

**Smart Living: The Book Of Proverbs**  
**“Accepting Responsibility” 2 of 7**  
**Cornerstone Church Of Poway**  
**Pastor Ed Turley**  
**June 26, 2022**

“Their purpose is to teach people to **live disciplined and successful lives**, to help them do what is **right, just, and fair.**” **Proverbs 1:3 (NLT2) Remember verse**

**Big Idea:** If I want success in my life, then I must create **habits** that support my commitments.

### **Why Live Responsibly?**

- **Because God Is Watching Me**

“People may be right in their own eyes, but the LORD **examines** their heart.”

**Proverbs 21:2 (NLT2)**

- **Because Others Are Affected By My Choices**

“**Rescue** those who are unjustly sentenced to die; save them as they stagger to their death. **Don’t excuse yourself** by saying, “Look, we didn’t know.” For God understands all hearts, and He sees you. He who guards your soul knows you knew. He will repay all people as their actions deserve.” **Proverbs 24:11-12 (NLT2)**

- **Because God Rewards It**

“People may be pure in their own eyes, but the LORD **examines their motives.** Commit your actions to the LORD, and your plans will succeed.”

**Proverbs 16:2-3 (NLT2)**

### **I Can Become A More Responsible Person:**

#### **1. By Having A Good Work Ethic**

“Take a lesson from the ants, you **lazybones**. Learn from their ways and become wise! Though they have no prince or governor or ruler to make them work, they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter. But you, lazybones, how long will you sleep? When will you wake up? A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest— then **poverty** will pounce on you like a bandit; **scarcity** will attack you like an armed robber.”

**Proverbs 6:6-11 (NLT2)**

“A **lazy person** is as bad as someone who destroys things.” **Proverbs 18:9 (NLT2)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. By Saving Money

“Wealth from **hard work** grows over time.” **Proverbs 13:11b (NLT2)**

“The wise have wealth and luxury, **but fools spend whatever they get.**”

**Proverbs 21:20 (NLT2)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. By Controlling My Reactions

“A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control.”

**Proverbs 29:11 (NIV)**

“An angry man **stirs up** dissension, and a hot-tempered one **commits** many sins. A man's **pride** brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit **gains honor.**”

**Proverbs 29:22-23 (NIV)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. By Guarding My Heart

“**Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.**

Avoid all **perverse talk**; stay away from **corrupt speech**.

Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you.

**Mark out a straight path** for your feet; stay on the **safe path**.

Don't get **sidetracked**; keep your feet from following evil.”

**Proverbs 4:23-27 (NLT2)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. By Admitting My Mistakes

“Whoever stubbornly **refuses to accept criticism** will suddenly be destroyed beyond recovery.” **Proverbs 29:1 (NLT2)**

“He who **conceals** his sins does not prosper, but whoever **confesses** and **renounces** them finds **mercy.**” **Proverbs 28:13 (NIV)**

“If we **confess** our sins, He is faithful and righteous to **forgive** us our sins and to **cleanse** us from all unrighteousness.” **1 John 1:9 (NASB)**

➤ **Where do I need to grow to be a more responsible person?**

**I will become more responsible by:**

[ ] Admitting my mistakes and learning from them

[ ] Guarding my heart to honor the Lord

[ ] Accepting Jesus as my Lord and Savior

[ ] Following Jesus in Believer's Baptism July 10, 2022

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss]

**Big Idea:** If I want success in my life, then I must create **habits** that support my commitments.

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**Open in Prayer.**

**Ice breaker:** What is the best habit you have that supports your family?

In your experience, does our culture support taking personal responsibility?  
Explain.

What motivates you to live responsibly?

**I Can Become A More Responsible Person:**

**1. By Having A Good Work Ethic**

**Read Proverbs 6:6-11**

What kind of work ethic do ants have according to Solomon?

What habits does Mr. Lazybones have?

What will be the outcome of seeking more sleep and leisure?

**Read Proverbs 18:9**

Why is being lazy so bad?

## **2. By Saving Money**

### **Read Proverbs 13:11b**

How is wealth normally gained?

Is this how our culture describes how to build wealth? Why or why not?

### **Read Proverbs 21:20**

How much financial margin do you budget? 0%? 5%? 10%?

## **3. By Controlling My Reactions**

When was the last time you lost it with your temper?

What was the result?

If you could go back in time and control your temper, what would you say or do differently?

### **Read Proverbs 29:22-23**

Have you noticed that the more you give into your temper the more arguments or problems come up?

What is the answer?

## **4. By Guarding My Heart**

### **Read Proverbs 4:20-27**

What does a straight path look like for your faith?

Your marriage?

Your work?

## **5. By Admitting My Mistakes**

### **Read Proverbs 29:1**

Is there any correction that you are ignoring?

### **Read Proverbs 28:13**

How can you find mercy?

### **Read 1 John 1:9**

What does God promise you if you confess your sins to Him?

**Close in Prayer:** Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.