

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

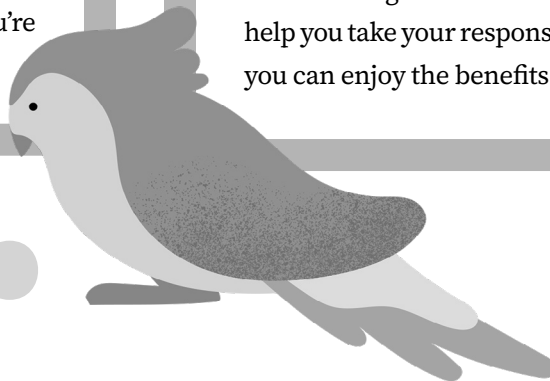
When school lets out for the summer, do you take it easy? The summer is the ants' busy season storing up food to prepare for the winter. They don't have a commander or boss telling them what to do. They just get busy working hard.

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 regularly,
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

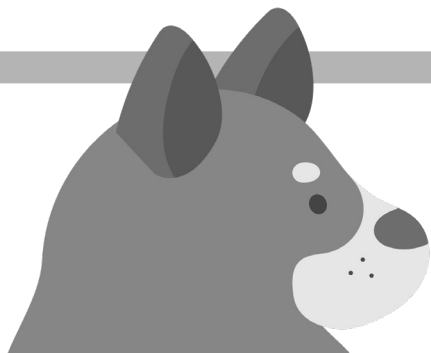
Do you feel like you have way too many responsibilities? Guess what? Your life will never ever be full of LESS responsibility than it is right now.

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?



DAY 4

Read Luke 16:10a

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

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a child to write or draw a picture of a responsibility. It is located in the center of the Day 4 section.

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.

