

Week 1-

WHAT IS INITIATIVE?

Line up five blocks (or any household objects) and instruct the family to pay close attention to how they are arranged. Now, with everyone's eyes closed, move one block out of place. Tell everyone to open their eyes and see who can locate the misplaced block and return it to the correct position first. Repeat this game three or four times.

SEEING IS DOING . . . Whether you realize it or not, you were just demonstrating our virtue for this month – Initiative. Initiative is *seeing* what needs to be done and *doing* it. That means, you first have to see what or *who* is out of place, broken, being mistreated, or ignored and second, *do* something about it! Just like in the game, initiative starts with opening your eyes and locating the problem, then doing something to make it right.

Week 2-

HOW HAVE WE SEEN IT IN EACH OTHER?

Take a moment to answer the question: How do I most often see you showing initiative? Maybe mom always turns off the kitchen light before leaving the room. Dad may put the dirty dishes in the dishwasher after dinner. What else? Now, do we ever take advantage of this? Initiative is not seeing what needs to be done and assuming mom will do it. This week, challenge each other to take initiative in new and unexpected ways!

Week 3-

WHY IS INITIATIVE IMPORTANT?

Why is it important to take initiative around the house? With friends? In school? At work? Name a few things that might become overwhelming in these areas if no one showed initiative.

IN YOUR MIND'S EYE

Use your imagination to draw a picture or write a story about what one of these environments might look like without people taking the initiative to do what needs to be done. Have each person share his or her silly picture or story.

Week 4-

WHAT HAVE WE DECIDED ABOUT IT?

Have each family member share one way he or she showed initiative over the last month and who it benefited. For example: I did my homework first thing after getting home so I still had some time to play outside with my friends. Or I took initiative to help dad with the dishes so he could catch the end of his sports game.

GAME PLAN

Taking initiative at work, school, or around the house can give you more time to spend doing what you love. As a family decide what you would love to do together – go out to eat, have a game night, go to the movies, etc. – and set a goal to take initiative throughout the week so when the weekend comes, you have the time to get together and do what you love!

October
Take Home
Sheet

INITIATIVE

seeing what needs to be done and doing it