

TAKING INITIATIVE

I. **Passive versus Taking Initiative**

A. **Passive (Passivity)**

1. Offering no opposition or resistance.
2. Influenced without exerting influence.
3. Acted upon without acting.
4. Inactive or taking no active part.
5. Inert; motionless; yielding.

B. **Initiative**

1. The action of taking the first step.
2. The responsibility for beginning.
3. The right to introduce something.
4. The ability to think or act without being urged.
5. To start or initiate movement.

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II. To Take Initiative We Need To Understand:

A. The dominion/authority God originally gave Man Gen. 1:26, 28

B. The master law of sowing & reaping Gen. 1:29; Gen. 8:22

C. The grace/faith covenant versus sovereignty Rom. 4:16; Eph.1:7,8
Heb. 4:16

SOVEREIGNTY VS GRACE

Sovereignty

1. What God is sovereign over you do not need faith for it.
2. Sovereignty requires no faith, no choice, no obedience, no action on man's part.
3. It is up to what God decides or wills.
4. Man is passive.

Grace

1. What God offers in grace **must** be responded to with faith.
2. Grace requires faith, a choice, obedience, an action, on man's part.
3. It is what God already decided or willed.
4. Man must respond (to receive it).

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Human Resource managers define initiative in the work place as,

“work behavior characterized by its self-starting nature, its proactive approach, and by being persistent in overcoming difficulties that arise in pursuit of a goal.”

When you show **initiative at work:**

1. You do things without being told;
2. You find out what you need to know;
3. You keep going when things get tough;
4. You spot and take advantage of opportunities that others pass by; and
5. You act, instead of reacting, at work.

Organizations want employees who can think on their feet and take action without waiting for someone to tell them what to do.