

If Animals Could Talk

What I Can Learn from the Ant

the Crossings Church
COLLINSVILLE



“Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep?” **Proverbs 6:6-9 NIV**

“Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer;” **Proverbs 30:25 NIV**

1. _____.

• I was created to work in the _____.

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” ⁸ Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. ⁹ The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil ... ¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. **Genesis 1:27-28; 2:8-9, 15 NIV**

• I was created to work in the _____.

¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. **Ephesians 2:10 NIV**

¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. **Ephesians 4:15-16 NIV**

Free sermon recordings available at crossingscollinsville.com/sermons

• I was created to work _____.

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him ... Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,” **Colossians 3:17, 23 NIV**

• I was created to _____.

⁵ The officers shall say to the army: “Has anyone built a new house and not yet begun to live in it? Let him go home, or he may die in battle and someone else may begin to live in it. ⁶ Has anyone planted a vineyard and not begun to enjoy it? Let him go home, or he may die in battle and someone else enjoy it. ⁷ Has anyone become pledged to a woman and not married her? Let him go home, or he may die in battle and someone else marry her.” **Deuteronomy 20:5-7 NIV**

2. _____.

• I must partner with _____.

“We work together with God, and we beg you to make good use of God’s gift of undeserved grace.” **2 Corinthians 6:1 CEV**

• I must partner with _____.

“If you know someone who doesn’t have any clothes or food, you shouldn’t just say, “I hope all goes well for you. I hope you will be warm and have plenty to eat.” What good is it to say this, unless you do something to help? Faith that doesn’t lead us to do good deeds is all alone and dead!” **James 2:15-17 CEV**

“Continue encouraging each other & building each other up, just like you are doing already.” **1 Thessalonians 5:11 CEB**

3. _____.

“... Yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.” **Proverbs 6:8 NIV**

“Ants as creatures aren’t strong, but they store away their food in the summer.” **Proverbs 30:25 CEB**

4. _____.

⁷ Don’t be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. ⁸ Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith. **Galatians 6:7-9 NLT**