

Hard Work Pays Off

This 5-day devotional guide is based on Proverbs 30:24-28 and will help you prepare your heart for the upcoming Sunday sermon, "Hard Work Pays Off," in the preaching series, "Wisdom in Plain Sight." It may also be used as a guide for family devotions and is for the week ending Saturday, August 15, 2026.

Monday

Scripture: Proverbs 30:24

Questions for Reflection

- What kind of creatures does Agur introduce in this verse?
- How does Agur describe their size and wisdom?
- Why do you think God often teaches wisdom through small or overlooked things?
- How does this verse challenge the way you view usefulness or significance?

Questions for Children

- What kind of creatures are talked about in this verse?
- Are they big or small?

Prayer Prompt

Lord, help me value the wisdom You place even in small things. Teach me to learn gladly from whatever You choose to use.

Tuesday

Scripture: Proverbs 30:25

Questions for Reflection

- What is said about the ants in this verse?
- What wise action do they take?
- What does this example teach about planning ahead and diligence?
- Where might God be calling you to act wisely rather than procrastinate?

Questions for Children

- What do ants do to get ready for the future?
- Do ants wait until they are hungry to find food?

Prayer Prompt

God, help me be diligent and prepared rather than careless or lazy. Teach me to work faithfully with the time You give me.

Wednesday

Scripture: Proverbs 30:26

Questions for Reflection

- How are the rock badgers described in this verse?
- Where do they choose to make their homes?
- What does this verse teach about recognizing weakness and seeking protection?
- How can wise planning help you remain steady during difficult times?

Questions for Children

- What animal is talked about in this verse?
- Where does it make its home?

Prayer Prompt

Father, help me live wisely by recognizing my need for safety and guidance. Teach me to make choices that provide lasting protection.

Thursday

Scripture: Proverbs 30:27

Questions for Reflection

- What is unusual about the locusts described in this verse?
- How do they still manage to move together effectively?
- What does this example teach about cooperation and shared purpose?
- How can working together with others increase fruitfulness in your life?

Questions for Children

- Do locusts have a king?
- How do they still move together?

Prayer Prompt

Lord, help me work well with others instead of insisting on my own way. Teach me the value of unity and cooperation.

Friday

Scripture: Proverbs 30:28

Questions for Reflection

- What creature is mentioned in this verse?
- What surprising place is it able to reach?
- What does this teach about persistence and careful effort?
- Where might God be calling you to persevere rather than give up?

Questions for Children

- What small creature is mentioned here?
- Where can it sometimes be found?

Prayer Prompt

God, help me stay faithful and persistent in the work You give me. Teach me that steady effort, done wisely, brings good results.