

# Ancient wisdom that works today

## Proverbs 6 – Community Matters

### 1. Be responsible 1 - 5

- Careful care
  - Care for yourself. Don't be financially irresponsible
  - Care for your neighbour
  - God calls each of us to exercise responsibility

### 2. Do something! (6– 11)

- The ant!
- Self motivated, hard working and responsible
- The sluggard
  - Doesn't make up his mind
  - Doesn't finish things – Proverbs 26:15
  - Doesn't face things as they are – proverbs 22:13
- A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest Verse 10
- The sluggard's journey is all down hill. Verse 11

### 3. Do it together (12 – 19)

- A scoundrel and villain – one who stirs up dissension
- We can sin aggressively in little ways with huge impact
- A wink, a finger pointed
- The divisive person is on a suicide mission.
- 6 things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him
- A man who stirs up dissension among brothers
- God has designed us to live in His image
  - Community matters

- ✓ Responsible?
- ✓ Taking responsibility?
- ✓ Living responsibly?

## Digging Deeper

Read Proverbs 6: 1 - 5

1. Have you been asked to put up security for someone? What was your experience?
2. How would you define careful care? Why is careful care hard?

Read Proverbs 6: 6 - 11

3. What are the characteristics of an ant?
4. Where are you on the ant scale?
5. What are the characteristics of a sluggard?
6. Where are you on the sluggard scale?
7. In what ways do we settle for a 'Little' in our life as a church?

Read Proverbs 6: 12 – 19

1. What is the harm of a little gossip or a knowing wink?
2. Why is God so concerned about unity?
3. How do we learn to recognise when we are on a suicide mission with our conversations?

Read Psalm 133:1 together and pray for relationships in our church, our Government, our world.

Read Philippians 2: 1 – 11 and give thanks and praise that we have a Saviour who is working for eternal unity.