

# Ambition



*A wise youth seizes the day, but what a shame to see a young person who sleeps away his hour of opportunity.*

One obvious character trait of a successful person is endless ambition. They are usually known as hard workers and are always concerned about getting things done. Ambition helps them to see many opportunities that less ambitious people miss. They know that life may not always go their way, but they always take advantage of opportunities that come up.

Ambition and greed are not the same thing. Ambition is a desire to be productive, creating a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction when the work is done. Greed is a desire for personal gain with no concern for the impact of one's actions on the welfare of others.

Ambitious people start their day with a good attitude and think, "It is a good day and I will make it a productive one." They do not procrastinate.

There are three ways to develop ambition:

1. Look for opportunities to bring solutions to situations or to meet a need for your family and friends. Once you find an opportunity, act upon it.
2. Consider your skills and interests. As you develop your strengths, you will be empowered to make a positive impact.

3. Make a plan for what you want to accomplish. As you work at your plan, keep your finished results in mind. Visualize how you will feel when you have met your goal. This will increase your motivation to keep going.

## *Facts about Ambition*

- Opportunities do not necessarily come to us; the diligent person creates them.
- Opportunities follow hardworking, ambitious, and responsible people who have positive attitudes.
- Ambition does not come from just desiring great things; it is produced when we have a vision and a purpose.
- In sports, it is sometimes heard, "The ball didn't bounce my way." Ambitious people go after the ball and make sure the ball comes their way. They create opportunities by pursuing the ball. Some may claim that they are lucky, but ambitious people do not believe in luck. They only believe in preparation and opportunity.

## *Benefits*

Ambitious people are known by the following characteristics:

- Diligence and a positive way of thinking. These characteristics allow for the discovery of new opportunities.

# Action Plan for *Ambition*



## *Steps to Follow*

- In order to take advantage of new opportunities, ambitious people have made the decision:
    - To plan their work
    - To use their time wisely
    - To reevaluate their performance and goals on a regular basis
    - To get a lot done
  - Increasing their skills with each successful project.
  - Knowing the truth of the old saying, “If it’s important, we will find the time!”
  - Setting goals because they see opportunities. They do the work because they see the need. They plan because they know that without a guideline, nothing will get done.
1. Keep yourself motivated by pursuing your dreams and setting goals that measure your achievements. If you do this, you will find more opportunities along the way.
  2. Go after the ball in the game of life and make opportunities come your way.
  3. Be the person that people want to ask to get things done because you are successful and productive.

## *Reflect & Respond*

What are the benefits of being ambitious?  
 What creates ambition in you?  
 What opportunities do you have right now that you should take advantage of?

**Remember... Thoughts become actions.  
 Actions become habits. Habits become our destiny.**

Evaluate yourself from 1 to 10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
What specific action can you put into practice to test the benefits of this principle?										
Check list for the daily reading of this principle.	M	T	W	T	F	S	S			