



October 8, 2023

Wisdom for Work | Proverbs 6:6-8

Wade Paton

S U M M A R Y

This past weekend we learned about wisdom for being diligent, showing initiative and avoiding the path of laziness. At first this may not seem like a necessary area of study for many of us but, as we discovered, we may have areas of 'selective sluggardliness' that can end up being destructive if not addressed with Godly wisdom.

R E A D

Proverbs 6:6-8

Pause. Take time to prayerfully consider what has been read.

D I S C U S S

Proverbs calls us to pay attention to two things that can be indicators of life heading down the road of destructive laziness. Those are Postponing Responsibility (procrastination) and Making Excuses.

- 1) Why do the scriptures warn us about these two things? What are the consequences of leaving them unchecked?
- 2) What is 'selective sluggardliness'? Why is it especially dangerous to the well-being of our lives and the lives of others?

In Proverbs 6:6-8 a contrast is drawn between the ant and the sluggard.

- 3) What are the main distinguishing factors between the two that the writer of Proverbs wants us to pay attention to and apply?

- 4) We discussed some areas where selective sluggardliness can be manifest in our lives. *Relationships. Workplace/School. Thought Life.* Reflect on this as a group.
- 5) What area of your life do you sense the Holy Spirit calling you to show diligence and attentiveness in?

Instead of a message about 'trying harder' or just 'doing better' we were encouraged to make this a journey of prayer and transparency in community.

- 6) Why is Spirit-empowered community essential to growing in areas of difficulty?

R E S P O N D

How do you sense the Spirit asking you to respond to what we've learned?

*Share how the Spirit is inviting you to respond today and the week to come – to **be with** Jesus, to **become like** Jesus, or to **do what** Jesus does.*

P R A Y

Pray for wisdom in identifying areas of laziness or avoidance. Ask Jesus for the guidance and courage to respond.

Take time to wait and pray together. What is Jesus praying for? Come into agreement with His prayers.

