

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

WEEK
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2ND-3RD

DAY 2

DAY 1

Read Proverbs 6:6-8

Did you know?

- There are over 12,000 different species of ants.
- Ants can lift anywhere from 10 to 50 percent of their body weight depending on their species.
- In 2000, the world's largest ant's nest was found in Argentina measuring in at a whopping 3700 miles wide! This ginormous colony housed 33 ant populations that merged into one giant super colony with millions of nests and billions of workers.

What would happen if one of those ants suddenly stopped working? What would happen if 20 or 100 or 500 hundred stopped? Those ant colonies wouldn't function well at all if each ant didn't pull its own weight.

Responsibility is showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you. It means you need to carry your own load, to do your own part.

This week, when you're given a responsibility—whether big or small—think about that ant. Work hard and do your part so others will trust you.

Read 1 Corinthians 3:8

Have you ever planted a garden? What happens if you plant all your seeds and then just walk away and never tend to it? Probably nothing. Farmers know that you have to put in the work if you want to reap a good harvest. If the farmer doesn't take his responsibility seriously, his family and families he grows food for won't eat.

What if this were true for us in everything we're responsible for? Can you imagine if life worked like a harvest? What if every time you didn't make your bed, your bed was taken away? What if every time you skipped your math homework, you got a big fat "zero" in math?

Grab a stack of sticky notes and write "WORK HARD" on each one. Then head to the kitchen and stick these notes on every vegetable or fruit you can find. Each time you (or someone in your family) grabs one of these items, remember your responsibility to work hard. Thank God for the opportunities He gives you each day to prove you can be trusted by doing what you're asked to do.

Work hard.

DAY 3

Read Galatians 6:5

Have you ever played a team sport? Ever had a player on your team that didn't really participate? Maybe they spent their time staring at the sky instead of paying attention to the game. Maybe they stood still instead of charging after the ball or didn't play defense. Wouldn't a team be even more successful, if everyone carried their own weight? On a team, every player has a position to play. One weak player can affect the whole team's performance.

Today's verse reminds us that each one of us need carry our own load. Just like you want the people around you to do their part, others are counting on you to work hard and do your part too! When you follow through with what's expected of you, then others learn to trust you.

This week, if you find yourself in any sort of "team" situation—whether it's a pick-up baseball game with friends in the neighborhood or a group project at school, think to yourself, "Am I carrying my own load right now?" If the answer is "no," ask God to help you change course and get involved so others can depend on you!



DAY 4



Read Colossians 3:23

Unscramble the words from today's verse below.

"Work at _____ you do with
Y E E V R I N T H G
_____ your heart. _____ as if you
L A L K O R W
were working for the _____ not for
R O D L
human masters." Colossians 3:23

What did you write in the that first blank? Yep, everything. When there's a job to be done, what if the most powerful man or woman you can think of (like a president, or queen or king) walked into the room? Would you slack off or would you work harder because someone super important was there? You'd probably work harder, right?

How much more important is your heavenly Father? He is way more powerful than any elected president or reigning queen. When you're tempted to give up or quit, think about working hard for God!

At your next family meal, read today's verse out loud. Ask your parents to give an example of something they're responsible for that's not all that fun. Then ask them the answer the following question: How does this verse help you think about that responsibility in a new way?