

GO TO THE ANT

Proverbs 6:6-9

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Learning Life's Greatest Lessons from God's Smallest Teacher



"Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?"

Introduction: The World's Smallest Professor

God introduced ants as teachers thousands of years ago. Before scientists studied them and before movies celebrated them, Solomon pointed us to them and said, *"Go to the ant and be wise."*

What could a tiny insect possibly teach us?

As we examine the life of ants, we discover powerful principles for spiritual growth, success, leadership, relationships, and Kingdom living.

The ant is small in size but mighty in wisdom.

1. THE ANT TEACHES SELF-MOTIVATION

"Which having no captain, overseer, or ruler..." (Proverbs 6:7)

No one stands behind the ant with a whip.

No supervisor monitors its work.

No one forces it to leave the nest every morning.

Yet the ant works faithfully.

The ant understands that its work is necessary for its survival and future.

Supporting Scriptures

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." — Colossians 3:23

"Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only." — James 1:22

Lesson

Many people only perform when someone is watching. But spiritual maturity means doing what is right because it is right. God's field is ready for harvest, and we are called to labour in them!

God desires believers who pray, serve, give, and obey even when nobody is watching.

Question: If no one reminded you about God this week, would you still seek Him?

2. THE ANT TEACHES TEAMWORK

Ants achieve extraordinary things because they work together.

Scientists have observed army ants forming living bridges with their bodies so other ants can cross obstacles.

One ant is limited.

A united colony is powerful.

Supporting Scriptures

"Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour." — **Ecclesiastes 4:9**

"For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office." — **Romans 12:4**

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" — **Psalms 133:1**

Lesson

Many blessings are unlocked through cooperation. Nothing is about 'you' or 'me' it's all about HIM!

The church grows when believers stop competing and start collaborating.

Together we can accomplish what none of us can achieve alone.

3. THE ANT TEACHES UNITY IN DIVERSITY

In every colony there are different responsibilities.

- The queen lays eggs.
- Workers gather food.

- Soldiers defend the colony.
- Others care for the young.

No role is insignificant.

Every role contributes to the survival of the colony.

Supporting Scriptures

"Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit." — **1 Corinthians 12:4**

"But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him." — **1 Corinthians 12:18**

"For we are labourers together with God." — **1 Corinthians 3:9**

Lesson

God never intended everyone to do the same thing.

Your assignment may be different, but it is equally important.

The secret is not being someone else.

The secret is being faithful in your role.

4. THE ANT TEACHES HARD WORK AND DILIGENCE

"The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat." — **Proverbs 13:4**

Ants are relentless workers.

If their path is blocked, they find another route.

If their nest is destroyed, they rebuild.

They keep moving.

Supporting Scriptures

"Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings." — **Proverbs 22:29**

"Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." — **Romans 12:11.**

"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." — **Philippians 3:14**

Lesson

Dreams become reality through diligence. The lazy person has big dreams, desires and wishes, but are unwilling to put in the physical, mental or spiritual efforts.

Prayer is powerful, but God also blesses diligent hands.

The ant teaches us never to quit because of temporary setbacks, they persevere.

5. THE ANT TEACHES COMMUNICATION

Ants communicate through chemical signals called pheromones.

When food is found, information is shared.

When danger appears, warnings are sent.

The colony survives because communication is clear.

Supporting Scriptures

"Let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay." — **Matthew 5:37**

"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying." — **Ephesians 4:29**

"Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety." — **Proverbs 11:14.**

Lesson

Strong relationships require healthy communication.

Families, churches, and organizations thrive when people speak truth in love.

Misunderstanding often creates division.

Communication builds unity.

6. THE ANT TEACHES PLANNING AND PREPARATION

"Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest." (**Proverbs 6:8**)

The ant understands seasons.

It prepares today for tomorrow's needs.

It gathers during abundance because scarcity may come later.

Inside an anthill there are separate chambers for food, eggs, larvae, and waste.

Everything is organized.

Supporting Scriptures

"A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself." — **Proverbs 22:3.**

"The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance." — **Proverbs 21:5**

"The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down." — **Proverbs 21:20.**

Lesson

Faith does not eliminate preparation.

Joseph stored grain during seven years of plenty because he understood future seasons.

Preparation today prevents panic tomorrow.

7. THE ANT TEACHES RESILIENCE AND ADAPTABILITY

Ants survive floods, storms, predators, and obstacles.

When circumstances change, they adapt.

When roads close, they find another path.

They refuse to surrender.

Supporting Scriptures

"The righteous falleth seven times, and riseth up again." — **Proverbs 24:16**

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed." — **2 Corinthians 4:8-9**

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." — **Philippians 4:13**

Lesson

Life will not always go according to plan.

Resilient people do not stop because of difficulty.

They adjust, trust God, and keep moving forward.

8. THE ANT TEACHES SELFLESSNESS AND SACRIFICE

Ants place the colony above individual comfort.

Everything they do benefits the larger community.

Some even risk their lives to protect the colony.

Supporting Scriptures

"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." — **Philippians 2:4**

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." — **John 15:13**

"By love serve one another." — **Galatians 5:13**

Lesson

The Kingdom of God thrives when believers serve one another.

The greatest people in God's Kingdom are not those who are served but those who serve.

Like Christ, we are called to live beyond ourselves.

GOD'S QUESTION TO THE SLUGGARD

"How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?" (**Proverbs 6:9**)

After showing us the wisdom of the ant, Solomon confronts the lazy person.

This sleep is not merely physical.

It represents:

- Spiritual laziness.
- Procrastination.
- Neglected responsibilities.
- Delayed obedience.

Supporting Scriptures

"Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." — **Ephesians 5:14**

"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." — Ephesians 5:16

"Today, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts." — Hebrews 3:15.

God is asking somebody today:

How long will you postpone your purpose?

Conclusion:

The ant though tiny, demonstrates wisdom that many people ignore.

It has no Bible, yet obeys God's design.

It has no preacher, yet fulfills its purpose.

It has no title, yet teaches wisdom.

May we learn from God's smallest teacher and become people who work diligently, prepare wisely, serve faithfully, and fulfill God's purpose for our lives. Next time you see an ant, do not merely walk by *"Consider her ways, and be wise."* — **Proverbs 6:6.**

Amen.