



DECEMBER 30, 2018

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Putting Sloth to Death

Selected Scriptures

I. Seven Characteristics of Slothfulness

- A. A Time-_____ (Prov. 6:6-11)
- B. Undependable (Prov. 10:26)
- C. _____ (Prov. 19:24; 26:14,15)
- D. Procrastinates (Prov. 20:4)
- E. Makes _____ (Prov. 22:13; 26:13)
- F. Neglectful (Prov. 24:30-31)
- G. _____ (Prov. 26:16)

II. Seven Consequences of Slothfulness

- A. _____ (Prov. 10:5)
- B. Hunger (Prov. 13:4; 19:15)
- C. _____ (Prov. 10:4; 20:13)
- D. Difficulty (Prov. 15:19)

E. _____ (Prov. 12:24)

F. Death (Prov. 21:25)

G. _____ (1 Tim. 5:8)

III. Seven Cures for Slothfulness (Putting sloth to death)

- A. Think about the pain of being _____ (2 Thes. 3:6)
- B. Look to the godly ***example*** of others (2 Thes. 3:7-9)
- C. You need to work for your _____ (2 Thes. 3:10)
- D. Don't be a busybody but live in ***harmony*** (2 Thes. 3:11-13)
- E. If you don't work you will be _____ (2 Thes. 3:14)
- F. True love comes as a ***warning*** (2 Thes. 3:15)
- G. Being a faithful worker is _____ the doctrine of God (Titus 2:9-10)

TAKE HOME

- ***Confess*** to God that you have been slothful; acknowledge that it is a sin
- ***Repent*** and purpose that with God's help you are going to change your mind, heart, and conduct
- ***Pray*** and ask the Holy Spirit to enable you to put slothfulness to death
- ***Do*** your work heartily as unto the Lord

STUDY QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. What are some simple lessons we can learn from the beaver when it comes to the subject of slothfulness? Is slothfulness a sin? Why or why not?

2. Read Proverbs 6:6-11. What are some lessons we can learn from the ant? Who is the ant’s boss? Who is your boss? What are some ways that you waste time?

3. Read Proverbs 19:24; 26:14,15. What are these passages saying? What are some applications you can take from these passages to apply in your own life?

4. Read Proverbs 10:4; 20:13. According to these passages what is the cause of poverty? How can we help the poor with this truth?

5. Read 1 Timothy 5:8. What is the consequence of a person who does not provide for his family? Do you think people take this seriously today? Why or why not?

6. Read 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15. Which part of this passage speaks the most clearly to you? How would you describe “tough love” after reading this passage? How can we strike the balance between “tough love” and helping someone in a time of need?

7. Read the take home points. Which one encourages you or challenges you the most? How will you be more diligent this year not to fall into the sin of slothfulness?

“Some boast of their high calling, but they lie idly at anchor. Religion does not seal warrants to idleness. Christians must not be slothful. Idleness is the devil's bath; a slothful person becomes a prey to every temptation. Grace while it cures the heart, does not make the hand lame. He who is called of God, as he works for heaven, so he works in his trade.”

- Puritan Thomas Watson