



## **SERMON NOTES**

May 8, 2016

Scripture: Psalm 127:1-5 (NAS)

Topic: "Directions for Harmony in the Home"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 1 Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the LORD guards the city, The watchman keeps awake in vain.
- 2 It is vain for you to rise up early, To retire late, To eat the bread of painful labors; For He gives to His beloved even in his sleep.
- 3 Behold, children are a gift of the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward.
- 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth.
- 5 How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; They will not be ashamed When they speak with their enemies in the gate.

### **I. BACKGROUND ON THE PSALM**

- A. Psalm Of Solomon
- B. Psalm 127 and Psalm 128 Are Companion Psalms About Family
- C. Psalms 120 – 128 Are Call "Songs Of Ascent"
- D. Psalm 127 – Addresses Formation And Expansion Of Home
- E. Psalm 128 – Addresses Rearing Of Children and The Empty Nest

### **II. A PEACEFUL HOME DEPENDS ON GOD'S BLESSING**

- A. First, Everything Depends On God's Blessing
- B. Warning Against Seeing Ourselves As The Primary Agent
- C. We Need To Humbly Depend On The Lord
- D. Importance Of Prayer

### **III. FINDING GOD'S BLESSING MEANS UNDERSTANDING HIS GRACE**

- A. Solomon Spoke As One Who Experienced God's Grace *1 Kings 3:15*

B. Grace Needs To Permeate Our Home Life

C. Grace Does Not Remove The Need To Labor *Ephesians 2:10*

1. Prioritize – work vs. family life
2. Recognize – children are a gift
3. Training children to be straight arrows
4. Arrows not designed to be kept in the quiver