

Part 2: Insect Integrity Pastor Grant Fishbook May 9 & 10, 2009

A General Introduction to the "Slug of Scripture"

As vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, so is a sluggard to those who send him. – *Proverbs* 10:26

Translation: The sluggard is a sour irritant to the <u>working world</u>.

The sluggard craves and gets nothing, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied.— *Proverbs* 13:4

Translation: The sluggard wants everything but does nothing.

The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he will not even bring it back to his mouth!

— Proverbs 19:24

Translation: The sluggard specializes in <u>half finished</u> projects.

The sluggard's craving will be the death of him, because his hands refuse to work.

— Proverbs 21:25

Translation: It's not that the sluggard cannot work, it's that he will not work.

The sluggard says, "There is a lion outside!" or, "I will be murdered in the streets!"

— Proverbs 22:13

Translation: The sluggard is full of <u>excuses</u>.

As a door turns on its hinges, so a sluggard turns on his bed. - Proverbs 26:14

Translation: The sluggard moves a lot but accomplishes <u>nothing</u> because he is anchored in place.

The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who answer discreetly.

— Proverbs 26:16

Translation: The sluggard thinks he is an expert on everything.

The Bible's Clear Message

Don't be that guy!

The Bible's Clear Message to "That Guy"

⁶ Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise!

⁷ It has no commander, no overseer or ruler,

⁸ yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

⁹ How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep?

¹⁰ A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest
¹¹ and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man.

- Proverbs 6:6-11

The Sweat Equity of Ants

- 1. Ants show incredible initiative
- 2. Ants know their role and do their job
- 3. Ants are dedicated to a solitary mission
- 4. Ants work in community for the sake of the colony
- 5. Ants carry more than their own weight
- 6. Ants work while they can so they can rest later

The Sweat Equity of Integrity

- 1. Did I do what I said I would do?
- 2. Did I do it when I said it would be done?
- 3. Will I stand behind it now that it is finished?

Next Steps

Find an ant hill and just watch it for a while. What did you learn?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- 1. What do you love about your current job? What is one aspect of your job that you would like to change?
- 2. Which of the sluggard proverbs do you most identify with? Why?
- 3. Read the verses in Proverbs 6 once again. What do you think God is saying in verses 10 and 11?
- 4. Why do you think God has such a problem with laziness and sloth? Where is the line between rest and laziness?
- 5. Can you add any personal lessons from the ant hill?
- 6. How can we pray for you tonight?

