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**Fellowship of Companies for Christ  
 Greater Hartford Chapter  
 R HOUSE Restaurant  
 January 18, 2012**

- Opening prayer / praise reports
- FCCI membership and outreach
- Today's topic: **Asleep at the Wheel**

***Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.*** —Prov 22:29

Diligent = constant in effort to accomplish something attentive and persistent in doing anything



While all the facts have not come forth, it appears that “human error” by the captain caused this week’s deadly cruise ship sinking in Italy. It’s astounding how this gorgeous \$500 million ship, equipped with the latest technology, could have been so easily led astray by the foolish choices of the captain, putting over 4,000 souls at risk. Did anyone else on the crew notice the change of course and question the captain? Or was it a case of the blind leading the blind, and they all fall into the ditch?

This catastrophe also makes me groan, because the business owners entrusted the ship and the souls aboard to someone whom they thought was diligent, but for some bizarre reason wasn’t.

You and I may not be the skipper of a *cruise ship*, but we ARE the skippers of our respective businesses. We have crews (staff) and passengers (customers and suppliers). And we are *just as capable* of deliberately or accidentally going off-course. Or, we can entrust the business to managers who go off-course. Either way, we can ill-afford to be “asleep at the wheel.” There’s too much at stake.

As much as you may get overwhelmed and exhausted by the relentless challenges and responsibilities of running your business, you don’t have the luxury of ignoring it. If you do, you’re likely to hit rocks and risk sinking, causing a lot of damage to yourself and others.

In this passage from Proverbs, God gives us an exciting promise if we choose to be diligent. Diligent people are attracted to diligent people, and diligent people tend to get promoted to higher positions of authority, responsibility and leadership. Jesus said it another way: if you can be trusted with little, you can be trusted with much. So if you don’t want to do business with fools, be diligent!

Evaluate yourself from 1 (weak) to 10 (strong) in terms of business diligence.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits might you enjoy by being more diligent?										
What specific actions can you take to be more diligent?										

- Upcoming events/news
- Closing prayer