

# Self-Reliance Newsletter

By: Michael J. Goodwin

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## Principle #9 – Persevere

From: [My Foundation: Principles, Skills, Habits.](#)

The church focuses on 12 principles of employment self-reliance, as found in the newly developed booklet, [My Foundation: Principles, Skills, Habits.](#)

I wish to help you focus on the elements of Employment as it is fundamental to achieving most of the other elements.

Please share this information with anyone you can.

Don't stop, more to follow below. Especially check out the 51 quotes on perseverance.

# 9 PERSEVERE

## PERSEVERE

**Ponder:** How do we learn to continue working on a task until it is done?

**Watch:** "Only a Stonecutter" (No video? Read the next page.)

**Discuss:** How do we learn to keep going even when it is difficult? How does trust in the Lord affect our ability to persevere?

**Read:** Statement by President Faust; Hebrews 12:1; Doctrine and Covenants 58:4 (on the right)

**Practice:** Work together to learn this pattern to persevere and overcome challenges:

- As a group, read each step in the pattern below.
- Turn to someone in the group. Ask each other if there is some duty or task facing them that is very hard.
- Help each other go through the four steps below, talking about the difficult duty or task.
- Commit to each other that you will persevere—that you will keep going until the duty or task is well done.

*"Perseverance is demonstrated by those who ... don't give up even when others say, 'It can't be done.'"*

JAMES E. FAUST,  
"Perseverance," *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2005, 51

*"Let us run with patience the race that is set before us."*

HEBREW 12:1

*"After much tribulation come the blessings."*

DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 58:4

1

### KEEP A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

List your blessings.

2

### REMEMBER TO WORK TOGETHER

Ask friends, peers, group members, and others for help.

3

### REPLACE FEAR WITH FAITH

Avoid doubt. Remember the Lord has all power. Call upon Him and accept His will.

4

### MOVE FORWARD WITH PATIENCE AND COURAGE

Never, never, never give up; endure with faith.

"Don't fall victim to the temptation that ensnared Laman and Lemuel. When they received the awesome assignment to obtain the plates of Laban, the record indicates that they murmured, saying that it was a hard thing which they had been commanded to do. And they lost their opportunity and their reward. Rather, let your attitude be that of their brother, Nephi: 'I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded' (see 1 Nephi 3:5-7)."

Thomas S. Monson, *Teachings of Thomas S. Monson* (2011), 54

**Practice:** Pick a challenge your family is facing. Use the pattern above and identify two or three ways you can move forward in faith, trusting that God will provide:

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**Commit:** Commit to doing the following actions during the week. Check the boxes when you complete each task:

- Practice persevering in the ways you identified above.
- Teach this principle to your family.
- Continue to practice the previous foundation principles.

## ONLY A STONECUTTER

If you are unable to watch the video, read this script.



**ELDER HOLLAND:** John R. Moyle was a pioneer from England who crossed the United States pulling a handcart. He settled in Alpine, Utah, about 22 miles (35 kilometers) from the Salt Lake Temple.

Brigham Young called Brother Moyle to be the chief superintendent of masonry during the Salt Lake Temple construction.

To make certain he was always at work by 8:00 a.m. each Monday, Brother Moyle would start walking the 22 miles about 2:00 a.m. He would finish his work week at 5:00 p.m. on Friday and then start the walk home, arriving there shortly before midnight. Each week he would repeat that schedule for almost 20 years during the construction of the temple.

Once when he was home on the weekend, one of his cows bolted during milking and kicked Brother Moyle in the leg, shattering the bone just below the knee.

They did not have good medical help on the farm, so his family and friends took a door off the hinges and strapped him onto that makeshift operating table. They then took the backsaw they had been using to cut branches from a nearby tree and amputated his leg just a few inches below the knee.

When the leg finally started to heal, Brother Moyle took a piece of wood and carved an artificial leg. First he walked in the house. Then he walked around the yard. Finally he ventured out about his property.

When he felt he could stand the pain, he strapped on his wooden leg, walked the 22 miles to the Salt Lake Temple, climbed the scaffolding, and with a chisel in his hand hammered out the declaration "Holiness to the Lord."

(See also Jeffrey R. Holland, "As Doves to Our Windows," *Ensign*, May 2000, 76–77.)

"Our responsibility is to rise from mediocrity to competence, from failure to achievement. Our task is to become our best selves. One of God's greatest gifts to us is the joy of trying again, for no failure ever need be final."

THOMAS S. MORSON,  
"The Will Within," *Ensign*,  
May 1987, 60

Here's a collection of 51 quotes about the power of persevering in life.

