



Today's Message

Date: February 15, 2015
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: *The Christian View of Work*
Text: Proverbs 6:6–11 (ESV)

⁶ ~~Go to the ant, O sluggard;~~
consider her ways, and be wise.
⁷ Without having any chief,
officer, or ruler,
⁸ she prepares her bread in summer
and gathers her food in harvest.
⁹ How long will you lie there, O sluggard?
When will you arise from your sleep?
¹⁰ A little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of the hands to rest,
¹¹ and poverty will come upon you like a robber,
and want like an armed man.

Introduction: Solomon instructs his son through a hypothetical conversation with a sluggard, or lazy man. His words deliver a negative warning, but clearly imply a positive message. We will examine the path of the lazy fool described in this text and then explore the rest of Scripture to paint picture of work as God sees it.

Today's take-home truth: Laziness is the path of the fool, but hard work is the path of the wise.

I. Solomon's warning: Laziness is the path of the fool.

A. The sluggard violates the created order . . . 6-8

1. He should learn wisdom from the insignificant ant.
2. The ant takes personal initiative . . .
3. and works hard to prepare for the future.

B. with disastrous results. 9-11

1. The sluggard resists every call to hard work.
2. As a result, poverty will overwhelm him.

II. The big picture: Hard work is the path of the wise.

A. God created us to worship through work.

1. We bear the Creator's image.
2. We are charged to exercise dominion over creation.
3. We continue to have this responsibility though the Fall complicates our work.

B. God still commands us to worship through work.

1. We demonstrate new life through honest work that blesses others.
2. We are called to worship "in all of life."
3. We must not associate with the idle.

C. God will give us the joy of worship through work for all eternity.