

Topic: Character – Thorough (Lesson 414)

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

Elementary:

Verse: “And when Moses finished writing the words of this law in a book until they were completed” (Deuteronomy 31:24).

Focus: A thorough person is someone who completes what needs to be done. They do not stop halfway but will continue until the task is complete.

Practical Application: Consider telling the story of Moses writing the law according to Jehovah’s commandments. Moses did not stop halfway or complain of being too tired to finish the task. Give several examples to the children about completing tasks. When asked to tidy your room, you should pick up *all* clothing off the floor, not just *most* of the clothing. When looking for a missing library book, do not give up, but keep looking in every possible place until the book is found. If given a list of things to do, you should not give up and go do something else until you have completed all the items on the list.

Intermediate:

Verse: “And in the eleventh year...the house was completed in all its parts and according to all its specifications” (1 Kings 6:38).

Focus: A thorough person is someone who includes every possible part or detail. A thorough person does not leave anything out.

Practical Application: Consider telling the story of Solomon completing the house of Jehovah from 1 Kings 6. If Solomon would have completed only part of God’s house, what would God do with a partial house? Consider your own house...what if the builders did not put on the roof or stopped without completing the last wall of your bedroom? What about your schoolwork or school projects? Would it be okay to do only half of a math assignment or half of a history project? What about two-thirds of the assignment, is that better?

Advanced:

Verse: “For which of you, wanting to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?” (Luke 14:28)

Focus: A thorough person is someone who includes every possible part or detail. A thorough person will consider all possibilities when planning and preparing to undertake a project or take a trip.

Practical Application: It is good to consider all the details before planning to purchase something or before going somewhere. Refer to Luke 14:28 and talk about the need to calculate the cost before making a purchase. If you want to purchase something, do you only calculate the exact amount for the item or do you remember to factor in the tax? When you want to start a project, do you consider all the materials you will need? How about extras in case you make a mistake or something doesn’t work? When you begin to change your flat bicycle tire, do you gather all the tools needed to complete the job or do you keep asking your parents to get the tools you need? When you are packing for a trip, do you think through all the necessary items? In these examples, what happens if you are not thorough?