

# Nothing Is So Difficult That Diligence Cannot Master It

“Nothing is so difficult that diligence cannot master it.” This proverb implies several profound truths. If you try hard enough and set your mind on finishing the task, you will succeed. In addition to exerting all your effort, you must persevere and keep trying, knowing that eventually you will overcome the challenge. Nothing that is worthwhile is easy, and hard things can only be overcome with diligent perseverance and a refusal to quit.

If you try hard enough, nothing is impossible. You cannot try with just part of your strength; you must exert all your effort to accomplish the task. If you have focused and set your mind on the challenge before you, you will be able to overcome it. If you have devoted yourself to reaching the finish line, even if everyone else is against you, nothing is going to stop you.

A fine example of this is Henry Knox, a Revolutionary War hero who refused to abandon a very important mission from General Washington. It was December 1775, and his mission was to retrieve the cannons from Fort Ticonderoga, a former British outpost, and bring them to Boston. After arriving at the fort, Knox and his men dug the cannons out of the deep snow and placed them on barges to float them downstream. However, when he placed the larger cannons on the barges, they immediately sank to the bottom of the icy river. Motivated by his patriotism, 300-pound Henry Knox was undeterred. He pulled the cannons out of the river, placed them on sleds, harnessed horses and oxen to the sleds, and began the trip of nearly 200 miles to Boston on foot. Along Knox’s path were the Taconic and Berkshire Ranges, but the steep slopes did not stop him. Not even when many of the pack animals died in the extreme cold did Knox quit. Instead of abandoning the mission because he was ill-equipped, he used his own strength to pull the sleds. Exhausted, he arrived in Boston on January 18, 1776, but he had completed his mission for his country. A month later, those same cannons were used to capture Boston from

the British. His mission had gone from the brink of disaster to success simply because he refused to give up.

When attempting to do a challenging thing, you must not only try hard, but must pursue this goal with great perseverance. Even if you don't succeed on the first try, you must not give up, or you will never succeed. A challenging thing will not be mastered on the first attempt; however, with practice and perseverance, it will eventually be overcome. Just like hurdles, you may not clear them at first, but after many hours of practice, you will be able to easily clear the obstacle. You must stubbornly refuse to quit, even if all odds are against you, and then you will succeed. You must pursue your goal with hopeful perseverance, knowing that you will eventually accomplish it.

An excellent example of refusal to quit is during World War II in the Battle of Britain. The Germans dropped over 10,000 bombs on London in September alone, but instead of giving up and surrendering, the Royal Air Force fought back against the superiorly trained and equipped German Luftwaffe. Only sheer determination allowed them to shoot down 1,700 German planes while only losing 915 planes themselves in the intense fighting. Simply by stubbornly refusing to give up and surrender, the British saved themselves from defeat by the German Nazis.

By exerting your full effort and persevering, you can accomplish anything you set your mind on doing. If you try with all your might and fully devote yourself to the task, nothing can keep you from victory. Just like Henry Knox, if you refuse to give up, the challenges will be overcome and you will succeed. You must persevere and keep trying, knowing that eventually you will overcome the difficulty. As demonstrated by the Royal Air Force, if you are determined to do something, you can defy all odds and triumph over the challenge. With diligence, nothing is impossible.