## Responsibility is showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you.

Read: Galatians 6:9





#### **Hard Work**

Look around your house and figure out a way you can help. Ask an adult if they have any ideas if you can't find something to do. Whatever you choose to do, stick with it and work hard to complete the task to the best of your ability!

LOOK for ways that you can help others around you!



#### To Do: Work Hard

Create a list of chores you can do to help out in your house. Make a list of three things: one that will help someone specific (example: make your lunch), one that will help the house (example: run the vacuum), and one that helps you (example: do your homework and put it away). Work on your list this week.

ASK others what they need help with.



## **Doing Good**

Write out this week's verse and draw a picture of yourself doing something good!

KNOW that doing good for others shows them God's love.



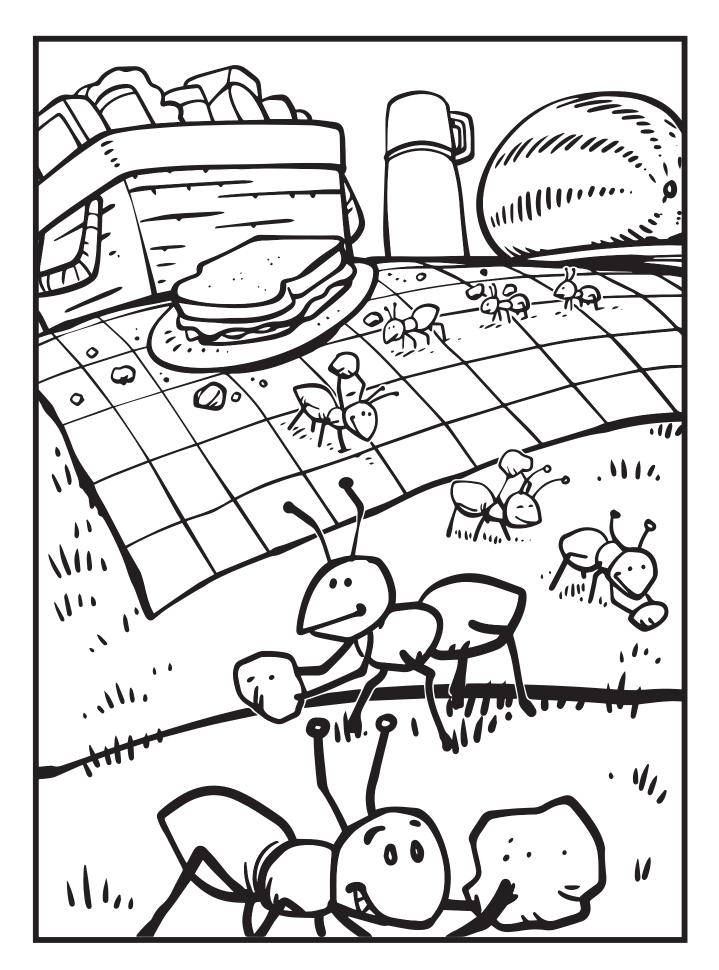
#### Do the Work

When we ask God to help us see the needs around us, God will use us. Ask God to help you see what others need and how you can help them. You can pray something like this:

"Dear God, I pray that I can see others needs today. Help me do what I can to help them and show them Your love. God, help me to be a good friend and work hard to help others. Amen."

THANK God for showing you how to care for others.

Work hard.





# Responsibility is showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you.

DAY 1

#### Read Proverbs 6:6

Did you know that ants can carry anywhere from ten to 50 times their weight?

That would be like you picking up a car.
Or an adult lifting eleven pianos.
Or a chihuahua lifting a toilet.
Or a gorilla lifting a boat.

If you've ever observed a line of ants across the sidewalk, you'll see them furiously moving at a steady pace. They don't stop for breaks. They just keep going; keeping at it until the job is done.

We could learn a thing or two from the ant. When it comes to responsibility, you prove you can be trusted when you choose to work hard. By sticking with a job until that job is done, you prove to others around you that you are a person they can rely on. No one is expecting you to lift a car! But you might be called on to clean your room or help your little brother or finish your homework.

This week, notice the ants at your feet. Ask God to help you work hard at the things you're responsible for so others can trust you.

DAY 2

#### Read Proverbs 6:7-8

When school lets out for the summer, do you take it easy? The summer is the ants' busy season storing up food to prepare for the winter. They don't have a commander or boss telling them what to do. They just get busy working hard.

Those hard working ants are a good reminder to us that part of responsibility is taking it seriously! When we choose to work hard, we WILL see the benefit later on.

Fill in the result or benefit of hard work after each example below:

HARD WORK	BENEFIT
When you study hard for a test,	
When you exercise regulary,	
When you clean	
your room,	

This week, when you're tempted to be lazy, remember the ant that keeps working all summer long and into harvest time. Ask God to help you take your responsibilities seriously so you can enjoy the benefits of your hard work!

DAY 3

#### **Read Galatians 6:5**

Do you feel like you have way too many responsibilities? Guess what? Your life will never ever be full of LESS responsibility than it is right now.

Don't believe me? Who pays the bills in your house? Who buys the groceries and prepares healthy meals for you? Who makes sure you have everything you need from the clothes on your back to the lunch in your backpack to the poster board for your project? The adults in charge of you. Grownups have a LOT of responsibility.

