November Anniversaries

2 – Shannon & Susan Hudson

#### Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Preacher**  
*Carlos Peña*

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# Indio Informer

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## Making the application...diligence

### What does it mean to

### *“study to show thyself approved unto God”?*

By Bob Prichard

The apostle Paul wrote to the evangelist Timothy, *“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”* (2 Timothy 2:15). This verse well-illustrates the need for understanding that word meanings may change, and we must be ever on guard against misapplying or twisting scripture, even when we try to teach the truth. The rendering, *“study to show thyself approved unto God”* is found only in the King James Version, translated in the year 1611. In 1611 the word “study” meant “strive”, or “be diligent”. Thus the New American Standard Bible renders the verse, *“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth”*. The New International Version renders the verse, *“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth”*.

Bible study is very important, but 2 Timothy 2:15 is not just a command to study the Bible. Being an approved workman involves much more. Paul wanted Timothy to understand that to be a workman that God could approve, he would have to be diligent in his service to God. God is not the kind of Master that accepts shoddy work! By earnestly applying himself in service, Timothy would not need to be ashamed as he stood before God in the day of judgment. To be that diligent, approved workman, he would have to correctly handle the word of truth, what the King James Version renders, *“rightly dividing the word of truth”*. Of necessity, correctly handling the Bible, the word of truth will involve much study, contemplation, and prayer. It will involve bringing an open

mind, an open heart, and a faithful life to the word of truth. Implied in the correct handling is the proper understanding of the divisions between the Old and the New Covenants, understanding that the New Testament is the rule of faith and practice for Christians today.

The goal of being an approved workman should be the goal of all of God's children. In the verses immediately before 2 Timothy 2:15, Paul stressed the importance of living faithfully before God, even to the point of suffering. If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us (2 Timothy 2:12). He then told Timothy, *"Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers"* (2 Timothy 2:14).

The evangelist Timothy was to remind his hearers of the sacrifice of Christ, the need for serving Him, and the need to work diligently to be approved workmen before God. The diligent application of all our energy to the service of God will allow us to join Timothy standing before God without shame. Nothing will help us more to please God than to handle carefully and correctly God's written word. We should look to the written word of God with the same reverence as the psalmist who wrote, *"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path"* (Psalm 119:105).

## **Voluntary Inertia**

By Allen Webster

One Father told his little son that he couldn't go to worship because he was suffering from a severe case of voluntary inertia. I bet you ain't, the little boy answered, I bet you're just lazy.

Jesus, the Lord of the Harvest, always has positions available for workers. No one has an excuse to stand idle in the marketplace (Matthew 20:3), for there is work to do, work on every hand. As long as there is a lost soul on earth (Luke 19:10; Mark 16:15-16), as long as there is one needy person (James 1:27), as long as there is breath in our lungs to praise the Father (Isaiah 38:18; 1 Peter 2:5, 1 Peter 2:9), our work is not done.

To cut away the nice verbiage and get to the truth, some Christians are going to be lost on Judgment Day because they are lazy. Some are standing on the promises, others only sitting on the premises. No Christian should be satisfied to just be a name on a roll. Each should be a hand in the work. Fill a place - not just a space.

The Book says, *"Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord"* (Romans 12:11; Hebrews 6:12). Martin Luther said, "If I rest, I rust". Leonardo da Vinci observed, "Iron rusts from disuse, stagnant water loses its purity and in cold weather becomes frozen; even so inaction saps the vigor of the mind". George Whitefield quipped, "It is better to wear out than to rust out".

*"Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall"*. 2 Peter 1:10

## **The Assured Christian**

Thomas Brooks noted, "The assured Christian is more motion than notion, more work than word, more life than lip, more hand than tongue. When Jesus comes, we need to be doing more than thinking and talking about His work. We need to be doing it.

*"Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, that he shall make him ruler over all his goods"* (Matthew 24:46-47).

## **Exhortation**

Here's brother Alan Williamson's lesson schedule of our Sunday through Wednesday meeting. Our focus is on making personal applications of God's word in our lives. Make every effort to be present to be edified and to encourage one another.

Sunday, 9:45 a.m.

**"Remember Thy Creator"**

Sunday, 10:45 a.m.

**"Worship"**

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

**"The Dangers of Discontent"**

Monday, 7:00 p.m.

**"Perfecting Holiness"**

Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

**"The Progress of the Gospel"**

Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

**"Why Me, Lord?"**