Character Trait Jan 30th – Feb 3rd is Diligence
Proverbs 11:3, “The integrity of the upright guides them”

**Character**: the qualities built into an individual’s life that determine their responses, regardless of circumstances.

**Diligence**: Focusing all of my energy to complete the tasks assigned to me.

**Derivation**: Diligence descended from the Latin diligere, meaning "to value highly; to love, esteem, prize; to choose." Diligere combined dis (“apart”) and legere (“to pick out, choose”). Thus, diligere referred to choosing one task or object apart from the others. Diligence requires putting one’s whole effort into a particular task.

**Weekly Verse**: Proverbs 22:29 “Do you see someone skilled in their work? They will stand before kings; they will not serve before officials of low rank.”

**Bible Story**: Nehemiah 1:1 to 6:16 describes how Nehemiah rebuilt the wall of Jerusalem in 52 days.

**Quote**: “The secret to getting ahead is getting started.”

**Application**:
- Understand the job.
- Get started.
- Focus your energy.
- Maintain high quality.
- Evaluate your work.

**Discussion Questions**:

1. Are “diligence” and “hard work” the same or are they different? Why?
2. Which one of the 5 steps listed above is typically the hardest for you to accomplish?