

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE SIN OF LAZINESS  
2 Thessalonians 3:1-18

**ICEBREAKER:** How do you deal with doubt?

**OVERVIEW:** There are two types of poor people — the worthy poor and the unworthy poor. The worthy poor are worthy of assistance. They are truly in need, it's not their fault, and they are doing everything in their power to improve their situation. The unworthy poor are not worthy of assistance because their poverty is the result of their laziness, and they are not interested in changing their ways. The Bible tells us to help the worthy poor. But how should Christians treat the unworthy poor? In this discussion we will go deeper with the sin of laziness.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Have you ever had to work with a lazy person? What was it like?
3. What is the difference between being lazy and being laid-back?
4. Does laziness only affect one's finances? How else can laziness hurt a person?

5. Read Proverbs 6:6-11.
  - a. What is a Proverb?
  - b. What term does your Bible version use for the lazy person (v. 6)? Write down the dictionary definition of this term.
  - c. What are the hard-working traits of the ant?
  - d. What are the traits of the lazy person in this passage?
  - e. What is the relationship between poverty and laziness?
6. Refer to Sunday's sermon. What does the Bible teach about work, and how can a biblical view of work help us guard against laziness?
7. What are the two traits of a lazy person?
8. What are some of the basic habits of a hard worker?
9. How does the Bible teach us to deal with lazy people (see 2 Thess. 3:6, 10, 15).

**The Last Word:** "Diligence overcomes difficulties; sloth makes them." Benjamin Franklin

