

Go to the Ant! Wisdom About Work

Proverbs 6:6-11

It's a command: Go to the Ants!

Work is part of God's big picture: He's the first worker

The Image of God: We work because God works

Work: Before and After the Fall

Work: It's not just about avoiding poverty. It's more than a paycheck. Your work has meaning.

"God does not need our good works; our neighbor does." – Martin Luther

Work: Where is our hope?

Work: In heaven? Really?

Let's get personal with our reflection and application this week. Talk as a family, with friends, and with your church community group about work. We all work, so let's encourage each other, learn together, and pray for each other and the people we work with. Not all of the reflection questions below were directly answered in the sermon, but I hope they'll help you make this topic personal to you and move the conversation from simply discussing God's Word to applying God's Word to your life on Monday morning as you go to work and school.

1. Ask yourself, what gifts has God given me? Then be bold and ask others what they think your gifts are! Are you using these gifts in school or work? If yes, how can you strengthen them? If no, how can you deploy your gifts to honor God and bless others?
2. Two common workplace (or school) scenarios often arise. The first: nearly everyone I work with is a Christian. The second: nearly everyone I work with is a non-believer. How do these situations impact your work? How do you share Jesus and the gospel with other believers? Non believers? What does it look like for you, personally, to serve God and love your neighbor through your job or school studies?
3. How can you be the best street sweeper, accountant, clerk, delivery person, or whatever your job is? How does reliance on the work of the Holy Spirit help you be the best?
4. A colleague of mine, at the time in his late 80s, told me that he may never retire because Scripture doesn't discuss retirement. Do you agree, with him? What does work look like over our lifetime? Does it change with age? How do you feel knowing that there will be work to do in heaven?