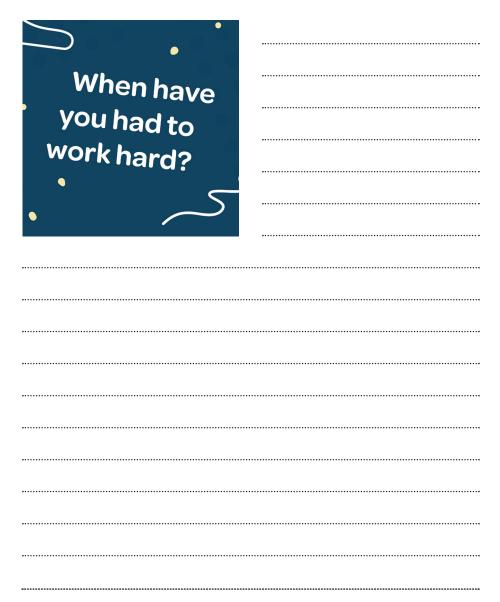
Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.



January 2024 Week Three Preteen



Day 1

Visit the Parent Cue app (available for iOS and Android) to watch this week's Bible story.

Download it for free at parentcue.org/app.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked:

2. You learned:

3. You'd like to know:

A Devotional on Responsibility.

everyday faith.

Day 2

Read Proverbs 6:6-8

Proverbs 6:6-8 almost reads like a poem, so let's make it one!

Read this poem based on the verses, then try to memorize it, going over it each day this week.

You lazy people who don't want to work

Think about the tiny ant, who will never shirk

Its responsibilities, despite its size

For the ant, you see, God made wise.

The ant has no commander, no ruler in charge

But still gathers food—there's a bounty to enlarge.

And when the winter winds blow o'er the ant's hill

Deep underground, the ant is feasting still.



Day 3

When do you find it hard to... work hard? Underline the answers that apply to you.

- When you're tired
- When the job is hard
- When you hit an obstacle
- When you are running out of time
- When you have a lot of time to spare
- When it seems impossible

Now fill in the blanks to this prayer, asking God to help you **work hard** . . . even when it's hard.

Dear God, You teach us through Your

Word that we should work hard. And
I want to work hard. But sometimes,
well, it's really hard to do that. I
especially find it hard to work hard
when ______ and
when ______.

And also when ______. Please
show me how I can keep going, even
when ______.

Please give me Your strength, Your
wisdom, Your responsibility, to see it

through. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen.

Day 4

Have you been working on memorizing the poem from earlier this week?

Even if you don't have it down perfectly, find someone to share it with. Recite—or read—the poem with dramatic flair.

Then talk with the other person about how you do—or don't—relate to the ant, using these prompts:

- When have you had to work hard?
- Have you ever felt overwhelmed by your size or your age, thinking you can't work like everyone else?
- Do you find it easy or hard to be a hard worker most of the time? Why do you think that is?
- What is something each of you can work on today?



Day 5

With some things you may find it easy to work hard—probably the things that you love or are naturally good at.

But the truth is, we all have to work hard on things we don't want to as well.

Today, pick one thing to work hard on that you don't enjoy, or that you find challenging. Write what you plan to do here:

(Hint: if you're not sure what to pick, an adult in your life can probably suggest something.)

Next, pick an accountability partner. If you asked an adult for help, it could be them—or it might be a teacher, a coach, a teammate or a friend who will be there when you're working hard. Ask that person to check in with you as you're working to make sure that you're staying on task and working hard.

When the job is complete, pay attention to how you feel—it will probably motivate you to **work hard** the next time too!