

PROVERBS: HARD WORK

DISCUSSION GUIDE



LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE.

SUMMARY:

In our summer sermon series in the book of Proverbs, this week, we look specifically at chapter 6, where we discover some practical principles regarding the subject of work. God himself created and originated the concept of work. The jobs that each of us have are truly a part of the way that we fulfill God's purpose for our lives. The Bible has a lot to say about how we work—it speaks about the danger of laziness, and it reminds us of the blessing of hard work.

Key Passage: Proverbs 6:6-11

Be sure to read this Scripture passage together before you proceed to the “Grow” section of our study.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

KNOW: Spend some time finding out how everyone's week has gone.

The questions in this section provide a guide for connectivity; feel free to approach this part of your group time organically over a meal or “connection” activity or with questions appropriate to your context.

What is something that you are thankful for this week?

What is something that is causing you stress or concern this week?

Who in your life is in need of prayer, physical help, or emotional encouragement right now?

GROW: Grow in the Lord as you engage His Word together.

In our text this week, the Scriptures encourage us to look at ants as examples of how to work well. What part of the ant analogy in Proverbs 6 resonated the most with you?

According to verse 11, what is the result of living a lazy life?

Jesus modeled hard work—from His carpentry days to His immeasurably hard work on the cross. What are ways can we model to the world the implications of Christ's gospel by being diligent, dependable workers?

GO: Talk through ways you can put what you've learned into practice.

What are some ways you are tempted to be lazy? How do you fight against those temptations?

What would you say lies at the heart of the sluggard's problem? Talk about it.

How have you seen the principles of Proverbs 6:6-11 in practice in your life?