1. "Of all that is good, sublimity is supreme. Succeeding is the coming together of all that is beautiful. Furtherance is the agreement of all that is just. Perseverance is the foundation of all actions." Lao Tzu

2. "You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it." Maya Angelou
3. "In the realm of ideas everything depends on enthusiasm...in the real world all rests on perseverance." Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
4. "It is not enough that we do our best; sometimes we must do what is required." Winston S. Churchill
5. "Perseverance, secret of all triumphs." Victor Hugo
6. "Adversity, and perseverance and all these things can shape you. They can give you a value and a self-esteem that is priceless." Scott Hamilton
7. "It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop." Confucius
8. "You aren't going to find anybody that's going to be successful without making a sacrifice and without perseverance." Lou Holtz
9. "Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up." Thomas A. Edison
10. "Perseverance is an active principle, and cannot continue to operate but under the influence of desire." William Godwin, no relation that I know of.
11. "The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack in will." Vince Lombardi
12. "Champions keep playing until they get it right." Billie Jean King
13. "Perseverance is a great element of success. If you only knock long enough and loud enough at the gate, you are sure to wake up somebody." Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
14. "Courage is not having the strength to go on; it is going on when you don't have the strength." Theodore Roosevelt
15. "Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after another." Walter Elliott
16. "With ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance, all things are attainable." Thomas Foxwell Buxton
17. "Perseverance is failing 19 times and succeeding the 20th." Julie Andrews Edwards
18. "To achieve what 1% of the world's population has (Financial Freedom), you must be willing to do what only 1% dare to do...hard work and perseverance of highest order." Manoj Arora
19. "There are two ways of attaining an important end: force and perseverance; the silent power of the latter grows irresistible with time." Sophie Swetchine
20. "In the confrontation between the stream and the rock, the stream always wins, not through strength but by perseverance." H. Jackson Brown Jr.
21. "The only guarantee for failure is to stop trying." [John C. Maxwell](#)
22. "Things don't go wrong and break your heart so you can become bitter and give up. They happen to break you down and build you up so you can be all that you were intended to be." Charlie Jones
23. "Courage and perseverance have a magical talisman, before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish into air." John Quincy Adams
24. "Permanence, perseverance, and persistence in spite of all obstacles, discouragements and impossibilities: It is this, that in all things distinguishes the strong soul from the weak." Thomas Carlyle
25. "Through perseverance many people win success out of what seemed destined to be certain failure." Benjamin Disraeli
26. "Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all." Dale Carnegie
27. "If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward." Martin Luther King, Jr.
28. "It is absolutely essential to hang in there--especially when you feel most discouraged." Steve Shallenberger
29. "The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one comes from a strong will and the other from a strong won't." Henry Ward Beecher
30. "Keep a relentless eye on your goals! Perseverance, joyful dedication, and unwavering focus will get you there!" Amy Leigh Mercree
31. "In essence, if we want to direct our lives, we must take control of our consistent actions. It's not what we do once in a while that shapes our lives, but what we do consistently." [Tony Robbins](#)

32. "Few lack talent, but most people lack the vision and perseverance to develop their talents." Orrin Woodward
33. "When you have a great and difficult task, something perhaps almost impossible, if you only work a little at a time, every day a little, suddenly the work will finish itself." Karen Blixen
34. "Perspective and perseverance are carved by time and constructed by wisdom." A.D. Sam
35. "It is common sense to take a method and try it. If it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something." Franklin D. Roosevelt
36. "No success was won without enthusiasm and perseverance." Lailah Gifty Akita
37. "True winners remain winners because they truly believe that challenges, struggles, and obstacles can all lead to big blessings through persistence and perseverance." Edmond Mbiaka
38. "Failure is success in abeyance; but only for those who persevere." Ashok Kallarakkal
39. "If his decision is correct, he will win the battle, even if it lasts longer than expected. If his decision is wrong, he will be defeated and he will have to start all over again--only this time with more wisdom. But once he has started, a warrior of the light perseveres until the end." Paulo Coelho
40. "Perseverance is impossible if we don't permit ourselves to hope." Dean Koontz
41. "A bowl of diligence and perseverance, a cup of faith and a pinch of inspiration mixed with a spoon of contentment are the ingredients of a delicious success. Cook yours well." Joe Mari Fadrigalan
42. "Our power of perseverance is as that of an eagle. We soar above our challengers." Ellen J. Barrier
43. "It's good to remember that success may be just beyond the next failure, and you'll get there, not because you're destined to, but because you're determined to." Steve Goodier
44. "Be patient with yourself. The journey of life requires a lot of patient, persistence and perseverance." Lailah Gifty Akita
45. "Difficult situations create exploitable opportunities for those strong enough to persevere." Chad Bowen
46. "Perseverance is not a passive submission to circumstances--it is a strong and active response to the difficult events of life." Elizabeth George
47. "Is it not true that the clever rogue is like the runner who runs well for the first half of the course, but flags before reaching the goal: he is quick off the mark, but ends in disgrace and slinks away crestfallen and uncrowned. The crown is the prize of the really good runner who perseveres to the end." Plato
48. "Great works are performed, not by strength, but by perseverance." Samuel Johnson
49. "The difference between impossible and possible is a willing heart." Lolly Daskal
50. "I'm convinced that about half of what separates the successful entrepreneurs from the non-successful ones is pure perseverance." [Steve Jobs](#)
51. "Change Impossible to I'm possible!" can't remember.

## References:

[Self-Reliance Services](#)

[Self-Reliance Presentation](#)

Other Church Employment Self-Reliance Booklets available:

[Leader Guide](#)

[My Path](#)

[Starting and Growing My Business](#)

[My Job Search](#)

[Education for Better Work](#)

Sincerely,

Michael J. Goodwin

Stake Employment Specialist

Rockford Illinois Stake

779-203-0451