



# Bible Thematic Lessons

from Godly Pearls

Making Jesus Christ known, one story at a time.



## A NOTE TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS:

Thank you for downloading this Bible Thematic Lesson.

This first page contains different sections to help you when planning for your class, for example, Home-school, Sunday School, Bible Study, Bible Club, Mission class, etc.

We suggest that you print pages 2 - 5 and distribute them to your students.



Topic:  
**EXCELLENCE**



**Read the Bible References:** The Bible references can be read by different children if possible. Or the teacher can read them.



**Goal of Lesson:**

- To encourage students to pursue excellence in all they do.



**Lesson Takeaway:**

God expects us to live a life of excellence because He created us to be just like Him – doing things in an excellent way!



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Date:



Topic:

EXCELLENCE



Bible References:

Daniel 1: 8,9,17 – 20; 6:1 – 3;  
Colossians 3:23 – 24.



Explain the meaning of excellence.

Excellence is taken from the word, “excel”. To excel means to be the best, to stand out among a crowd or group of people. When you excel, or have the quality of excellence, everyone can see it.

People can see excellence in how you do your work, how you talk to people, what you say about yourself, how you respond to things that happened etc. In summary, people can see excellence in how you live your life.



What does excellence look like in the bible?

We can understand excellence in the bible by studying the lives of people who excelled and stood out in what they did. So, let’s briefly look at the lives of some of these people.

- Daniel (Daniel 1:8).

Daniel was forcefully taken to Babylon as a slave from his homeland in Jerusalem. Even though he was a slave, the bible tells us that Daniel had an “excellent spirit” (Daniel 6:3). He had to learn a new language, new culture, and new ways of doing things. The excellent spirit in Daniel made him do his best, and eventually was always preferred and promoted among the other people working for King Nebuchadnezzar. Excellence will make you do your best.



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## What does excellence look like in the bible? (Contd.)

- Joseph (Genesis 39: 1 – 6, 21 – 23).

Joseph was also forcefully sold as a slave to Egypt where he had no family or friend. In Egypt, the bible tells us that Joseph worked for Potiphar and was later thrown in prison because Potiphar's wife falsely accused him. While in Potiphar's house and in the prison, Joseph did everything he did excellently.

It does not matter where you are, an excellent spirit will always shine through.

- Dorcas (Acts 9: 36 – 42).

Dorcas was a follower of Jesus who lived in Joppa. The bible says she "was full of good works and charitable deeds" (Acts 9:36). One day, she died. People were unhappy. They wanted her to be alive. Dorcas used to sew clothes and give them to the poor and widows who could not afford them. An excellent person thinks and cares about other people and not just about him or herself. Thankfully, Peter came, prayed and Dorcas was brought back to life. Everyone was happy!



## How can we live a life of excellence today?

Let's first talk about why we are not excellent at what we do.

- Selfishness: when you are always thinking about what you will get from a task, you will not put in your best if there was no reward. A selfish attitude of "what's in it for me?" will not allow you to do your best.
- Lack of interest: when you don't have an interest in something, you can hardly put in your best.
- Laziness: an attitude of laziness will not allow you excel in whatever you do. You will only do the minimum expected. You won't be motivated to push further and do your best.
- Lack of purpose: when you don't know why you are doing something, it can feel like you are wasting your time anyways. When you don't have a purpose, you cannot be committed to excellence.



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## How can we live a life of excellence today? (Contd.)

To excel in whatever you do:

i. Remember that God is an excellent God. He expects us to be excellent, just as He is excellent. When He created the world, He said all he made was very good. And then when He created us, He made us in His image – to be like Him (Genesis 1:26).

ii. Understand that when you excel, people will see the light of Jesus. Excellence in our work gives us the opportunity to tell others about an excellent God (Matthew 5:14 – 16). Let your light shine!

iii. Think about how best you can do your work. When next you help at home, or church or do your school homework, or go for a music or swimming lesson, think: “is this the best I can do?”, “is there something else I can do to make this better?”

iv. Remember that God has great plans for you. He wants the best for you, but you need to work. God would not do the work for you. Every work you do has a reason, a purpose.

v. God rewards hard work (see Proverbs 22:29; Ephesians 6:7 – 8) and frowns at laziness (Proverbs 6:6 – 11).

You can excel in whatever you do – learning at school, volunteering to help the community, learning to swim or play a musical instrument.

Get up and put in your best. You can do this through God’s help!



## Memorize:

Colossians 3:23 – And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.



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Questions:

- i. What are some of the things that will not make you put in your best in what you do?
- ii. How can you excel in whatever you do?



**Remember:** God expects us to live a life of excellence because He created us to be just like Him – doing things in an excellent way!



**Let us pray:** Dear God, thank You because all You do is excellent. Please help me to do my best in all that I do. I ask this in Jesus' name, amen!



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We will like to hear from you.

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