



Dedication

Values Branch – Step 11

Purpose

The 'Dedication' Step introduces the Trailman to the concept of being committed to something and not quitting. Upon completion of this step Trailmen should understand the importance and practical application of this Character trait.




1. What is dedication?
2. **What is the importance of having dedication in one's life?**
3. How does our dedication to God show and grow when we are persecuted?
4. **What areas of the Trailman's life do they need to improve their dedication?**
5. What are some examples in history of being committed to something and not quitting?

Notes to the Trail Guide //////////////////////////////////////

1. The goal is not for the boys to be experts at these skills, but to gain an increased knowledge and awareness of the Step.
2. Make it relative to your patrol.
3. Remember, these lessons should build from Fox to Hawk and from Hawk to Mountain Lion.
4. See the Leaders Guide for more information on Steps.

////////////////////////////////////

Skills Progression

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Learn a definition of dedication.2. Know how to show and improve the dedication in my life.3. Tell about someone I learned about who showed dedication in their life.
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Learn and memorize a definition of dedication.2. Know why dedication to something is important and how I can improve this character trait in my life.3. Learn how I can become more dedicated to God.
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Learn and memorize a definition of dedication.2. Learn how I can show and grow in my dedication to God and his word.3. Make a commitment to being more dedicated to things that I do in my life.4. Tell about an example in history of someone being totally committed.

Helps

1. What is Dedication?
 - a. **Goal:** To learn the definition of dedication
 - b. **Lesson:** Dedication is the concept of being committed to something (a course of action) and not quitting.
2. What is the importance of having dedication in one's life?
 - a. **Goal:** To talk about and demonstrate the importance of sticking with something even though it is difficult.
 - b. **Lesson:** We will learn the importance of not giving up, keeping commitments (promises), caring and encouraging other people.
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. Learning to tie your shoes: Do you want to be 10 years old and not be able to do this?
 1. Did this take work and dedication to learn? What else have you learned that took dedication (sticking to it until learned)?
 - ii. Learning a sport: baseball, soccer, swimming, etc.
 1. Must work hard and be dedicated to learning a sport. Practice, practice, practice! You will make mistakes, learn from them and keep going!
 2. When you do your part, you benefit the whole team. When you have learned a skill, you can encourage and help others on the team.
 - iii. Learning a subject at school: math, spelling, etc.
3. How does our dedication to God show and grow when we are persecuted?
 - a. **Goal:** To think and talk about the importance of our dedication to God.
 - b. **Lesson:** When we are persecuted (hassled) for our beliefs, we must show our commitment to God and his word by what we say and do and in this way we will grow in our faith.
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. Jesus was persecuted by his hearers, he was plotted against, rejected, tried, and crucified. His dedication to God, his father, never changed or waived. Jesus had a perfect God-honoring life and message. His disciples carried on his message and became stronger after his death.
 - ii. Some verses that can help us be more committed to God:
 - iii. James 1:12
 1. Fox – God blesses us when we love him.
 2. Hawk – When we are afraid or unsure, we need to turn to God. God
 3. Mt Lion – When we are tried for our beliefs, we must remain dedicated in our allegiance to God.
 - iv. Galatians 6:9
 1. Fox – Do good every day!
 2. Hawk – Do good every day (a kind word or even just a smile), **even if we don't feel like it.**

3. Mt Lion – If we take this verse to heart and do not give up, we will be blessed by God. Make a conscious effort to do good each day.
 - v. 2 Timothy 2:12
 - vi. Have you ever been hassled or singled out for your beliefs? What have you done or said?
4. **What areas of the Trailman’s life do they need to improve their dedication?**
- a. **Goal:** Think about how I can improve my dedication.
 - b. **Lesson:** The importance of being dedicated (committed) and following through as I take on tasks each day. As I do things always thinking about how I can do them better.
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. Trail Guide – talk about an example of this in your life
 - ii. Jobs at home – finish what I start/ always thinking—“how can I do this better?”, making my bed, picking up after myself, clearing the table, feeding the animals
5. What are some examples in history of being committed to something and not quitting?
- a. **Goal:** To teach an example(s) of dedication shown in a person in history.
 - b. **Lesson:** A commitment to a cause whether great or small can lead to a rich, meaningful life.
 - c. **Examples:**
 - i. Helen Keller
 1. 1.5 years old-serious illness destroyed her sight and hearing, she was unable to speak.
 2. Through her dedication to learning and her teacher, Anne Sullivan, she learned to read and write in braille
 3. Took lessons to speak and by 16 she went to a school to prepare for college
 4. 1904- Helen graduated with honors from college
 5. After conquering her physical disabilities, she dedicated her life to help others who were blind or deaf-blind. She became internationally famous and her books were translated into more than 50 languages.
 - ii. Missionaries are **dedicated to teaching others God’s word.**
 1. Apostle Paul – First great Missionary. Read his story in the book of Acts 8 and forward.
 2. William Carey (1761-1834) - Father of modern missions/ English missionary to India, (look up about his amazing life on the internet)
 3. Jim Elliot (1927-1956) – dedicated to using the Bible to lead his daily life. He died at the hands of the Auca Indians in Ecuador as he and others were teaching them about God. Through his wife (and the wives of the other men who were killed) the Auca Indian Tribe came to know the Lord.
 4. Mother Teresa (1910-1997) – Catholic Missionary to Calcutta,

Activity Ideas

- See the relevant patrol and branch section of the activities.
- Or, create your own activity relevant to your troop and region.
- Several ideas are listed below.
 - Learn a poem!
 - Fox—Read poem to class and talk about it
 - Hawks—**Print off copies to give to them...Read to them, then have** different Trailmen read parts of it out loud. Color pictures on the poem. See if someone can memorize the first stanza
 - Mt. Lions—same as Hawk, adding the following: divide into groups and have each group memorize and present a different stanza to the class. If they do this well, you could have them recite the poem at your closing ceremony!
 - **Try Again!**

TRY AGAIN

'Tis a lesson you should heed,

Try, try again;

If at first you don't succeed,

Try, try again;

Then your courage should appear,

For if you will persevere,

You will conquer, never fear,

Try, try again.

Once or twice though you should fail,

Try, try again;

If at last you would prevail

Try, try again;

If we strive 'tis no disgrace,

Though we may not win the race;

What should you do in that case?

Try, try again.

If you find the task is hard,

Try, try again;

Time will bring you your reward,

Try, try again;

All that other folks can do,

Why, with patience, may not you!

Only keep this rule in view,
Try, try again.

Game Ideas

- Check the games section online for game ideas.
- Or, create a game that works for your patrol.

Scripture

Commitment to God's word:

Roman's 12:1-2

Colossians 3:17

Psalm 32:8

Copyright © 2017 by Trail Life USA. All rights reserved.