Guess what? Your parents don't expect you to pay the bills or cook all the meals. Enjoy being a kid and carry the load you've been given RIGHT NOW. Don't worry about speeding ahead so you can be a grownup. Take time to follow and learn. All those other big responsibilities will come soon enough.

#### **Responsibility List**

Sit down with your adult. Set a timer for 60 seconds and race to write down as many things as you can think of that you're responsible for. Then compare your lists. What did you learn from this exercise?



#### Read Luke 16:10a

Think about one responsibility you have. Write or draw a picture of it in the box:

That responsibility—like making your bed, or putting your bike away, or setting the table—might seem like a small thing. But all those small responsibilities that you take seriously now lead to bigger and more important responsibilities later on. Taking care of your room might lead to owning your own home someday. Taking care of your bike might lead to driving a car when you're old enough. Every responsibility that you take seriously right now—no matter how small—builds trust.

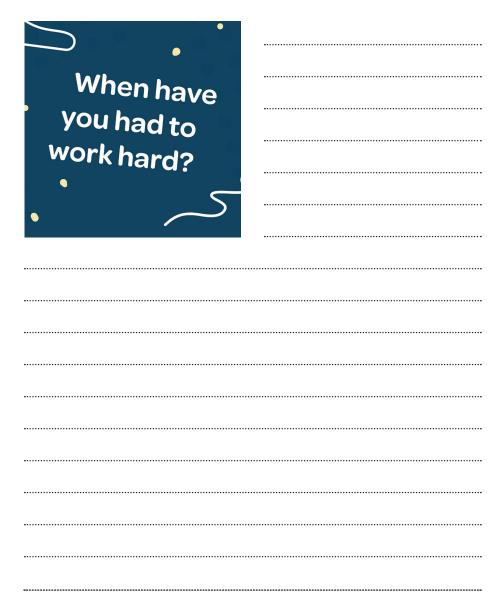
Take a look at the responsibility in your box. How are you doing with that? Are you slacking off or taking it seriously? If not, what can you do right now to act more responsibly? Ask God to help you work hard RIGHT NOW with this smaller thing to prove you can be trusted with bigger things later on.

Work hard.

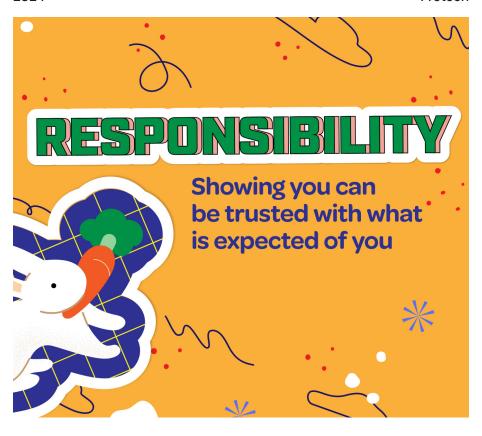


## **Journal**

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.



January 2024 Week Three Preteen



## Day 1

Visit Explorers League and watch this week's story at www.cornwallchurch.com/children.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

1. You liked:		

2. You learned:		

3.	You	ď	like	to	know:

## Day 2

#### Read Proverbs 6:6-8

Proverbs 6:6-8 almost reads like a poem, so let's make it one!

Read this poem based on the verses, then try to memorize it, going over it each day this week.

You lazy people who don't want to work

Think about the tiny ant, who will never shirk

Its responsibilities, despite its size

For the ant, you see, God made wise.

The ant has no commander, no ruler in charge

But still gathers food—there's a bounty to enlarge.

And when the winter winds blow o'er the ant's hill

Deep underground, the ant is feasting still.



### Day 3

When do you find it hard to... work hard? Underline the answers that apply to you.

- When you're tired
- When the job is hard
- When you hit an obstacle
- When you are running out of time
- When you have a lot of time to spare
- When it seems impossible

Now fill in the blanks to this prayer, asking God to help you **work hard** . . . even when it's hard.

Dear God, You teach us through Your

Word that we should work hard. And
I want to work hard. But sometimes,
well, it's really hard to do that. I
especially find it hard to work hard
when \_\_\_\_\_\_ and
when \_\_\_\_\_\_.

And also when \_\_\_\_\_\_. Please
show me how I can keep going, even
when \_\_\_\_\_.

Please give me Your strength, Your
wisdom, Your responsibility, to see it

through. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen.

## Day 4

Have you been working on memorizing the poem from earlier this week?

Even if you don't have it down perfectly, find someone to share it with. Recite—or read—the poem with dramatic flair.

Then talk with the other person about how you do—or don't—relate to the ant, using these prompts:

- When have you had to work hard?
- Have you ever felt overwhelmed by your size or your age, thinking you can't work like everyone else?
- Do you find it easy or hard to be a hard worker most of the time? Why do you think that is?
- What is something each of you can work on today?



Day 5

With some things you may find it easy to work hard—probably the things that you love or are naturally good at.

But the truth is, we all have to work hard on things we don't want to as well.

Today, pick one thing to work hard on that you don't enjoy, or that you find challenging. Write what you plan to do here:

(Hint: if you're not sure what to pick, an adult in your life can probably suggest something.)

Next, pick an accountability partner. If you asked an adult for help, it could be them—or it might be a teacher, a coach, a teammate or a friend who will be there when you're working hard. Ask that person to check in with you as you're working to make sure that you're staying on task and working hard.

When the job is complete, pay attention to how you feel—it will probably motivate you to **work hard** the next time too!