



# Thursday Thought

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## “Dangers of Procrastination”

Thursday September 7, 2017

**Verse for the week: Ecclesiastes 11:4 (NLT) “Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest..”**

My mother would expect us to do what she asked us to do at the time she asked us to do it. I remember her getting frustrated with me because of my procrastination and would say, “You do what you want to do when you want to do it!” She was right. I did procrastinate. Thomas Jefferson once said, “*Don’t put off for tomorrow what you can do today!*” Sadly, many of us procrastinate. We procrastinate going to the doctor, cleaning the house, getting a term paper written, accomplishing a task at work, getting car repairs done, volunteering to help, etc. When we procrastinate there a few things that I see that happen.

1. **Often it ends up sloppy.** We don't put in the time or energy it takes to do whatever it is correctly, because now we are short on time. Nor do we utilize appropriate resources to do whatever the task is. In so doing, we have not pursued excellence and may end up having to redo the task. **Daniel 6:3 (MEV) “Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and officials because an excellent spirit was in him.”**
2. **It tells people the task is unimportant.** We may not be intentionally meaning to say this, but in a way, that’s what it says. When spouses wait till the last minute to plan for an anniversary or forgets the date altogether, we get ourselves in hot water.
3. **It causes a ton of angst trying to do everything at the last minute.** Some people say they work better under pressure, and that may be true, but as James Baker, former U.S. Secretary of State, has written “**Prior planning prevents poor performance**”. I would add that it also prevents perturbation (anxiety; mental uneasiness)
4. **The task ends up not as meaningful as it could be.** Basically, we won’t get as much out of it, and we won’t reap the fruits/rewards that we could have if we would have just invested our time at the moment.

Most of us don’t like wasting time, so it’s good for us to plan ahead and get started. With that in mind, I thought about writing this tomorrow but I decided I better do it today. ☺

**Question to ask yourself:** What will you stop procrastinating about today?

Napoleon Hill said, “*Procrastination is the bad habit of putting off until the day after tomorrow what should have been done the day before yesterday.*”

Benjamin Franklin said, “**You may delay, but time will not, and lost time is never found again.**”