

² We shouldn't repeat the basic teachings about such things as baptisms, setting people apart for holy tasks, dead people coming back to life, and eternal judgment. ³ If God permits, we will do this.

18. Why do some people need to hear the basics again and again?

Hebrews 6:4-6 (GW) ⁴ Some people once had God's light. They experienced the heavenly gift and shared in the Holy Spirit. ⁵ They experienced the goodness of God's word and the powers of the world to come. ⁶ Yet, they have deserted ¹ Christ. They are crucifying the Son of God again and publicly disgracing him. Therefore, they cannot be led a second time to God.

19. What is the danger of letting sloth overcome you?

Hebrews 6:11-12 (GW) ¹¹ We want each of you to prove that you're working hard so that you will remain confident until the end. ¹² Then, instead of being lazy, you will imitate those who are receiving the promises through faith and patience.

20. What is the encouragement against sloth?

21. What one thing about the deadly sin of sloth did you learn today?

22. What is one thing you learned about how to combat the deadly sin of sloth?

The 7 Deadly sins Sloth

Work

Genesis 2:15 (GW) ¹⁵ Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to farm the land and to take care of it.

1. When did God put Adam to live in the Garden of Eden, before or after the fall into sin?
2. What did God tell Adam to do where he lived?
3. What does this tell us about God's concept of work?

2 Thessalonians 3:10 (GW) ¹⁰ While we were with you, we gave you the order: "Whoever doesn't want to work shouldn't be allowed to eat."

4. What do you think the problem was at Thessalonica that made Paul say this?
5. What is Paul saying about work?
6. Are there exceptions to Paul's rule? Why or why not?

Laziness

Proverbs 6:6-11 (GW) ⁶ Consider the ant, you lazy bum. Watch its ways, and become wise. ⁷ Although it has no overseer, officer, or ruler, ⁸ in summertime it stores its food supply. At harvest time it gathers its food.

9 How long will you lie there, you lazy bum? When will you get up from your sleep? 10 “Just a little sleep, just a little slumber, just a little nap.” 11 Then your poverty will come to you like a drifter, and your need will come to you like a bandit.

7. How is being lazy described?

8. What are the results of being lazy?

9. Is God praising laziness?

Proverbs 26:13 (GW) ¹³ A lazy person says, “There’s a ferocious lion out on the road! There’s a lion loose in the streets!”

10. What excuses do we make to avoid work today?

Proverbs 26:14 (GW) ¹⁴ As a door turns on its hinges, so the lazy person turns on his bed.

11. How is a door like a lazy person?

Proverbs 26:15 (GW) ¹⁵ A lazy person puts his fork in his food. He wears himself out as he brings it back to his mouth.

12. What things that are good for us are we too lazy to do?

Proverbs 24:30-34 (GW) ³⁰ I passed by a lazy person’s field, the vineyard belonging to a person without sense. ³¹ I saw that it was all overgrown with thistles. The ground was covered with weeds, and its stone fence was torn down. ³² When I observed this, I took it to heart. I saw it and learned my lesson.

³³ “Just a little sleep, just a little slumber, just a little nap.” ³⁴ Then your poverty will come like a drifter, and your need will come like a bandit.

13. What is the result of laziness?

Spiritual Sloth

Hebrews 5:11-14 (GW) ¹¹ We have a lot to explain about this. But since you have become too lazy to pay attention, explaining it to you is hard. ¹² By now you should be teachers. Instead, you still need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word. You need milk, not solid food. ¹³ All those who live on milk lack the experience to talk about what is right. They are still babies. ¹⁴ However, solid food is for mature people, whose minds are trained by practice to know the difference between good and evil.

14. Why can’t the writer to the Hebrews explain everything he wants?

15. What did he expect from the people?

16. What does this tell us about our spiritual development?

17. How does the writer to the Hebrews suggest spiritual sloth is combatted?

Hebrews 6:1-3 (GW) ¹ With this in mind, we should stop going over the elementary truths about Christ and move on to topics for more mature people. We shouldn’t repeat the basics about turning away from the useless things we did and the basics about faith in God.