Importance of idempotency

- Ensure nothing changes unless things need to change.

- Reconsiliation requires idempotency.

- Idempotency improves the dry-run experience.

- Idempotency improves auditing and reporting change.

- Idempotency allows auditing configuration drift.

- Some idempotency issues can be big issues.

Lack of idempotency

- Hides the real changes in a cloud of doubt

- Reduction in speed if changes aren't consistently made

- Testing becomes increasingly difficult

- Solution: check state vs. desired, handle accordingly.

- Tip: Molecule testing automates the boring drudgery.