

Hard Work and Laziness



MEMORY VERSE: “People with integrity walk safely, but those who follow crooked paths will be exposed.”
Proverbs 10:9

DAY 1

PROVERBS — Integrity and Hard Work

1. Read Proverbs 20:7 and 10:9. How can you resist the temptation to compartmentalize your life and have the same integrity at school, at practice, at home, on weekends, at church...?
2. What does Colossians 3:23-24 say? What do you think “*work*” means in your life right now?
3. Proverbs has several verses that give us insight on “*work*”. What do these Proverbs tell you?
 - v. 13:4b
 - v. 21:5
 - v. 12:24
 - v. 24:27
4. What do Proverbs 12:11 & 28:19 tell you about “*hard work*” and “*chasing fantasies*”?

DAY 2 PROVERBS — Laziness

5. What do the following Proverbs tell you about “*lazy people*”?
v. 13:4a

v. 18:9

v. 20:4

v. 21:25

6. How lazy are you? How do these verses speak to you?

7. What can you learn from ants? vv. 6:6-8

DAY 3 PROVERBS — Developing Good Sense

8. What do the following Proverbs tell you about a person with “*good sense/prudence*”?
v. 13:15

v. 2:7

v. 22:3

9. Why do you think good/common sense should be continually pursued in order to experience the best God has for you?

10. Why do you think instant gratification can be the enemy of common sense?

DAY 4

PROVERBS — Persevering

11. What do the following verses add about how to work?
Proverbs 4:25-26

Galatians 1:9

12. What do you think Proverbs 16:3 means?

DAY 5

PROVERBS - Hard Work and Laziness — Wrap Up

13. What are some practical illustrations of hard work and its benefits?
14. Every day we have to make decisions in order to live a life of excellence and integrity. What is your biggest take-away from this lesson?

TAKE AWAY

Give up some TV/Phone time this week. Use it to help your parents, walk around the block or give your room a long overdue cleaning. How do you feel about what you accomplished?

BLESSING

“Let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won’t be doing what your sinful nature craves.”
Galatians 5:16

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20:7 The godly walk with integrity...

10:9 People with integrity walk safely, but those who follow crooked paths will be exposed.

Colossians 3:23-24 Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.

24 Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ.

13:4b Those who work hard will prosper.

14:23 Work brings profit, but mere talk leads to poverty!

10:4b Hard workers get rich.

21:5 Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity.

12:24 Work hard and become a leader; be lazy and become a slave.

24:27 Do your planning and prepare your fields before building your house.

12:11 A hard worker has plenty... but a person who chases fantasies has no sense.

28:19b A hard worker has plenty... but a person who chases fantasies ends up in poverty.

13:4a Lazy people want much but get little...

18:9 A lazy person is as bad as someone who destroys things.

20:4 Those too lazy to plow in the right season will have no food at the harvest.

21:25 Despite their desires, the lazy will come to ruin, for their hands refuse to work.

6:6-8 Take a lesson from the ants, you lazy-bones. Learn from their ways and become wise! 7 Though they have no prince or gov-

ernor or ruler to make them work, 8 they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter.

13:15 A person with good sense is respected; a treacherous person is headed for destruction.

2:7 He grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity.

22:3 A prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences.

Proverbs 4:25-26 Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you.

26 Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path.

Galatians 1:9 So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

Proverbs 16:9 Commit your actions to the Lord and your plans will succeed.

Wisdom: God-given understanding, ability to distinguish between right and wrong, insight, discernment. The ability to look at life from God's point of view and then choosing to live it out through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Fear of the Lord: profound reverence and awe toward God; respect for God's character, words, actions and position that leads to love and obedience; true honor, devotion and surrender to God.

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