

CITY SG – January 20- 21, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Ants Marching (Ant and Sluggard) • *Proverbs 6:6-8*

Today's Bottom Line: Work hard.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large. Luke 16:10a (NirV)*

1. Work, Rest, & Repeat

Bible Story review

What You Need: Phone to play music on

What You Do:

- Play upbeat music. *(If you don't have a phone, just tell the kids to dance around without music).*
- Encourage the kids to dance around your Small Group area while the music plays.
- Play the music for a minute or two before stopping it.
- When the music stops, shout out, "Ants at rest."
- Instruct the kids to lay down or sit down where they are.
- Choose one of the last kids down to answer a review question.
- If the kid needs help answering, encourage them to ask another kid for help.
- Once the answer has been given, shout, "Ants at work" and resume the music.
- Encourage the kids to get back up and dance until the music stops again.
- Repeat until all questions have been asked and answered.

Review questions:

1. King Solomon asked God for wisdom and wrote down many wise sayings known as what? (*proverbs*)
2. What example insect did King Solomon use in our story today? (*ants*)
3. Ants are great examples to show us how to what? (*work*)
4. Is there a commander showing ants what to do? (*No. They just work!*)
5. What seasons do ants work hard to store up their food? (*summer and fall*)
6. In what season do ants rest? (*winter*)
7. What can we learn from no one having to tell ants what to do? (*We shouldn't have to be told to work hard—we should just work hard.*)
8. What's one way God designed you that you can use to work hard?
9. Ants don't just work hard. They also know when it's time to what? (*rest*)
10. What's one way you can rest well?
 - Ask, "What are some responsibilities that you **work hard** at?"
 - Ask, "What are some ways we can truly rest well?"

2. About My Hard Work

Memory Verse Activity

***Non- Reader Option**

What You Need: "About My Hard Work" Activity Page, markers, and Bibles

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse to the group.
 - "*Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large. Luke 16:10a (NirV)*

- Give each kid an “About My Hard Work” Activity Page.
- Set out the markers.
- Instruct the kids to complete the “About My Hard Work” Activity Page.
- Give them time to fill in their responses and color or decorate the page.
 *For younger groups who cannot read/write, read the prompts to them and encourage them to draw pictures to represent their answers.
- Say, “Our verse reminds us just to take one step at a time. It’s not about being the best at everything or having the most stuff to give. It’s about being responsible with what we do have—gifts, belongings, time, and being faithful with those things. When you **work hard**, it may look different than others, but God sees your heart and your hard work.”

3. Work Hard

Application Activity

What You Need: Completed pages from “About My Hard Work” activity, sticky notes, and pens or markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid a sticky note and a marker or pen.
- Encourage the kids to think of a goal for how they can show hard work THIS week.
 - If they need help, encourage the kids to look at their activity page and think through their hobbies, gifts, etc., to prompt them with an idea for how they can work hard!
- Direct them to write their goal on the sticky note.
 *They can draw their idea if they cannot write.
- Invite the kids to place their sticky note on their “About My Hard Work” Activity Page.

4. Pray

- “Dear God, thank You for the way You made us and the ability You’ve given us to **[Bottom Line] work hard**. As we go through our week, we know it will be easy to slack off and sink back into choosing not to give our best in everything we do. Remind us to **[Bottom Line] work hard** so we can love those around us and honor You. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP POINT: Ask kids to read the goal on their sticky note to their parent of how they want to work hard this week!