

“The Happy Home”

I. Foundation: God’s _____ – 127:1-2
A. Action – v. 1

B. Attitude – v. 2

II. Fruit: God’s _____ – 127:3-5
A. Reward – v. 3

B. Trained to carry on our Vision / Purpose – v. 4

C. Provide for us in our old age – v. 5 (cf. 1 Tim. 5)

III. Focus: God’s _____ – 128:1, 4

- Blessings From The Fear Of The Lord (Ps. 33:18-19; 34:7-10; Prov. 10:27; 14:26-27; 15:16; 16:6; 19:23; 22:4)
- What The Fear Of The Lord Produces In Us (2 Chron. 19:1-9; Job 28:28; Ps. 111:10; Prov. 1:7; 8:13; 9:10; 15:33; 23:17; Is. 33:6; Acts 9:31; 2 Cor. 5:11)
- Results Of Not Fearing The Lord (Prov. 1:27-29)
- Where We Learn The Fear Of The Lord (Ps. 19:9; 34:11; Prov. 2:1-5; Is. 11:2-3)
- How Does One Fear The Lord?
 - Recognize His majesty and awesome holiness (Job 37:22-24)
 - Recognize that He is infinite and He dwarfs us by comparison (Ps. 8)
 - Live “a life of wisdom” (Ps. 25:12; Job 1:1, 8; 2:3)
 - Keep His commandments (Ex. 20:20)
 - Serve Him and keep His statutes (Dt. 6:13, 24)
 - Listen to His voice (1 Sam. 12:14)
 - Worship in His Temple (Ps. 5:7)

Summary: Practice The Presence Of The Lord!!!

- Know WHO He is (awesome; holy; majestic)
- Know WHAT He wants to do (bless those whose hearts are completely His)
- Know WHERE He is (with you always)
- Know WHAT He wants you to do and WHY (worship Him, love Him, serve Him, obey Him > blessing)

IV. Fruit: God’s _____ – 128:2-3
A. On our Labor – v. 2

B. On our Wife – v. 3

C. On our Children – v. 3

V. Future: Godly _____ – 128:5-6

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you ever struggle with anxiety? Do you have a hard time sleeping some nights? What bearing does Ps. 127:1-2 have on this issue? How do you balance hard work with faith? Do you ever tend to be a workaholic or to be lazy? What does God's Word have to say to about these issues?
2. What is your current attitude toward having children? Toward having MORE children? Where does that attitude come from? Do you have biblical support for it?
3. What can you do on a regular basis to build a godly family? What elements need to be there? What is your plan to make them a part of your life this week and on into the future? Write out a schedule and include these elements.
4. If you are now a parent, what vision do you have that is too big for you to fulfill? How will your children help fulfill this vision? What will you do to train them for this?
5. If you are now a child, what are you doing to be a blessing to your parents and siblings? How are you preparing yourself now to be able to minister to your parents in the future? What dreams do you have for your life that only God can complete through you?
6. Do you believe that God will bless your life? Why or why not? How specifically does he say He will bless the man who fears Him and walks in His ways? (Ps. 128) Do you see those things as a blessing today? In what way might you enjoy those blessings more? What might the world, flesh, and devil throw at you to make you not enjoy those blessings?
7. Has anything replaced God as your "source" of blessing? Is there anything that you are trusting in that if it was taken away you would become anxious, worried, or depressed? (Job, spouse, looks, etc.) How does placing your trust there keep you from enjoying greater intimacy with God? What does the Bible call it when we trust in something other than the Lord?
8. What is the "fear of the Lord?" What is the fear of man? List as many blessings as possible of fearing the Lord instead of man.
9. How are you demonstrating to your spouse and children that you fear the Lord? (Time daily, possessions, abilities, commitment to His people, telling others about Him, submission to authority, expectation of His blessing, etc.)
10. In what areas are people being tempted to compromise God's standards today? (i.e., taxes, diligence in the workplace, etc.) How would the "fear of the Lord" make a difference in these areas?
11. How would daily family devotions help develop the "fear of the Lord" in your family? What verses can you memorize as a family to help develop the "fear of the Lord" throughout the day?
12. Sit down as a family and discuss what "legacy" you want to have. Then talk about what you will need to do to develop that legacy.
13. Are there things in our homes that would contradict our claim to "fear the Lord?" Do the TV programs, movies, music, books, magazines, etc., that we allow in our home demonstrate our reverence for a holy God? If not, what could we replace them with that would encourage us to worship and serve Jesus more?
14. Take some extended time some evening this week and discuss with your family why it is a blessing to be in your family. Come up with as many reasons as you possibly can then spend time praising God for what He is doing in your home.

[Answers to blanks: Grace; Gift; Presence; Blessing; Heritage]