

Let me start off by asking a question: How many people here would consider themselves lazy?

- (I'll be honest: That was more to see what people would say. I didn't really think anyone would raise their hand.
- In at least our culture, the very idea of being lazy is almost offensive. We pride ourselves on working — or at the very least, staying busy.

That's exactly what God wants from us (at least, mostly).

- (Proverbs 6:6-11) If you look down the list of those things that Solomon advises us to be, we try to check off all of them.

When Solomon describes the "sloth" here, he's not speaking against someone who is just taking a rest. **This is a type of person whose character is defined by inaction.**

- There's lots of reasons why someone might be slothful *at times*: depression, fear, feeling overwhelmed, etc. That doesn't mean you're slothful.

What is a sloth? (Proverbs 26:12-16)

- Can't be taught anything or proven wrong
- Resists any kind of unnecessary movement
- Unable to complete a task
- Makes lame excuses for their inaction
 - Notice: There's absolutely zero reason why they can't do these things.

The Sloth Says: "I'll deal with it tomorrow" (Prov. 24:30-34, 20:4)

- After all, why worry about it until you have to?

— **God says, "Deal With it Today!"** (Eph. 5:15-21; Prov. 31:15-18)

The Sloth Says: "What's the bare minimum that I can do?" (Prov. 10:4; 12:27)

- Measure the "risk/reward" of a situation

— **God says, "Do More Than You Think You Can or Should"** (Col. 3:23-24; 2 Thess. 3:10-15; Matt. 25:24-28)

The Sloth Says: "Why does everything bad happen to me?" (Prov. 21:25; 19:15)

- The only person that's surprised at their pain is themselves. Everyone else sees it
- There is an alarming lack of self-awareness — both to others and their surroundings
- **God says, "Look to Serve Others Before Self"** (Eccl. 10:12-18; 1 Timothy 5:5-8)

Conclusion: Hebrews 6:10-12