

It means

- A. To **live**, **move**, and have our **being** in the name of Christ.
- B. To **trust** and **obey** upon the name of Christ
In all we do.
- C. To **claim** the name of Christ in all that we **say** and **do**.
- D. To **reflect** Christ in all we **say** and **do**.

1V. Jesus, our Model for Excellence

“And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, ‘He had done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.’”

Mark 7:37

Key: The people desperately needed to focus their attention up “the Mediator” and the
_____ **power** _____ **of** _____ **God** _____
to make men whole.

Conclusion:

“Serve whole heartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men.” **Ephesians 6:7**

More Bible verses on Excellence

Ecclesiastes 9:10 Whatever your hand finds to do, verily, do *it* with all your might; for there is no activity or planning or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol where you are going.

Philippians 1:9-10 And this I pray, that your love may abound (i.e., excel) still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; 11 having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which *comes* through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. (NET)

2 Corinthians 8:7 But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, and in all eagerness and in the love from us that is in you—make sure that you excel in this act of kindness too. (NET)

1 Thessalonians 3:12 And may the Lord cause you to increase and abound (excel) in love for one another and for all, just as we do for you, **3:13** so that your hearts are strengthened in holiness to be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

First Church of God



Sept. 2, 2012

Sermon Outline

Pastor, Robert G. White

“The Quality of Excellence In Serving The Lord”

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think – about such things.”

Philippians 4:8

Introduction:

“Striving for excellence in our work, whatever it is, is not only our Christian duty but a basic form of our Christian witness.”

Ted Engstrom

Psalm 144:15

*“**Happy** are the people who are in such a state;
happy are the people whose God is the LORD!”*

Excellent _____ = highest or finest quality, exceptionally good, superb.

1. Attitudes that keep us from excellence.

“O let this mind be in you which was also in Christ.”
Philippians 2:5

Barriers to Excellence

A. **Indifference**

¹⁵ *“I know your deeds, that you neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!”* ¹⁶ *So, because you are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth.”*

B. **Indecision**

C. **Doubt**

D. **Worry**

Key: Worrying will

1. **Damage** your health

2. **Disrupt** your productivity.

3. **Affect** the way you treat others.

“We must stress excellence over Mediocrity done in the name of Christ.”
Melvin Lovefitzen

II. Qualities That Exemplify Excellence

A. **Discipline** - Ability to take charge of yourself.

B. **Courage** - Ability to take a risk.

C. **Perseverance** - Ability to bounce back.

D. **Vision** - Ability to see the future or God’s purpose.

E. **Humor** - Ability to laugh at yourself.

F. **Faith** - Ability to be confident in God’s Power.

“Excellence is giving your best, when your personal best is needed.” **John Wooden, Former College Basketball Coach.**

1. **Establish** goals
2. **Strive** for excellence
3. **Obey** God.

III. Strategies to enable Us to Achieve Excellence

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him” **Colossians 3:17**

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence is not an act, but a habit.”
Aristotle

What does it mean to do all in the name of the Lord?