

PSALMS

A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families For the week of August 27, 2023

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

Warm Up

- Share about something in your life that God did, though you could not see it at the time.

Psalm 127

Unless the LORD Builds the House

A Song of Ascents. Of Solomon.

¹Unless the LORD builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the watchman stays awake in vain.

²It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil;
for he gives to his beloved sleep.

- What is the point of Solomon's building & watching metaphor? (1-2)
- What does it mean to do something "in vain"?
- What is an example of vain building (1a), restless protecting (1b), or anxious toil (2) in your life? Why do you do it that way?
- In contrast to our striving, the LORD gives His beloved sleep. What is God doing while you sleep?
- How does the truth that Jesus is Lord & loves you give you rest today?

³Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,
the fruit of the womb a reward.

⁴Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the children of one's youth.

⁵Blessed is the man
who fills his quiver with them!
He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

- Solomon contrasts human building with the way the LORD builds (3-5). He uses the example of children—a clear picture of something that is simply a gift from God. What qualities mark the way that the LORD builds His "house"?
- When the LORD builds the house, and grounds us in His family, we are declared righteous (the justice metaphor of v.5). What is one way you recently gave up your striving and trusted the Lord to be your righteousness?
- Psalm 127 ultimately points us to Jesus Christ. Jesus is the final Temple, and is building us into His house, where He is the Cornerstone. His Spirit, not our anxious toil, brings us into the Father's household. Because He atoned for my sins, I will not be put to shame.
- Does this Psalm raise any questions for you that you would like to ask the group and bring to the Lord in prayer?
- Read the Psalm together again, and use it as a guide for a time of prayer.

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Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene,
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